

REDD+ Readiness Package(R-Package) and Multistakeholder Self-Assessment of REDD+ Readiness in Nepal



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Acronyms

ACOFUN	Association of Collaborative Forest Users of Nepal
ANSAB	Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources
CAPA	Community Adaptation Plan of Actions
CBFM	Community-Based Forest Management
CFUGs	Community Forest User Groups
COP	Conference of the Parties
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
DANAR	Dalit Alliance for Natural Resources
DFO	District Forest Office
DFRS	Department of Forest Research and Survey
DNF	Dalit NGOs Federation
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
ER	Emission Reduction
ERPA	Emissions Reduction Payment Agreement
ER-PD	Emission Reduction Program Document
ER-PIN	Emission Reduction Program Idea Note
ER-PIN	Emissions Reduction Program Idea Note
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FECOFUN	Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal
FEPFOS	Federation of Private Forest Stakeholder Nepal
FEWUN	Forest and Environment Workers' Union Nepal
FGRM	Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism
FPIC	Free and Prior Informed Consent
FRL	Forest Reference Level
GESI	Gender Equity and Social Inclusion
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GoN	Government of Nepal
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
IPO	Indigenous Peoples' Organizations
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
LAPA	Local Adaptation Plan of Actions
LoI	Letter of Intent
M and MRV	Monitoring and Measurement, Reporting and Verification
MFSC	Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and verification
NAFAN	National Forum for Advocacy Nepal
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans
NCB	Non-Carbon Benefits
NEFIN	Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities
NEFUG	Nepalese Federation of Forest Resource User Group
NFA	Nepal Foresters' Association

NFIS	National Forest Information System
NGO	Non Governmental Organizatiion
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (German Society for International Cooperation)
PES	Payments for Ecosystem Services
RECOFTC	The Center for People and Forests
REDDIC	REDD Implementation Centre
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation and the role of Conservation, Sustainable Management of Forests and Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stocks in developing countries
REI	Reference Emmission Level
RL	Reference Level
R-PIN	Readiness Plan Idea Note
R-PP	Readiness Preparation Proposal
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SES	Social and Environmental Standards
SESA	Social and Environmental Safeguard Assessment
SIS	Safeguard Information Systems
TAL	Teraí Arc Landscape
TOT	Training of Trainers
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN-REDD	United Nations collaborative initiative on REDD in developing countries
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

Executive Summary

As a signatory to various Multilateral Environmental Agreements including UNFCCC and other key international instruments, Nepal has been active in the REDD+ process since 2008. Nepal has also been recognized as one of the pioneer countries participating in Forest Carbon Partner Facility (FCPF), and has achieved good progress on many milestones of the REDD+ Readiness process.

Starting in February 2015, Nepal initiated the R-Package preparation and multi-stakeholder self-assessment of Nepal's REDD+ Readiness. REDD Implementation Center (REDD IC) commissioned a consortium of Oy Arbonaut Ltd, Finland and Green Governance, Nepal to develop the R-Package. Following FCPF Readiness Package Assessment Framework, the team organized consultation meeting at various levels before submission of the draft to REDD-IC.

The assessment framework consists of four components, nine sub components, 34 assessment criteria and 58 diagnostic questions to assess REDD+ Readiness preparedness. The team organized two national level workshops, three focus group discussions, five regional consultations, and ten district level consultations. A total of 596 participants, representing various interest groups (e.g. indigenous peoples, civil society organizations, I/NGOs working on REDD+, Advocacy groups) and stakeholders, were involved in the 15 district and development regional workshops. Three events of focus group discussions were also held with participants representing professional organizations, IPOs, CSOs and relevant REDD+ pilot projects in Nepal.

The draft report was further refined in consultation with senior management team members of the Ministry and REDD+ multistakeholder forum. Feedback received from multistakeholder groups including Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN), Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN), Himalayan Grassroots Women's Natural Resource Management Association (HIMAWANTI), Dalit NGOs Federation (DNF) and other non-government organizations working on REDD+ in Nepal (WWF, ICIMOD, ANSAB, Forest Action etc.) were reviewed and all relevant points were entertained in the draft. In order to get a broad consensus among stakeholders on progress achieved in readiness phase, a four color "traffic light" system was adopted to rank progress through participatory self-assessment process by stakeholders including government, indigenous peoples, civil society and local community members. The green, yellow, orange and red colors were used to indicate significant progress, much progress but much work remaining, limited initial work started, and almost nothing started respectively.

Nepal has made significant progress on most of the stages of the readiness process. More detailed assessment of the readiness status of different components is provided in this self assessment report. Some gaps and areas to improve remain, which will be focused in the

second phase of the readiness grant as well as the implementation of demonstration phase in coming years. The major areas where additional work would be focussed are:

- a) strengthen institutional capacities and coordination mechanism across sectors, ministries and more broadly throughout indigenous peoples, and civil society groups;
- b) further strengthen outreach activities to improve level of participation and engagement in general and in particular to marginalized, vulnerable and forest dependent communities;
- c) further refine analytical study reports such as- the draft REDD+ Strategy, the drivers of deforestation and degradation, the Social and Environmental Safeguard Assessment (SESA) impacts and the Implementation Framework to address identified gaps and harmonize with changed national context;
- d) further check and update information/data sets to improve national FRL based on lessons learned from sub-national experiences;
- e) further workout to set up a functional MRV system at appropriate levels in response to new federal structure of Nepal (Note, however, that Nepal's federal structures and detail roles and powers of different levels of government are not clear yet (and not sure when they will be clear); hence, such further work out is meaningful only after clarity in political structure);
- f) strengthen the forest monitoring systems to expand potential carbon pools and extend to measuring non carbon benefits, and continued investments to strengthen the technical capacity and awareness of relevant stakeholders including but not limited to GoN technical staff, indigenous peoples, civil society members and local communities; and
- g) Critical review of existing Policy and Measures (PAMs) to recommend required amendment for effective implementation of REDD+ in response to new federal structure.

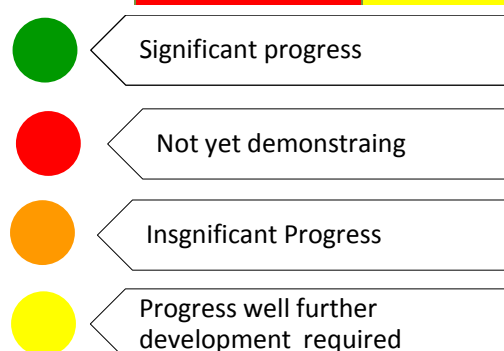
The multistakeholder self-assessment report shows that level of REDD+ awareness varied greatly by district and development regions. Out of 10 districts consulted for R-Package assessment, 5 districts demonstrated strong familiarity to the REDD+ concept and mechanism; 2 districts showed some understanding of REDD+; and 3 districts showed limited exposure or understanding of REDD+. However, even the least REDD+ aware districts were found to have a very high level of awareness and engagement in climate change adaptation programmes, and developing and implementing Local Adaptation Plan of Actions (LAPA) and Community Adaptation Plan of Actions (CAPA). Awareness varied largely by presence or absence of an ongoing REDD+ pilot project in the district or neighboring district and the number of prior awareness workshops and trainings conducted.

All data have been assembled, to formulate a composite color ranking incorporating the findings of different levels. The Team also reviewed more than 25 REDD+ related documents from Nepal (case studies, study reports, policy documents, national strategies etc.) to

validate ranking of REDD+ preparedness. Some color ranking was weighed as more significant, giving credit to significant progress being made at the sub-national and in some case district levels. Thus in some criteria, sub-national awareness was granted greater weighting than national awareness. The Overall Assessment based on the R-Package component is summarized in the following table. Based on the combined self-assessment results, document review and incorporating the lessons learned from I/NGO pilot project and REDD+ readiness implementation experience, it is concluded that **Nepal has achieved, of the 34 assessment criteria, green status for 16 criteria, yellow status for 12 criteria and orange status for 6 criteria**. However, it is also important to note that further work is required on every component and sub-component because REDD+ Readiness is an iterative process; hence, most of the components allow step-wise approach to achieve the desired milestones. Finally, some issues require significant levels of effort, in terms of investment of resources, and time. Some of such issue include carbon rights, benefit sharing and governance.

Table 1: Summary of R-Package Overall Assessment based on Self-Assessments

Comp onents	Sub Components	Progress Status at MTR	Progress Status at R-Package
1. Readiness Organization and Consultation			
	1a. National REDD+ Management Arrangement	GREEN	GREEN
	1b. Consultation, Participation and Outreach	ORANGE	YELLOW
2. Prepare the REDD Strategy			
	2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land-Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	ORANGE	GREEN
	2b. REDD Strategy Options	YELLOW	GREEN
	2c. REDD Implementation Framework	RED	ORANGE
	2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	ORANGE	GREEN
3. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels		ORANGE	YELLOW
4. Monitoring System for Forests, and Safeguards			
	4a. National Forest Monitoring System	GREEN	GREEN
	4b. Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	RED	YELLOW



1.0 Introduction

1.1 REDD+Context

Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and foster conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (all activities commonly referred to as "REDD+") in developing countries has been emerging as a new performance based instrument under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations. The instrument aims to mitigate climate change effects by cutting carbon dioxide emissions originating from the destruction of forests.

A large number of developing countries including Nepal consider REDD+ as a potential opportunity and viable source of sustainable financing for investment in forest management, forest conservation, and forest restoration to enhance multiple benefits of REDD+, including but not limited to, biodiversity conservation, watershed management, enhanced resilience, livelihood improvement and poverty reduction. REDD+ promises an opportunity to address some major drivers of deforestation and forest degradation outside forestry sector e.g., agricultural expansion, infrastructure development, changing demand for goods and services, and changing prices and incentives in society; and has become a motivating factor for Nepal to participate in REDD+. Nepal further envisions that REDD+ implementation will advance sustainable forest management, the integral design of various sectoral policies that optimise cross-sectoral synergies, and will lead to improved forest law enforcement and governance. A sound REDD+ architecture will also help in achieving Nepal's obligation to contribute to global low carbon emission development pathways and the global sustainable development agenda.

Participation in the international REDD+ mechanism has significant potential for Nepal to generate carbon revenues as well as non-carbon benefits for the country and its people. Preliminary estimates show that REDD+ may bring Nepal benefits of upto \$86 million per year (UN-REDD, 2014). This is particularly important in post earthquake Nepal, both for the financial as well as the environmental and ecosystem service benefits. The devastating earthquake of 7.6 Richter Scale (25 April, 2015) and subsequent aftershocks (over 400 of greater than 4.0 Richter scale magnitude) killed a total of 8,790 people, severely injured 22,300 people and heavily damaged forests, forestry institutions and ecosystems (NPC, 2015).

Nepal is a signatory to the UNFCCC (since 1992) and the Kyoto Protocol (since 1997) and has developed various policy measures on climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives. Soon after the 13th Conference of the Parties (COP) in Bali, in 2007, various REDD+ related activities were initiated by Nepal.

Considering huge potential of REDD+, Government of Nepal has considered REDD+ as one of

the highest priority programs (P1). Government has system of marking programs into three categories - P1, P2 and P3. Priority one programs are monitored by the council of minister. REDD program is well internalized in the national planning process. Nepal has developed its vision, mission and objective (See box 1) of REDD+.

Box 1: Nepal's vision, mission and objectives of REDD+

Vision: Optimize carbon and non-carbon benefits of forest ecosystems for the prosperity of the people of Nepal.

Mission: To strengthen the integrity and resilience of forest ecosystems, and improve socio-economic and environmental values of forests for emission reductions and increased community benefits through improved policy and legal measures, improved institutional functioning, and enhanced stakeholders' capacity, capability and inclusiveness.

Objectives:

1. To reduce carbon emission, enhance carbon sequestration and enhance climate resilience through both mitigation and adaptation approaches by intensifying sustainable management of forest resources and minimizing the causes and effects of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation across the ecological regions.
2. To ensure fair and equitable sharing of carbon and non-carbon benefits of forests among rights holders with effective implementation of safeguard measures.
3. To increase livelihood assets and diversify employment opportunities of forest dependent communities, particularly poor, women, IPs and Dalits.
4. To improve and harmonize policy and legal framework to harness carbon and non-carbon benefits; strengthen institutional capability and improve governance of forest agencies and the forest sector.
5. To establish and maintain a robust National Forest Monitoring System with strong monitoring, reporting and verification mechanisms.

The Government of Nepal (GoN) has promulgated several climate and related policies to support the implementation of REDD+. The following are examples:

- The Climate Change Policy 2011, that specifically mentions REDD+, addresses climate change mitigation and adaptation issues.
- The revision of the National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan focuses on the promotion and harmonization of Aichi targets for biodiversity conservation with REDD+ safeguards.

- The Forest Encroachment Control Strategy 2012 strongly emphasizes on the expansion of forest cover and restoration of illegally occupied forests.
- The National Forestry Sector Strategy 2015 has been aligned with the current Three Year Plan.
- The Land Use Policy 2012 focuses on classification of the land based on their use. It encourages an expansion of forest cover and discourages conversion of forest land and forests into other land use systems.
- The Rangeland Policy 2012 stresses on the need to enhance rangeland, conserve biodiversity and improve livelihoods of the communities dependent on the rangeland resources.
- The Investment Board Act 2012 focuses on the engagement and promotion of private sector in forest management.
- The Low Carbon Economic Development Strategy (yet to be endorsed) has identified forestry sector as one of the six sectors for pursuing a low carbon growth path by adopting climate change mitigation options.
- The Subsidy Policy for Renewable Energy 2013 and Rural Energy Policy 2006 both are intended to promote technological and institutional support in innovation and production of alternative energy sources which have positive implications on forest resource management.
- The Agriculture development Strategy (ADS,2014) has recognized forestry as flagship program to contribute in improved crop production and productivity of the land .
- Zero Hunger Challenge National Action Plan (2016-2025) approved in 19th December, 2014 recognizes important role of forests to ensure food security.

1.2 REDD+ Readiness Preparation

Nepal has been implementing readiness activities mainly under the readiness grant of the FCPF, and some of the readiness activities are also being implemented under the support from the UN-REDD program. The Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation submitted a REDD Readiness Plan Idea Note (R-PIN) to the FCPF of the World Bank in March 2008 and the REDD Forestry and Climate Change Cell, currently called REDD Implementation Center (REDD IC) was established under the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation. Nepal, as one of the REDD+ Participant Countries, signed a Participation Agreement to engage in the Readiness Fund of the FCPF in 2010. The government then prepared the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP), which was assessed by FCPF in July 2010. After signing of Readiness Grant with the World Bank, Nepal conducted analytical studies, capacity building activities, and developed policy initiatives towards REDD+ readiness through financial support of FCPF as well as complementary program support through a number of other conservation and

development partners.

First phase of the readiness process was completed in August 2015 (REDD+ Readiness project was supposed to be completed in June 30, 2013, but the project period was extended for 20 months from July 1, 2013). Nepal's request for additional Readiness Funding of US\$ 5 million was approved by the Participant Committee of the FCPF in November 2015. Government of Nepal and the World Bank are in the process of signing the agreement for the second phase of the Readiness Grant. Some of the readiness programs implemented in the first phase of the readiness grant will be continued into the next phase such as extensive consultation, outreach and capacity building activities, among others.

In June 2013, the Government of Nepal decided to develop a sub-national Emission Reduction (ER) Program in the 12 districts of the Terai Arc Landscape (TAL). In March 2014, GoN submitted Emission Reduction Program Idea Note (ER-PIN) to the FCPF Carbon Fund for consideration. The Carbon Fund Participants decided to select the ER-PIN into its pipeline for result-based payments at the Carbon Fund meeting in Brussels in April 2014. The Letter of Intent (LoI) between GoN and the World Bank was signed in June 2015 for potential purchase of emissions reduction. Nepal is now developing the Emission Reduction Program Document (ER-PD) for the proposed ER Program area, which is expected to be completed in December 2016 for submission to the FCPF Carbon Fund meeting for selection.

Landscape of REDD+ in Nepal

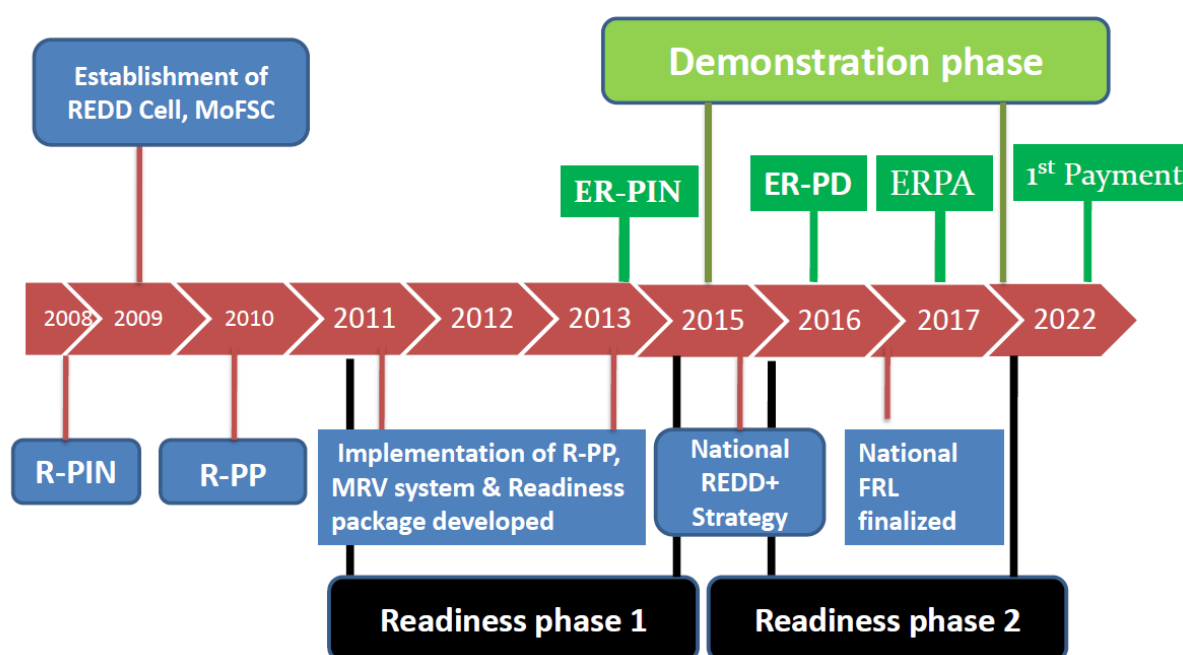


Figure 1: Landscape of REDD+ evolution in Nepal

Nepal is also one of the partner countries under the United Nations collaborative initiative on REDD in developing countries (UN-REDD) Programme. Nepal joined the UN-REDD Program in 2009. In 2012 and additionally in 2014, Nepal received targeted support from the UN-REDD Programme in order to complement and continue its REDD+ readiness preparation. Several other development agencies, including the Department for International Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Finnish Government, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), have been actively supporting the implementation of the R-PP (REDD-cell, 2010). In parallel, several INGOs, NGOs, CSOs and IPOs as well as some intergovernmental organizations are engaged in various REDD+ readiness activities especially in capacity building and awareness raising, pilot and demonstration activities through direct support from different donor countries and organizations.

Table 2: Overview of the support provided by various donors/organizations

No.	Donors	Projects	Major support on REDD+	Remarks
1	World Bank/ FCPF	Nepal REDD+ Readiness Preparation Support	National level REDD+ Readiness preparation and development of subnational Emission Reduction Program	US\$3.8 million; 2011 – 2015; next phase with \$5 million to be started
2.	UN-REDD Program	UN-REDD Targeted Support	REDD Strategy Options REDD+ Fund Management at the National Level Natural Capital Accounting for Forestry Sector in Nepal (or National Forest Valuation) Monitoring of PAMs using proxy indicators Policy Laws and Regulations (PLR) and Institutional Review Technical support on topic of Forest Reference Level Coordination activities for technical support	\$0.85 million
3.	Government of Finland	Forest Resource Assessment	National forest inventory	\$0.78 million
4	SDC/DFID/ Finland	Multi Stakeholder Forestry Project implemented by separate project team and the ministry	Stakeholder consultation, assessing the value of forest and REDD Strategy	\$ 0.24 million

5	USAID	Hariyo Ban Program implemented by WWF and other partners	Consultation, awareness raising and capacity building	\$1.1 million
6	JICA		Supports were provided in terms of equipment and vehicle such as 4 W Pick Up and computers.	\$0.36 million
7	NORAD	Pilot Forest Carbon Trust Fund	Pilot Forest Carbon Trust Fund in three watersheds in Dolakha, Gorkha, and Chitwan districts (implemented by ICIMOD, FECOFUN, ANSAB)	\$0.1 million
8	GIZ	REDD+ Himalaya, implemented by ICIMOD	developing and using experience in implementing REDD+ in Himalaya	2015 – 2018; Total budget: 300,000 Euro

Key Recent Development in Nepal

Since the inception of REDD and implementation of R-PP in Nepal, various political, economic and social changes have emerged. These changes are in and outside the forestry sector, and they could have an influence on Nepal's ability to perform on REDD+.

Nepal has recently promulgated its new constitution with the provision of Federal Republic system. Existing governance arrangements of Nepal will be restructured in to three layers- centre, province and local level . All of these will have implications on forest and other resources management approaches. The new constitution has acknowledged the need of sustainable management of natural resources and described several regulatory provisions to be applied but such provisions are not yet in place. For example, despite envisioning for applying equitable benefit sharing mechanism among federal governments, provincial governments, and local governments in the new constitution, no regulatory policies and measures are developed yet. Therefore, the R-Package has limitations that the readiness process could not be assessed against policies and measures to be implemented under the new federal structure. Some readiness activities like management arrangement, implementation framework, benefit sharing mechanism, national forest monitoring and safeguard system may need to be realigned in near future as the federal system is implemented. This realignment would be undertaken once there is a clarity on the roles of different levels of governments.

2.0 R-Package formulation process

The purpose of preparing R-Package **is to assess REDD+ preparedness of the Government of Nepal, indigenous peoples, civil society and private sector to access result-based carbon finance.** This R-Package report is developed in accordance with principles of the low carbon, green growth and sustainable development objectives of Nepal in general and with the national forestry sector vision – “forestry for prosperity” in particular. The format follows the four components, nine sub-components, 34 criteria, and 58 diagnostic questions suggested by the FCPF Readiness Assessment Framework (2013).

Starting in February 2015, Nepal initiated the R-Package preparation and multi-stakeholder self-assessment of Nepal’s REDD+ Readiness. A consortium of Oy Arbonaut Ltd, Finland and Green Governance Nepal was selected as the consultant to develop the R-Package for REDD Implementation Center (REDD IC). The team organized two national level workshops, three focus group discussions, five regional consultations, and ten district level consultations. A total of 596 participants, representing various interest groups (e.g. indigenous peoples, civil society organizations, I/NGOs working on REDD+, Advocacy groups) and stakeholders, were involved in the 15 district and development regional workshops. The draft report submitted by the consultings firms were further refined. REDD Implementation Center (REDD IC) convened a national level multistakeholder forum, which was attended by all REDD+ stakeholders, including indigenous peoples, civil society, government, women organizations. The participants contributed to revise the report. Views on REDD+ Readiness and feedback on draft reports were obtained through in person meetings as well as emails from major multistakeholder groups including Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN), Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN), Himalayan Grassroots Women's Natural Resource Management Association (HIMAWANTI), Dalit NGOs Federation (DNF) and other non-government organizations working on REDD+ in Nepal (WWF, ICIMOD, ANSAB, ForestAction etc.).

The workshops gathered self-assessment data from various stakeholders including government, indigenous peoples, civil society and local community members. Readiness Progress was ranked using a four color “traffic light” system; with green indicating significant progress, yellow indicating much progress but much work remaining; orange indicating limited initial work started and red indicating that almost nothing started. The report does not disaggregate progress rating, in terms of traffic light system, by different stakeholders group because traffic the light system was agreed on consensus basis by all stakeholder groups. However, differences in views and perception on the progress are described in the text.

This R-Package assessment includes findings and conclusions from research and studies conducted within ongoing projects and pilot studies during the REDD+ Readiness phase (e.g.

FCPF support, UN-REDD Targeted Support, Hariyo Ban Program, Multi Stakeholder Forestry Programme, NORAD funded ICIMOD-ANSAB-FECOFUN REDD+ piloting, and other projects).

Some of the standard FCPF questions were modified to reflect several of Nepal's unique characteristics, such as Nepal's significant progress on community based natural resource management, community oriented natural resource benefit sharing provisions, and implication of Nepal's new constitution on REDD+ Program.

The R-Package Assessment team examined three sets of information to reach its conclusions. Those were:

- 1) a thorough review of all documents on REDD+ published and produced by Nepal;
- 2) results from the multi stakeholder Self Assessment Consultations conducted in 10 districts, five development regions, two nationals and with three separate interest groups in spring and summer of 2015; and
- 3) a review of the experience and lessons learned in the implementation of REDD+ activities funded in Nepal by different donors.

These sources were supplemented with key informant interviews as needed and advised. It represents an overall synthesis of Nepal's achievements using progress indicators and is national in scope. The overall ranking is a composite ranking, comprising the results from the various workshops conducted throughout the R-Package development process, combined with the R-Package team's assessment derived from review and assessment of the documents provided by the REDD IC to the team members. Balance was maintained between the ranking provided by the workshop participants and workshop results, and the team's assessment of the comprehensiveness and completeness of the studies and progress reports. The team also factored in data and progress presented by workshop participants, some of which may not have been previously available in published form. Data presented by workshop participants was accepted at face value, neither validated nor repudiated by the R Package team.

When Nepal initiated the assessment process of REDD+ Readiness, it was anticipated that R-Package would be submitted to the PC meeting of the FCPF by the end of 2015. However, because of some delay in completing the first phase of the readiness project and devastating earthquake of April and May 2015, it was not possible to develop and submit the R-package by the end of 2015. Furthermore, Nepal requested for additional readiness fund of US\$ 5 million from the FCPF in September 2015, which was approved and therefore, submission of the R-Package was postponed for some time anticipating that some of the remaining readiness activities could be completed by 30 June, 2016. However, signing of the agreement for the second phase of the readiness grant has not yet taken place. and therefore GoN has decided to submit the R-Package to be considered in the 22nd PC meeting of the FCPF scheduled in September 2016.

In this context, RIC with the help of some experts and representative of some IPOs and CSOs revised the R-Package, requested all stakeholders and general public to provide comments, feedbacks and suggestions on the revised R-Package. All the feedbacks, comments and information received were incorporated in the final draft of the R-Package. This final draft of the R-Package was then presented, discussed and finalized in the national multi stakeholder consultation workshop on 21 July 2016. The revised final draft of the R-Package was also consulted with senior management team of the Ministry before it was presented, discussed and approved by the REDD Working Group meeting on 28 July 2016. The meeting also recommended for the submission of the R-Package for consideration in the 22nd PC meeting of the FCPF scheduled in September 2016. Government of Nepal, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation by the Secretarial level decision endorsed the R-Package on 27 July 2016 for submission to the PC of the FCPF.

2.1 Component 1: Readiness Organisation and Consultation

Component 1 consists of 2 sub components; 1a) The National REDD + Management Arrangements and 1b) Consultation, Participation and Outreach. Overall assessment of the entire Component 1 is Green, meaning that significant progress has been demonstrated and documented, although additional work remains. The national level management mechanisms have all been established, and are operating. A lot of consultations and capacity building activities have been undertaken at the national, regional, district and local levels.

Some of the gaps that have been identified include: lack of smooth functioning of management units consistently across the nation, unbalanced level of consultations and awareness raising activities throughout the country, and donor dependency for funding. Some major areas of improvement include strengthening the consistent participation and frequency of Apex Body meetings; continuing technical capacity building efforts; expanding awareness raising, training and participation at the non project districts; and continuing efforts to broaden participation of women, indigenous peoples, marginalized and dalit and forest dependent communities. With additional readiness funding from FCPF, Government of Nepal is well positioned to address these challenges.

Subcomponent: 1a.National REDD+ Management Arrangements

The GoN has established a National REDD+ Management and Institutional structure that is inclusive, transparent and functional. It builds on existing forest governance structures in the MoFSC at the national and district levels, focuses strategic and integrative planning at the national level, and places detailed program planning and implementation at the district level.

National REDD+ Management Arrangements consists of a three tiered structure as described below:

- 1) **The Apex Body** is an inter-ministerial institution that ensures multi-sectoral coordination and cooperation for planning and implementation of REDD+ activities at the highest level. It is chaired by the Minister, MoFSC, who is responsible for the overall coordination of REDD+ activities. Apex body encompasses top level officials from eleven government ministries, representatives from private sector, public sector, indigenous peoples and civil society organizations, and the National Planning Commission. Additionally, each of the 11 ministries send two representatives from private sector, indigenous peoples and civil society organizations working in the field of the particular ministry to represent in the Apex Body. This makes the Apex Body of total 49 members. Eleven ministries of the government include members from the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Environment, MoFSC, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative, Ministry of Land Reform and Management, Ministry of Local Development, the Ministry of Physical Planning and Works, and the Ministry of Population and Environment, and Ministry of Industries.
- 2) **A REDD Working Group (RWG)** has been formed under the leadership of Secretary, MoFSC, which ensures representation of different forestry related stakeholders. Currently, RWG comprises of 12 members, among them nine members represent government and the rest three represent non-governmental sectors (Indigenous Peoples, civil society organizations, and donor community). The responsibilities of the RWG is to provide technical, and institutional support to the REDD IC. Besides, the RWG provides innovative ideas, monitor program activities and facilitate preparing a comprehensive REDD+ strategy.

REDD IC invites RWG members along with meeting agenda beforehand. IPO and CSO representatives make in-house discussion with their constituents on the issues which they are suppose to discuss at the RWG meeting. Issues or agenda are discussed in transparent manner. Decisions taken so far have been on consensus basis, and they are well disseminated among the RWG members before getting duly signed by chair (Secretary of Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation) of RWG. If any substantial changes in policies or new policies are required, Apex body meeting is called.

- 3) **The REDD Implementation Centre (REDD IC):** Established as an extended arm of the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation is the lead institution to undertake REDD

readiness activities in Nepal. The REDD IC is headed by a joint-secretary¹-level staff of the ministry. The REDD IC is responsible for coordinating the readiness process at the national and sub-national levels among diverse stakeholders. The REDD IC is comprised of three sections:

- I) The **Policy and Program Development (P&PD) Section** is responsible for developing REDD-related forestry policies and monitoring their implementation. The section chief, which is an under-secretary² level staff of the government, proposes programs related to REDD readiness, including the development of capacity-building programs, to the chief of REDD IC for discussion and approval.
- II) The **Remote Sensing and Land Information Section** is responsible for developing reference level, looking after forest monitoring system and carbon accounting system. This section is jointly headed by an under-secretary-level staff of the government.
- III) The **Climate Change Management Section** takes lead in designing and disseminating climate change related information, REDD+ information, extension and capacity-building activities for different stakeholders, including the government, indigenous peoples, civil society, and private sector. In addition, it will provide feedback to the REDD IC and various stakeholders, to ensure that their concerns are properly addressed during the REDD implementation process.
- IV) The **Finance and Administration (F&A) Section** leads management of the budget, financial reporting to the Bank, and other logistics of the REDD IC. This unit ensures the legitimacy of financial plans and provides guidance and support to program planning and implementation. To support the section, a procurement management consultant and a financial management consultant has been hired for the readiness period.

¹ A joint secretary is the second ranking position after the secretary in the government system of Nepal. All five departments of MoFSC are headed by a joint secretary level staff.

² An under- secretary is the third ranking position after the secretary and joint secretary.

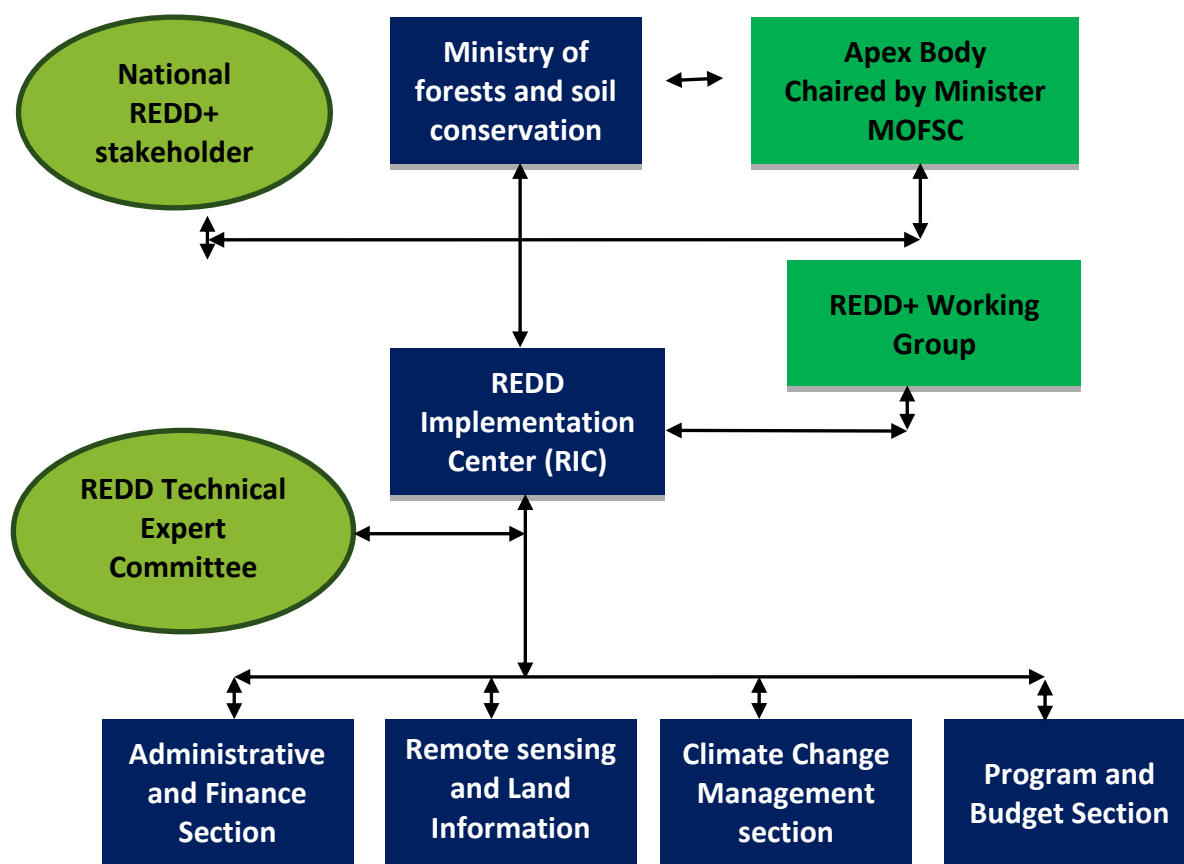


Figure 2: Institutional arrangement developed to manage REDD+ Readiness in Nepal

The effectiveness of these bodies varies, with the REDD-IC being the most professionally staffed body. The REDD Working Group meets regularly, has strong and inclusive participation, and functions effectively. The frequencies of meetings for RWG was envisioned as bimonthly, which is happening regularly. However, the Apex Body has not met as frequently as originally envisioned.

Readiness Assessment

Criteria 1: Accountability and transparency

REDD IC has made significant efforts and progress in developing mechanisms that are accountable and transparent. Any information related to REDD+ e.g. study reports and public notices are uploaded onto REDD IC website. REDD+ Working Group meeting minutes are posted on REDD IC website. See the link: http://mofsc-redd.gov.np/?page_id=83 and http://mofsc-redd.gov.np/?page_id=14. The REDD IC has also demonstrated considerable commitment to circulating documents for public comments and suggestions, and revising them accordingly. This can be continued with some improvements such as expanding the dissemination in Nepali language media and by lengthening the time period for accepting comments.

But, a number of workshop participants indicated their unawareness of information and study reports that are available on the website. Publicizing and disseminating increased information could be improved by utilizing the fora such as IP and CSO REDD+ Alliance.

All the readiness study reports are published (see annex for the list) on REDD IC website:



Figure 3: Sample of REDD IC website – purpose: information sharing and transparency

Criteria 2: Operating mandate and budget

Government of Nepal institutionalized REDD+ process in 2008 by establishing a REDD Cell under the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation. The REDD Cell led the R-PP development process which was approved by the PC of the FCPF in 2010. Initially, there was no separate budget for the REDD cell and all the staff working at the REDD Cell were also not the permanent staff of the Cell but were deputed temporarily.

Now, The REDD Cell has been upgraded to the REDD Implementation Center (REDD IC) with its own budget, and more authority and mandate has been given to implement the REDD+ related activities. However, the budget allocated for the Center is not adequate (budget allocated mostly is for administrative costs of the center and small amount for other REDD+ programs, especially for capacity building activities). Government of Nepal has established the REDD IC for overall planning, supervision and implementation of the REDD+ related activities with full operating mandate. The FCPF/World Bank, UN- REDD Programme and GoN are providing budget for implementation of the REDD+ readiness programs. In future, government should allocate more budget in REDD+ programs. REDD IC needs to be capacitated for implementation of the second phase of the readiness more effectively and efficiently.

Necessary institutions required to enter into emission reduction program under FCPF Carbon Fund, including National Entity, will be established during ER Program development. The

Entity will have authority to work closely with various development partners to get financial support for implementation of the ER Program.

Criteria 3: Multi-sector coordination mechanisms and cross-sector collaboration

In addition to Apex Body and REDD Working Group described above, Nepal has also established the REDD+ Multi-stakeholder Forum and REDD+ Indigenous Peoples and Civil Society Organisations' Alliance to promote broader community, indigenous peoples and civil society engagement. The Forum functions as the principal consultation, outreach and communication platform. Participation has been inclusive and active.

REDD+ Indigenous Peoples and Civil Society Organisations' Alliance, Nepal (REDD+ IP and CSO Alliance) was formed in 2009 and comprises of more than 15 IPOs and CSOs/NGOs. The objective is to discuss and develop a common understanding on REDD+ and advocate for developing justifiable REDD+ framework and mechanism on behalf of wide spectrum of Indigenous Peoples Organizations, Women, Dalit and Civil Society Organizations. It plays an active role in advocating for the development of a REDD+ strategy and national safeguard system of REDD+. It serves as a platform to discuss and develop a common understanding on REDD+ on behalf of Civil Society Organizations and Indigenous Peoples' Organizations. Participation has been inclusive, but meetings have been called with little advanced sharing of the agenda and objectives, hampering meeting effectiveness and participation. The REDD+ CSO and IPO Alliance functioned most actively when there was donor supported funding and meeting frequency and levels of activity have declined without sustainable funding mechanisms.

District level structures are designed to mirror the National level structures and function with multiple organizations at different levels. However, they are currently limited to the Terai Arc Landscape districts where Emission Reduction Program is being prepared. REDD desks have also been established in 20 districts, and in five Regional Forestry Directorate. Other non-project districts are yet to form REDD+ institutions. The district based institutions consist of a four tiered structure including: a) District Forestry Sector Coordination Committee (DFSCC) which mirrors the Apex Body function; b) District REDD Working Group (DRWG) functioning similar to the REDD Working Group (RWG) at central level; c) District REDD+ Program Management Unit (DRPMU) acting as the lead agency to implement emission reduction activities; and d) Regional REDD+ Focal Office, which coordinates Emission Reduction program implementation among districts at regional level.

In addition, a REDD multi-stakeholder's forum will be formed to function as the principal outreach and communication platform in the district, and enhance stakeholder engagement. Similarly, formation of District Alliances of REDD+ CSO and IPOs in each district is under process to encourage active civic engagement.

Within the Government of Nepal and cross sectoral structures, the REDD IC has made significant progress to communicate the REDD+ program progress utilizing mechanisms such as the Climate Change Council, National Biodiversity Coordination Committee, National Planning Commission and other cross sectoral mechanisms. Some gaps remain, particularly as different ministries manage different elements of REDD+ projects, and not all actors are aware of the funds provided by different donors and their intended uses. Perhaps including this topic as a regular agenda item during the Apex Body meetings would increase the awareness of all the ongoing projects managed by different ministries and actors, enhancing coordination across sectors.

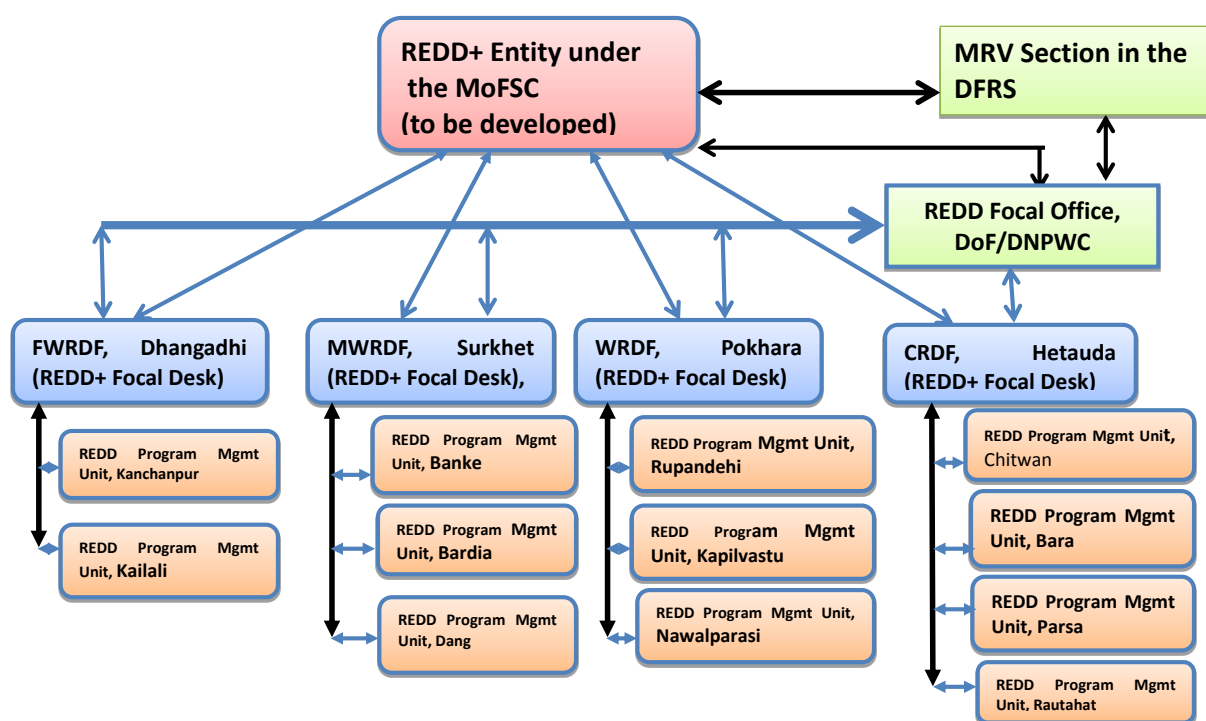


Figure 4: district level institutional arrangement for REDD+

Criteria 4: Technical Supervision Capacity

Technical capacity of REDD IC has significantly improved. It started with three under secretary level technical foresters, one midlevel technical forester, one accountant, and two office assistant at the beginning stage of readiness preparation. Now the REDD IC has full fledged staffing including one joint secretary, three under–secretary level technical foresters, two forest officers, one soil conservation officer, and six admin staff. This not only demonstrates the enhanced capacity of the REDD IC staff to conduct readiness activities, but also the commitment of the GoN to take ownership in the process and make REDD+ a successful program. REDD IC staff have been frequently participating in national and international conferences, trainings and workshops not only as a participant but also as a resource person. This has enhanced capacity and confidence of the staff to take leadership in REDD+ readiness processes.

To aid in supervision and ensure that REDD+ outcomes and impacts are achieved, Nepal has prepared its M&E Framework or the logical framework (or short “Logframe”), which has greatly assisted to stay focused and goal-oriented.

For further details, refer to: <http://mofsc-redd.gov.np/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Nepal-RPP-Monitoring-Evaluation-Framework.pdf>

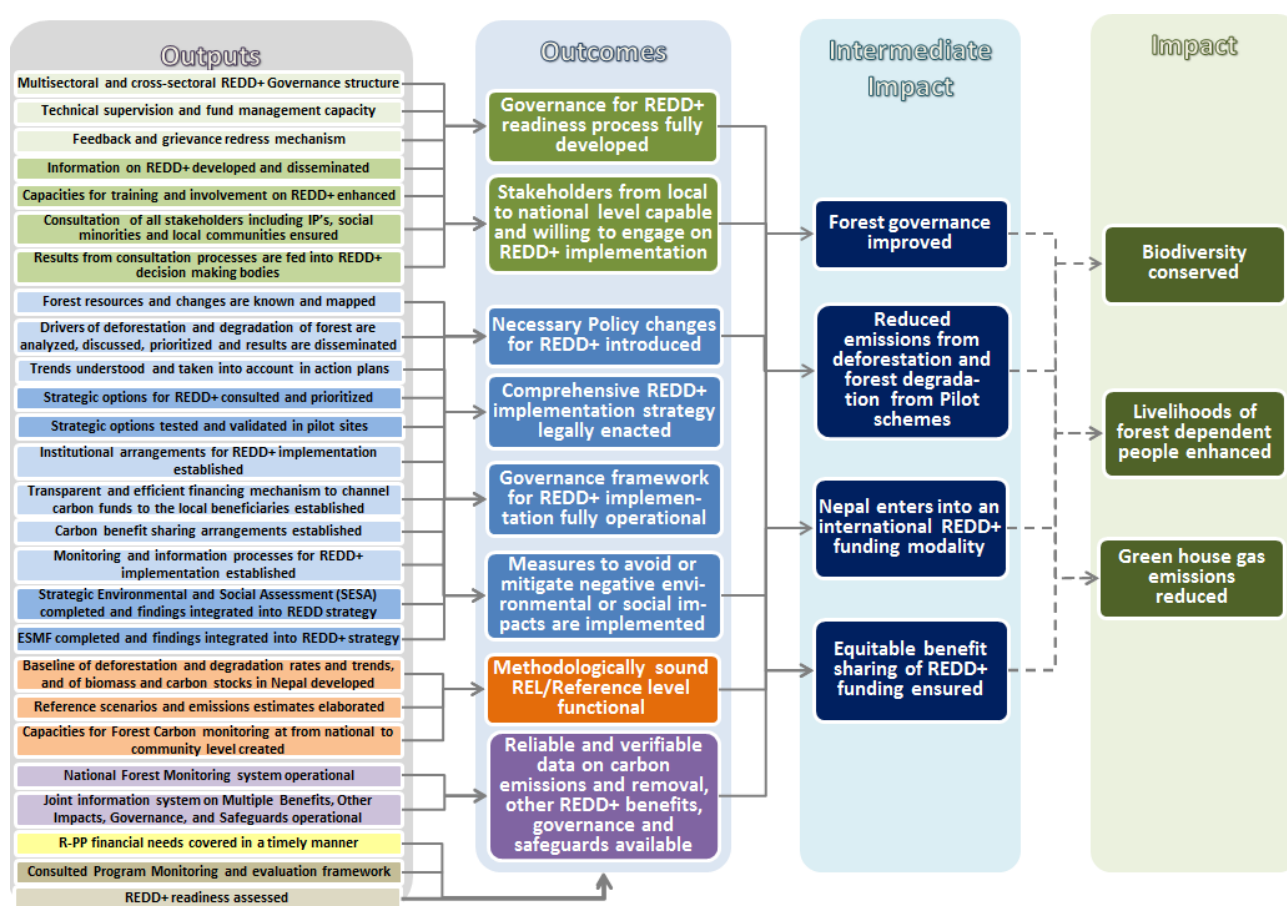


Figure 5: Nepal's REDD+ result chain (log frame)

However, technical staff working in the REDD IC have yet to be fully capacitated to deliver desired outputs, update FRL using advance and reliable information, operationalize web based database and information system, for example. Because of the inadequate capacity, REDD IC is unable to ensure the qualities of various studies related to REDD+ strategy and translate them into policy documents. Furthermore, high turnover of well trained staff, especially that of REDD IC chief, has been a critical issue for smooth performance of REDD IC.

Criteria 5: Funds Management Capacity

The Government of Nepal has its own policies and procedure for fund management, which also apply to REDD+ related fund management. REDD IC has enhanced its capacity to manage the procurement processes and financial aspects. REDD IC successfully procured major consulting services from international firms to conduct studies on FREL, MRV, SESA

etc. In this process, REDD IC staff learned to handle both procurement and fund management related processes effectively and efficiently.

However, considering the expanding scope on REDD+, more staff to oversee fund management may be required.

Criteria 6: Feedback and grievance redress mechanism

Study report on developing Feedback Grievance Redress Mechanism has been finalized in September 2015. The report suggested that GRM be constructed under the current structure of the MoFSC when the REDD+ is implemented. The report has provided goals and objective of the GRM as “to channel grievance into an acceptable, institutionalized mechanism for resolving conflict deriving from the REDD+ implementation” which seeks to compliment the legal system (not replace it). The report provided three different options of the structure of the GRM, which will be a quasi-judicial body with 13 principles. However, this is yet to be made operational. It will be ensured that the mechanism is operating at the national, subnational and local levels, is transparent, impartial, has a clearly defined mandate, and adequate expertise and resources. It will also be ensured that potentially impacted communities are aware of, have access to, and the mechanism is responsive to feedback and grievances.

Overall multistakeholder self-assessment and progress rating

Throughout the self-assessment consultations, most participants were aware of these institutional arrangements for REDD+ and ranked the progress as significant. This was particularly true for the interest group consultations where all participants had a solid understanding of the REDD+ mechanism. The exceptions were districts where no prior REDD+ activities had taken place or where on-going REDD+ projects are absent, REDD_ related awareness level was low. It is important to note that in May and June 2015, the REDD-IC conducted REDD+ Readiness training in 43 districts, exposing an estimated 10,000 participants to REDD+. About 1/3rd women participated in these training and workshops. These trainings are likely to have increased broad awareness among the general population, but the R-Package Assessment Team could not assess their effectiveness as the trainings were conducted after the R-Package district and regional consultations.

Overall ranking for Component 1a is GREEN. Structurally and conceptually, an inclusive and comprehensive multi-tiered institutional structure has been designed and much has been implemented. Several areas were identified in need of more attention. Implementation has not been consistent across all levels, and participation and especially multi-sectorial coordination at the Central Level has been limited. Strengthening this by developing clear terms of reference especially for the Apex Body, and encouraging consistent membership

and participation across Ministries and Departments can address these concerns. Project level indigenous peoples and civil society level participation has been active. There are now a number of indigenous peoples and civil society bodies with significant REDD+ experience and knowledge. The CSO-IPO Alliance was previously very active and engaged while it had Project funding, and could easily be revived and made sustainable with minimum external funding.

GoN has a Budget for REDD+ activities funded from both GoN and donor sources. The FCPF has commented that contracting and procurement mechanisms are more effective in recent years. Using the planned Training of Trainers (TOT) approach, both GoN, indigenous peoples and civil society can rapidly accelerate the number of participants familiar with REDD+ mechanisms. REDD-IC technical capacity has increased, despite frequent staff transfers in the past. The draft Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism (FGRM) study was completed in June 2015 (REDD-IC, 2015) and has been finalized, but yet to be operationalized.

Subcomponent: 1b. Consultation, Participation, and Outreach

Since the beginning of REDD+ Readiness preparation activities, Nepal has actively pursued a number of participatory processes to engage Indigenous Peoples and civil society organizations. Main participatory platforms have been established in Nepal and serve as the primary institutional mechanisms for participation and consultation. The Mid Term Report details contacts with 91,717 people listed as participants (Tables below). Since the MTR (October 2013) a number of additional Consultation, Outreach and Capacity Building programs on REDD+ were conducted in different region (REDD-IC, 2015). Recently, REDD-IC successfully conducted the Training of Trainers about REDD+ since the completion of the R-Package consultations; estimated to involve some 10,000 participants in 43 districts (REDD-IC staff, personal communications, July 2015). Since the MTR submitted in 2013, additional 1,77,562 people participated in different kinds of capacity building and/or consultation and awareness raising on the REDD+ by the end June 2016. This makes the total number of people participated in some kind of capacity building and/or consultation and awareness activities on REDD+ (conducted by different stakeholders) until June 30 2016 is 2,69,279 (Table 4). The team, during the preparation of R-Package consulted with 498 people including 97 woman participants in 10 district and 5 regional consultations between March and June 2015, which is detailed in chapter 3.

Table 3: Summary of the activities conducted by REDD Cell on component 1b

Components	Key Activities Planned in the R-PP	Achievements
1b. Stakeholder Consultation and Participation		
Consultation	Workshops (national, regional and local)-800 events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 415 individuals consulted during various studies conducted under different components.
	Public hearing 240 events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exact figure not available, but it is a regular process in REDD+ piloted in 105 community forests
	Round table meeting-5 events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not started yet
	Expert consultations-55 (6 themes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 individuals consulted during studies under various components.
Capacity building	Curricula and training material development-1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training manual: 2 (Lead trainer & community trainer) • Training Materials: REDD+ Terminology-1
	Support to forestry related institution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not yet started
	National level trainer/facilitator ToT-1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Training in 2011-2012 (60 participants) to government forest officers (10 days, 7 days, and 5 days)
	District level lead trainer/facilitator training (general & thematic)-25 events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 thematic training on forest carbon measurement (18 participants) in CFM.
	Local level training-75 events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 events on awareness on REDD+ at regional and local level (451 participants from government) staff. • 1 awareness workshop for 30 politicians in 2011
	Orientation to journalist-events	No progress
Awareness raising	FM radio programs- 25 programs in 5 language and 325 times broadcasts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 episodes broadcasted in 2011 in Nepali language
	Television programs-1 , Screen-6 Talk program-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 TV program developed and screened.
	Newspaper articles-600	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two articles published in forestry journals.
	Bulletin and journals-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not yet started
	Websites establish and update-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 website- www.mofsc-REDD+.gov.np is regularly updated
	Leaflets-2, posters-3, brochures-6, Calendar-1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaflets-2, Leaflet draft-1 (English), brochure-1 (Nepali and English), Poster-1 on REDD+. • REDD+ Diary-1 (English)
	HR outsourcing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No progress

Sources: REDD Cell Record (2013); Dangal et al.,(2012)

Table 4: Number of participants attending activities conducted by different organizations

Activity	Organization	Number of events	Number of Participants							
			BCT	J-jati	Dalit	Madhesi	Others	Male	Female	Total
Capacity Building	NEFIN	15		8696				5091	3605	8696
	RECOFT	120						3321	1797	5118
	ANSAB	70	470	736	581	500	500	968	385	871
	WWF	20								900
	WWF/HARIYO BAN	1468	18809	18936	4228	702	320	19805	23217	43022
	REDD IC- TOT	27						316	227	542
Consultation and/or Awareness	NAFIN	22		1773				1143	630	1773
	RECOFT	552						13429	9434	22864
	WWF	15								450
	WWF/HARIYO BAN	4538	80250	75105	20026	2675	2376	85012	95420	180432
	REDD IC							2496	2115	4611
Total		6847	99529	105246	24835	3877	3196	1E+05	136830	269279

Criteria 7: Participation and engagement of key stakeholders

REDD Working Group, which is a decision making body, includes representatives of indigenous peoples organizations and civil society organizations, among others. These representatives play coordination role actively in REDD+ IPO and CSO Alliance, which has members representing wide groups such as women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, civil society and local communities. The Working Group members discuss issues pertinent to their constituents at the Alliance prior to coming to the RWG meetings, and bring the issues on the table. Then they have responsibility to communicate to the Alliance members.

REDD Implementation Centre also organizes meetings or discussions with the Alliance members, where different stakeholders have opportunity to directly interact, seek information, voice concern, and provide feedback to the government staff.

With regard to gender, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation has adopted vision for Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI), which states “Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation is a gender and social equity sensitive and socially inclusive organization practicing good forest governance to ensure equitable access to, benefits from and decision making power over forest resources of all stakeholders.” Through this vision, the Ministry has committed to address gender and social inclusion and promote equitable access of the socially excluded to forest resources and benefits. To operationalise this vision, MFSC has

developed a GESI Strategy for the Forestry Sector, which will provide the operational guidelines for the implementation of gender and social inclusion issues in the forestry sector.

The strategies are developed, with the support of MSFP, and are available online in English and Nepali at: [http://www.msfp.org.np/uploads/publications/file/MFSC%20GESI%20Strategy%20\(English%20version\)%20130129010447.pdf](http://www.msfp.org.np/uploads/publications/file/MFSC%20GESI%20Strategy%20(English%20version)%20130129010447.pdf) <http://www.msfp.org.np/uploads/publications/file/MFSC%20GESI%20SUMMARY%20FINAL%20Nepali%20130129010730.pdf>

Some of the remaining tasks to strengthen participation and engagement of key stakeholders, which will be addressed with the additional funding include: strengthen the participatory structures established by the Alliance at the decentralized levels and provide resources, as outlined in the additional funding proposal. The Alliance will draft the ToRs and its work program in lieu of supporting the remaining readiness activities, that further strengthen the internal governance system of the alliance and outreach to their constituencies in the ER program area.

Criteria 8. Consultation process

At the national level, REDD IC regularly organizes consultation workshops where representatives from wide range of stakeholders, including experts in any specific fields, discuss on the issues and provide suggestions and inputs. These feedback are taken onboard. Regional and district level consultation workshops are also organized when required. Various IPOs, CSOs and local NGOs such as FECOFUN, ACOFUN, NEFIN, DANAR and many others are engaged in regular consultations. Similarly, INGOs such as WWF Nepal and inter-governmental organizations such as ICIMOD are implementing various REDD+ activities that also ensure active involvement of all stakeholders in the consultation and participation process. There is more to be improved regarding quality, quantity, access and distribution of different consultation events.

The REDD-IC has demonstrated a strong commitment to collaborate and value opinions from a variety of civil society, vulnerable communities and IPOs; and has actively sought their participation in meetings, workshops and consultations. Efforts were made to include civil society, IPO and vulnerable community inputs into the design of the RL; MRV; Policy and Program Development (P&PD); Extension and Outreach (E&O); and Finance and Administration (F&A).

One challenge, as spelled out by the participants during R-Package consultation, is that the REDD IC typically sends out invitations to various consultations to indigenous peoples and civil society actors, but the organizations self-selection process to attend either results in the same participants always attending or in some cases, each meeting has different persons attending and they remain unaware of the intricacies of the REDD+ mechanism and hence contribute little to the meetings. Encouraging each indigenous peoples and civil society organization to form their own in-house REDD+ sub-group and encouraging consistent

participation may help maximize these efforts. Also encouraging internal sharing post meeting within indigenous peoples and civil society partners would ensure that results and key issues are more widely disseminated among their members. Some of this is beyond the scope of the REDD IC mandate; however, REDD IC can only suggest ways to strengthen this element of indigenous peoples and civil society engagement in REDD+.

Further work to be done under the Additional Funding as described in the last paragraph on criteria 7 also contributes to strengthen consultation process.

Criteria 9. Information sharing and accessibility of information

National REDD+ institutions and management arrangements such as REDD Working Group and Multi Stakeholder Forum have been set up to enhance transparent, consistent, comprehensive and timely sharing and disclosure of information related to all readiness activities, including the development of REDD+ strategy, reference levels, and monitoring systems). Information related to these studies and their final reports are posted at REDD IC website. Some of them have been translated into Nepali and distributed widely.

However, impact of these outreach efforts have not been found fully effective as many participants of the consultation workshops emphasized the need for greater efforts at outreach, participation and inclusion, especially mentioning the need for greater engagement of women, dalits, indigenous people, vulnerable communities and forest dependent communities among others. Participants also mentioned that single event to understand complex REDD+ processes is inadequate and recommended a “cascading” approach of multiple contacts to improve retention and effectiveness.

Contacts and awareness also appear to vary highly between groups. Those that have had multiple contacts are much more familiar with the strengths, weaknesses and implications of REDD+. It is also apparent that awareness and understanding are much higher in districts and communities where REDD+ activities are on-going or recently completed. R-Package consultations and their results are presented in chapter 3, which gives more detailed understanding of REDD+ outreach, participation and inclusion in a series of recent consultations.

Criteria 10. Implementation and public disclosure of consultation outcomes

Consultations are generally carried out to seek views, guidance and feed back on some specific issues from multi stakeholders. The reports are then revised accordingly and shared among the stakeholders for further review. Final versions of the reports are posted on website. In all of the readiness studies such as strategy development and technical activities related to reference level and monitoring and information systems development, outcomes of consultations were fully integrated and the reports published.

Overall multi-stakeholder self-Assessment and progress rating

Overall ranking for Component 1b is YELLOW.

Participatory and relatively inclusive systems for consultation and awareness are in place. Comprehensive institutions exist and structures are inclusive but implementation varies, determined by whether a REDD+ project exists. About two, 70,000 people have been exposed to the REDD+ concept through trainings, workshops and consultations until June 30, 2016. A significant number of technical staff from Government, indigenous peoples and Civil Society organizations has good awareness and understanding of REDD+, but awareness among the general population remains inconsistent, with a heavy bias of greater awareness in project districts. Most of the population of the country resides in the rural areas of Nepal. The geographically remote districts lack the physical infrastructures, road networks etc. These causes the poor literacy rate, higher poverty and lower Human Development Index (HDI <0.45). The lower level of the REDD+ awareness are found in these remote and poverty stricken districts of Nepal, which requires larger investment and budgetary supports for effective outreach and consultation process.

A single exposure of large numbers of people to an issue as complex as REDD+ is insufficient to raise awareness. More efforts at multiple level or “cascading” contacts are suggested. At central level, the same, few trained people participate in many consultations, resulting possibly in large numeric participation but limited representation and demographic coverage. Broader public awareness using mass communication tools, and expanding on the successful Training of Trainers approaches will increase REDD+ awareness across the general population. As mentioned, the REDD-IC has also recently completed awareness trainings in 43 of Nepal’s 75 districts, expanding coverage considerably. Linking REDD+ awareness training and materials with broader climate change programs like the more widely known LAPA and CAPA processes can also scale up coverage quickly. While outreach of REDD+ Readiness activities has been continuously increasing, relatively few evidence was found that Indigenous Peoples institutions and decision-making processes were utilized to enhance consultations and engagement, particularly at grass-root level. Greater emphasis on including vulnerable communities and marginalized groups including but not limited to indigenous peoples, Dalits, ethnic groups, women and forest dependent communities is needed. This need was consistently mentioned by participants in all three focus groups discussions. Also, participants suggested to use different media such as radio, television, social media, mobile technologies and other means to expand awareness.

2.2 Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation

Component 2 consists of 4 sub components:

- 2a) Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance;
- 2b) REDD+ Strategy Options;
- 2c) Implementation Framework; and
- 2d) Social and Environmental Impacts.

Overall assessment of the entire Component 2 is Green, meaning that significant progress has been demonstrated and documented, although additional work to strengthen several elements remains. All FCPF suggested studies have been completed. The Draft National REDD+ Strategy has been finalized and endorsement is awaited from the government. The Implementation Framework document was completed in June 2015. SESA and ESMF documents were prepared and circulated, and finalized after addressing public comments. Many lessons learned have been documented in these studies and reflect a solid understanding of the current REDD+ foundations. Several identified gaps remain including the need for more public circulation and comment on the completed studies, review of suggested policies and their implications in light of the new constitution, clarification on carbon rights and suggested management structures, and additional work to review proposed benefit sharing mechanisms. The R-Package consultant team has recommended to develop greater linkages between the drivers of deforestation and evidence based targets, which would make quantifying impacts simpler, breaking down studies into eco-regional level, providing greater emphasis to quantify drivers of deforestation, and expanding the discussions and consultations on different benefit sharing mechanisms. With additional resources, Government of Nepal is well positioned to address these challenges. These remaining gaps will be worked out during the implementation of Additional Funding.

Subcomponent: 2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land-Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance

Various studies listed in the R-PP were commissioned for the assessment of Land Use, Land-Use Change, Forest Law, Policy and Governance. The studies include:

1. In-depth analysis of the causal factors for weak forest sector governance, law enforcement and policy implementation and possible actions to address these;
2. Assessment of the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in *Churia* and in the high mountain physiographic regions;
3. Analysis of the value-chain of forest products (timber and key NTFPs) and the effects and consequences of weak governance, administrative controls on pricing and marketing;

4. Assessment of the existing and potential supply and demand situation for forest products in different regions; and
5. Effect of climate change and invasive species on forest degradation.
6. UN-REDD (2014). Understanding drivers and causes of deforestation and forest degradation in Nepal: potential policies and measures for REDD+.

Final reports of these studies are available online (http://mofsc-redd.gov.np/?page_id=14). The completed studies provide valuable information on overall Land-Use, Land-Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance including links between drivers and barriers to address them (to reduce the emissions). The studies were mostly of qualitative nature (using participatory consultation approach); they do not, for example, quantify the links between drivers and rates of deforestation and forest degradation. These studies, however, will play an important role of providing a base for further quantitative studies.

Criteria 11: Assessment and analysis

The assessment conducted during R-PP formulation and preparation presents an analysis of recent historical land-use trends (including traditional) and assessment of relevant land tenure and titling, natural resource rights (including customary rights), livelihoods (including traditional/customary), forest law, policy and governance issues.

Nepal has over sixty years of experience in forest resource assessment of the country. It had first conducted the national inventory in 1960s (DFRS, 1999). Since then various forest resource assessment programmes have been completed at district, regional or national level; e.g. Land Resource Mapping Project (LRMPs) 1977-79; Master Plan for Forestry Sector (MPFS), 1989; Forest Resources and Deforestation in the Terai (1978/79–1990/91), National Inventory (Forest Resources of Nepal 1987-1998 (DFRS, 1999), Forest Cover Changes in Terai Districts (DoF, 2005) and Forest Resource Assessment (2010-2014). The average deforestation rate was reported to be 1.7% per year at national scale varying from 1.3% in the Terai to 2.3% in the midhills (DFRS, 1999) which has been largely decreased to 0.44% in Terai (FRA/DFRS, 2014) and 0.18% in Chure regions of Nepal (DFRS, 2014). Over 100,000 ha forest area has been encroached in the country with most concentration to the Terai.

The Government of Nepal has democratised forest policies, laws, regulations and guidelines and created performance-based incentives for more sustainable management of forestry, natural and biodiversity resources over the last 30 years (Bhatta *et al.* 2012). Historically, Government shifted from nationalized management to greater devolution of the conservation, management and utilization rights to the local people. Extensive consultations with multiple stakeholders were conducted when formulating and enacting these changes and a number of new amendments and regulations have been promulgated in recent years. Nepal's recently promulgated Constitution (2015) has also ensured the equitable sharing of benefits accrued from the conservation and management of forests, plant resources and biodiversity (GoN, 2015). Besides widening the scope of community-based forest

management system in Nepal, Forest Policy 2015 has included the provision of the Payment for Environment Services (PES) and involves the private sector in forestry. It has included the PES such as carbon stock, biodiversity conservation, ecotourism, hydrological cycle under the category of forest products. These precedents set the foundations for broad benefit sharing of carbon revenues, and recognize the powerful role that local communities play in conservation and management of Nepal's forest and natural resources.

As with most developing countries, the Forest Acts, National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Acts, and other related acts remain silent about the carbon benefits sharing and do little to define the customary rights of the indigenous peoples upon the forests. The Forest Act 1993 and Forest Regulation 1995 are framed with the premise that ownership of all forest land remains with the state, and that only rights to manage and use are transferred to forest users, but does not mention about carbon rights. In general, the central Government is designated with the right to register and transfer carbon, but with the additional REDD+ caveats that community rights must not be curtailed and that all benefits are shared in a fair and equitable manner. Nepal's New Constitution (GoN, 2015) holds the carbon rights transfer authority at the central level and revenues will then be transferred to the Federal, province and local authorities as per recommendation of National Natural Resources and Fiscal Commission (Article 60.3 of the constitution of Nepal).

Several recent acts, rules and regulations include important provisions concerning REDD+ in Nepal. The **Forest Policy of 2015** is the first forest policy that realizes the needs to incorporate private sector involvement in forestry sector, increasing good governance and addresses the negative impacts of the climate change. Specific provisions related to REDD+ include targeting to participate in carbon trade; maintaining the forest coverage of at least up to 40% of the total land area (Note: according to FRA 2015, Nepal currently has 44% forest cover); devising equitable benefit sharing mechanisms; ensuring the participation of the forest dependent communities in forest management and benefit sharing; enhancing the forest carbon stocks through Sustainable Management of Forest (SMF), and designing program activities to reduce carbon emission from forests and to control forest fires. Other relevant laws and regulations that incorporate REDD+ include **Nepal Climate Change Policy 2011**, which identifies the key strategic efforts of the government towards adapting and mitigating the impacts of climate change. It promotes low carbon emission strategies, clean development mechanisms and pave the way for REDD+ pilot activities in three watersheds, which provided key learning experiences. **Nepal's Low Carbon Economic Development Strategy** promotes adoption of clean energy technologies to boost economic development in a sustainable manner. It is part of the Nepal Government's continued efforts towards low-emission and climate-resilient economic growth through clean energy technologies such as hydropower and biogas, and helps achieve the low-carbon development path. It targets making Nepal self-reliant on clean energy by 2022 and achieve high economic development through green technologies by 2030 (MOSTE, 2015). The draft

was released for public comment in January 2015 and focuses on hydropower development as the backbone of the energy system to achieve sustainable, long term economic growth. Nepal's Revised **National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (MFSC, 2014)** develops a long term strategy (over 35 years) for integrated biodiversity conservation throughout Nepal, with short term targets and priorities (by 2020). Strategies and priority actions are clustered into six themes with reference to key biodiversity threats, gaps and issues. Quantitative targets have been set against each priority action and REDD+ is specifically referenced throughout the document. The NBSAP identifies key lessons learned from management of biodiversity in Nepal including: (a) key role of local communities in natural resource management, (b) importance of landscape approaches to effectively address multiple drivers of biodiversity loss, (c) key role of cooperation and collaboration among relevant agencies (government, I/NGOs, local communities) for success, (d) importance of regional cooperation, (e) importance of strong enabling policies to translate policy pronouncements into practice, and (f) key role of incentive measures to promote conservation-friendly behaviors. The NBSAP also specifically identifies the need for more activities in mountain ecosystems, to complement the successful Terai based efforts and highlights the need for continued investment to strengthen REDD+ technical capacities. It also outlines some implications of performance based carbon mechanism and non-carbon benefits. The National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP) have largely enumerated the REDD+ activities in Nepal. It suggests to incorporate the non-carbon benefits in the REDD+ Strategy. By the end of 2020, the NBSAP targets to restore at least 5% of the degraded forest ecosystem by the implementation of REDD program and it plans to implement the CAPA process in at least 3000 CFUGs.

Criteria 12: Prioritization of direct and indirect drivers/barriers to forest Carbon Stock Assessment

Nine direct drivers and ten underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation were identified in the R-PP which are also validated by other REDD+ related studies (See table below). Among these, six proximate and six underlying causes are reported and prioritized for mountain regions of Nepal.

Drivers of deforestation and forest degradations have been prioritized (See table below for the summary). Prioritization was done through extensive stakeholder consultations at district, regional and local level workshops. While comprehensive, the studies did not establish quantitative links between drivers and rates of deforestation and forest degradation, making it difficult to establish measurable targets for future reference. Thus far the D&D study (REDD-IC, 2015) does not include this data and the effects of identified drivers will have to be assessed in the context of factors such as location (eco-physiological region, urban/rural, land use types, etc.) and socio-economic context to strengthen the findings. The R-PP also lists underlying causes for each driver of deforestation and forest degradation. However, these underlying causes (e.g. inappropriate policies, weak

governance, weak forest law enforcement, limited technical capacity and high demand for timber and firewood) are often intertwined, require more in-depth analysis, and their interrelationships need further understanding. Indirect causes of deforestation and forest degradation (DD) include population increase and its distribution, poverty, land scarcity and the status of Nepal's level of economic growth and commercial development. These phenomena are hard to channel and quantify (See Drivers of D & D Study for more detailed analysis). R-Package Workshop participants also identified the need for greater participation and inclusion as areas for additional improvement (Participant Comments; Special Interest Group Workshop 3; July 9, 2015).

Table 5: Direct drivers, priority, and corresponding underlying causes

SN	Drivers	Priority [§]	Drivers for/affecting region	Corresponding underlying causes
1.	Unsustainable harvesting and illegal harvesting	1	Degradation Affecting regions: HM (2); MH (3); S (1); T (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy gaps and poor implementation ▪ High dependency in forest products and gap in demand-supply ▪ Poverty and limited livelihood opportunities ▪ Poor governance and weak political support
2.	Forest fire	2	Degradation Affecting regions: HM (1)*; MH (3); S (1); T (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy gaps and poor implementation ▪ Poor governance and weak political support ▪ Land use policy and insecure forest tenure
3.	Infrastructure development (includes manmade disasters)	3	Deforestation Affecting regions: HM (2); MH (1); S (2) T (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy gaps and poor implementation ▪ Weak coordination and cooperation among stakeholders ▪ Poor governance and weak political support
4.	Over grazing/uncontrolled grazing	4	Degradation Affecting regions: HM (1)*; MH (4); S (1); T (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy gaps and poor implementation ▪ Poor governance and weak political support ▪ Weak coordination and cooperation among stakeholders
5.	Weak Forest Management practices (unmanaged/under-managed)	5	Degradation Affecting regions: HM (1); MH (3); S (1); T (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy gaps and poor implementation ▪ Inadequate human resource development and management ▪ Inadequate capacity of the departments ▪ Poor governance and weak political support
6.	Urbanization and resettlement	6	Deforestation Affecting regions: HM (5); MH (5); S (1) T (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Disproportionate population distribution and migration pattern ▪ Policy gaps and poor implementation ▪ Weak coordination and cooperation among stakeholders
7.	Encroachment	7	Deforestation Affecting regions: HM (5); MH (5); S (1); T (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy gaps and poor implementation ▪ Poor governance and weak political support ▪ Poverty and limited livelihood opportunities ▪ Weak coordination and cooperation among stakeholders

SN	Drivers	Priority [§]	Drivers for/affecting region	Corresponding underlying causes
8.	Mining /excavation (sand, boulders, stones).	8	Deforestation and degradation Affecting regions: HM (5); MH (3); S (1); T (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy gaps and poor implementation Poor governance and weak political support Weak coordination and cooperation among stakeholders Poor coping strategy to natural disasters and climate change
9.	Expansion of invasive species	9	Degradation Affecting regions: HM (5); MH (4); S (1); T (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy gaps and poor implementation Low priority to research and development

HM-High Mountain; MH- Middle Hills; S- Chure/Siwaliks; T- Tarai and inner Tarai

1- Very high effect; 2- High effect; 3- Medium effect; 4- Low effect; 5-Very low effect

*Effect of forest fire and grazing in terms of exposure, sensitivity and capacity to address

[§] Priority in terms of impact on the forests as identified by REDD Cell/MFSC, 2014c, consultations and expert judgments

Criteria 13: Links between drivers/barriers and REDD+ activities

The REDD+Strategy and strategic actions are proposed based on the outcomes of the assessment of the drivers/barriers of the REDD+activities. The strategy specifically aims to reduce carbon emission by increasing sustainable management of forests and reducing the effects of DD across the country. The direct link exist between the proposed REDD+strategies and activities. However, there is no specific plan for time bound implementation of the proposed activities and expected outcomes. The determinations of drivers are mainly based qualitative review, secondary information and consultative discussions.

Criteria 14: Action plans to address natural resource rights, land tenure, and governance

The forestry sector in Nepal is largely dominated by the community based forest management systems. About 40% of the country's forests are being managed with the strong and active participation of the local people at six different community-based management paradigms (Community Forests, Leasehold Forest User Groups, Religious, Collaborative Forest Management, Buffer zone and conservation area). The communities are entitle to manage the forest products but they are not allowed to alter the land conditions as the land tenure rights exist with the government.The Forest Strategy (2015) suggests to upscale the community-based forest management domain.

For improved governance and implementation effectiveness, making state forestry sector institutions competitive, decentralized, people-centric and downwardly accountable will aid in implementation. Making all departments and district level organizations more service oriented, responsive, accountable and people-centered, ample devolution and delegation of authority will also bebeneficial. Due attention to enhancing the participation, competency and leadership of women, indigenous people, dalits, vulnerable, women, poor and socially

excluded groups and individuals is suggested and likely to yield positive outcomes. Redefining the role of the private sector to encourage its involvement in REDD+ transactions for enhancing carbon stocks and ensuring benefits will benefit Nepal and is likely to expand revenue potential. (Reference: See draft Forest Carbon Ownership, June 2015 for a comprehensive and thorough analysis of relevant laws and REDD+ impacts on forest governance).

The initial levels SESA report has reviewed land tenure in Nepal (See: Annex on SESA/ESMF). There are some remaining gaps on this issue, which will be addressed with the additional funding, such as looking at the new land law, the new constitution and the encroachment strategy vis a vis their implication on the marginalized groups and IPs. The SESA to be conducted in the ER program areas using the additional funding would also help address these issues.

Criteria 15: Implications for forest law and policy

The assessment conducted identify implications for forest and other relevant law and policy in the long-term. They also recommend the measure to address them.

The Government of Nepal has promulgated over 30 different acts, regulations, guidelines, directives, strategies and sectoral policies, over four decades, on forest policy and law, biodiversity conservation, wetland management, rangeland management, low carbon development and other activities that can influence REDD+. While none were explicitly designed to address REDD+, most of them have direct and indirect implications. A thorough description of the relevant laws occurs in the Draft Report on Forest Carbon Ownership (REDD-IC, 2015). This report suggests policy revisions for each relevant law, act, rule regulation and strategy and provides a thorough foundation for potential future actions. General trends emerge over time, which are Government of Nepal's commitment to greater devolution of power and authority to local communities and to forest dependent communities, with some supervision and oversight from forest technicians.

Overall multi-stakeholder self-Assessment and progress rating

Overall ranking for component 2a is GREEN. Significant progress has been achieved under this sub-component. The various documents were prepared in the broad, inclusive consultation and consensus with multiple stakeholders, including Indigenous Peoples Organizations and Civil Society Organizations. The regular publications on the national forest inventory, district forest inventory and periodic assessment of the forestry resources have been done. The overall rate of the land use change has relatively decreased in the recent decades due to the pro-poor utilization of the forestry resources. The direct and indirect variables of the forest decrease identified through consultative processes has been tried to

directly addressed in the Draft REDD+ Strategy and government annual plans. However, there is the poor linkages between the causes (prioritized) and time bound and consistent measures for complete resolutions of the issues. A clear, concise and harmonized law and policy documents need to be prepared and implemented by incorporating all the emerging issues (e.g. benefit sharing, land tenure, carbon ownership) related to REDD+.

Despite the enforcement of the Forest Act and Forest Regulations for the past 60 years, the idea of conservation and sustainable use of forest is yet to be mainstreamed and integrated in other relevant sectors (e.g., energy, infrastructure development, irrigation, mining, and roads). Mainstreaming these concepts into other development sectors and providing additional training will help implementation of REDD+. The proposed institutional mechanism at different levels has to ensure that the laws, rules and regulations are robust for ensuring their enforcement and implementation. This, among others, will require amendments in Forest, and National Parks and Wildlife Conservation related Acts and Regulations to ensure carbon and customary rights. Amendments will also require legal clarity on sharing and delivering of benefits among conservation areas, buffer zone community forestry and other forms of community-based forestry outside protected area. More broadly, possibility of a unified act related to natural resource management has to be explored for clarity on responsibilities, addressing the gaps in different acts, removing areas of overlap and contradictory provisions in the acts, enhancing intra and inter-sectoral coordination and ensuring compliance at all institutional levels.

Subcomponent: 2b. REDD+ Strategy Options

Nepal has a draft National REDD+ Strategy in place. It was the result of 15 consultations at district and regional levels, followed by one national level consultation with a wide variety of stakeholders. The Strategy is envisioned as a work in progress and a number of complimentary studies and reports fed into the final strategy document. The draft REDD+ Strategy is prepared to enable to achieve vision and mission of the REDD+ Program (box 1).

The draft National REDD+ Strategy identifies five major objectives and 12 strategies, along with 77 major strategic actions. They are devised from options presented in the R-PP (REDD-cell, 2010), the SESA report (REDD-Cell, 2014), and the stakeholder consultations during the formulation of the draft National REDD+ Strategy. Data from other REDD+ Readiness studies has also been incorporated.

The 5 objectives of the draft National REDD+ Strategy are:

- a) To reduce carbon emission and enhance climate resilience;
- b) To ensure fair and equitable sharing of carbon and non-carbon benefits;
- c) To increase livelihood assets and diversify employment opportunities;

- d) To improve and harmonize policy and legal framework to harness carbon and non-carbon benefits and strengthen institutional capability; and
- e) To establish and maintain a robust National Forest Monitoring System with strong monitoring, reporting and verification mechanisms.

The 12 draft REDD+ strategies, along with 77 major strategic actions, are presented in the table below for reference. For detail description, please refer to REDD+ draft Strategy documents.

Table 6: Nepal's draft REDD+ Strategies and Major Strategic actions

Strategies	Major Strategic actions:
<i>S1: Enhance carbon stocks and/or climate resilience, increase supply of forest products, and reduce carbon emission through sustainable management of forests, land rehabilitation, shrubland management, and by addressing DD in all management regimes.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Identify and delineate forest for different management modalities and promote appropriate community-based management models 1.2 Intensify sustainable management of forest (SMF) to enhance the function of forest ecosystem and increase carbon sequestration in all community based management models. 1.3 Update and improve management plans (district forest management plans, and Protected Areas management plans, and operational plans of CBFM) with provisions of carbon stock measurements, carbon monitoring methods, fire management, grazing control, and invasive species control. 1.4 Recognize customary forest and pasture management practices and related indigenous knowledge systems and skills by forest and pasture policies and management plans. 1.5 Enhance community participation and support for the control and management of forest fire, grazing, encroachment and resettlements in forest areas. 1.6 Strengthen fire control capabilities at district and local level with fire management plans, fire-fighting capacity building, fire monitoring, firefighting equipment and insurance mechanisms. 1.7 Rehabilitate degraded land and shrub lands through appropriate land rehabilitation and shrub land management measures. 1.8 Increase the supply of harvested wood products for building materials and furniture to substitute high-energy intensive metal products and reduce emission.
<i>S2: Increase non-carbon benefits by promoting climate resilience, ecological integrity, ecosystem-based adaptation and integrated watershed management.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Improve the management of Protected Areas by promoting Integrated Conservations, participatory models and ecotourism 2.2 Assess the status of invasive alien species in PAs and community-based forests and identify and implement appropriate remedial and preventive measures. 2.3 Promote biodiversity conservation in managed ecosystems for sustaining livelihoods [including through local land use planning; and complementary implementation of CBD and UNFCCC (REDD+ co-benefits)] and increase the value of biodiversity.

Strategies	Major Strategic actions:
	<p>2.4 Promote the landscape conservation and ecosystem-based adaptation measures and provide sufficiently resilient ecosystems to mitigate climate change impact on people and ecosystems.</p> <p>2.5 Develop and promote Payment for Environmental Services (PES) for reduced emissions, watershed management, biodiversity conservation and for sustainable agriculture interventions.</p>
<p><i>S3: Promote private and public land forestry with appropriate financial incentives, simplified legal and regulatory provisions and technical support mechanisms to create new forests.</i></p>	<p>3.1 Promote private forestry by simplifying administrative and procedural process, and reforming fiscal policies including taxes and other incentives.</p> <p>3.2 Support and facilitate the nursery and plantation of indigenous, fast growing and high-valued tree species with seed, seedling, research technologies and information (on growth and yield).</p> <p>3.3 Establish financial schemes accessible to private tree growers and forestry entrepreneurs, particularly to those creating jobs and other benefits to forest dependent poor, women, IPs and <i>Dalits</i>.</p> <p>3.4 Promote forestry on community and abandoned land including flood plains, river banks within and outside forest areas with plantation, natural regeneration and other appropriate interventions with people's participation particularly, poor, women, and marginalized households (Tarai)</p>
<p><i>S4: Promote optimal land use through improved land use planning and implementation across the physiographic regions (Tarai, Siwalik, Mid-Hills and Mountains)</i></p>	<p>4.1 Establish spatially explicit information systems on land use potential, allocations and potential conflicts/complementarity with REDD+ strategies.</p> <p>4.2 Develop and implement economic and market-based incentives packages to promote optimal land use across the physiographic regions.</p> <p>4.3 Carry out forest zoning in each district through participatory processes and implement phased transfer into different management modalities.</p> <p>4.4 Develop community-based forestry approaches in High Mountain areas and Chure areas (apart from existing community-based forestry) considering the specific context of High Mountain and Chure areas.</p> <p>4.5 Carryout Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment of forests in each district and mainstream it into District Forest Management Plan, Watershed Management Plan, National Park or Wild Life reserve Management plan, and Forest operation plans of community based forestry;</p> <p>4.6 Promote increased use of GIS and remote-sensing/spatial planning applications and expand or update hazard mapping of delineated zones, based on climate change.</p> <p>4.7 Improve public awareness and education concerning climate change risks, uncertainties vulnerability and benefits of land use planning.</p> <p>4.8 Control haphazard mining and excavation (of soil, stone, pebbles, boulders, sand) through effective planning, implementation and enforcement.</p>
<p><i>S5: Clarify forest</i></p>	<p>5.1 Safeguard tenure security of forest user groups, particularly forest</p>

Strategies	Major Strategic actions:
<i>tenure, ensure carbon rights and fair and equitable benefit sharing among various right holders</i>	<p>dependent poor, women, IPs and <i>Dalits</i> to access, manage, sustainably harvest, use and sell forest goods and services in all community-based forest management regimes</p> <p>5.2 Define, clarify and accommodate carbon rights in relation to land and forests within existing policies and legal instruments.</p> <p>5.3 Increase and ensure access to forests, decision-making and benefits to women, <i>Dalit</i>, Indigenous People, vulnerable groups, forest dependent people, distant users, and other marginalized people.</p> <p>5.4 Establish inclusive clear and legally defined mechanism for the sharing of carbon, non-carbon benefits and payment of environmental services among right holders.</p> <p>5.5 Establish transparent and participatory mechanism for marketing and selling of carbon credits arising from future REDD+ activities.</p> <p>5.6 Formulate and implement project specific environment and social management plan to protect environment and biodiversity while ensuring that local forest dependents poor, women, IPs and <i>Dalits</i> receive culturally appropriate social and economic benefits and they do not suffer adverse impacts as a result of implementation of the project.</p>
<i>S6: Promote forestry and non- forestry enterprise development and enhance local livelihoods and employment opportunities for forest dependent poor, women, IPs and Dalits.</i>	<p>6.1 Develop policies and capacity to encourage private investment in efficient and alternative wood technologies (e.g. bamboo housing, timber drying, wood treatment, wood processing etc).</p> <p>6.2 Invest in sustainable forest-based enterprises to create more employment opportunities in the forestry sector (for both timber and NTFPs, including ecotourism) producing finished forest products for domestic and export markets.</p> <p>6.3 Develop mechanisms to engage the private sector in forestry in the entire value chain of forest products from planting to end-product development.</p> <p>6.4 Scale up investment in non-forestry sector employment programs and off-farm income generation activities targeting rural and urban (poor) areas with specific considerations to poor, women, IPs, <i>Dalits</i> to reduce forest dependency and demand for forest products.</p> <p>6.5 Promote vocational education and skill-based training opportunities for enterprise development and forest operations (harvesting, logging, saw-milling, carpentry etc.) for forest dependent poor, women, IPs, and <i>Dalits</i>.</p> <p>6.6 Improve access to alternative technologies (e.g. small sawmills carpentry, food processing, efficient stoves, kilns, briquettes, power looms, bio-gas etc.) by providing information, knowledge and loan services for forest dependent poor, women, IPs and Dalits.</p> <p>6.7 Incentivize and support Forest User Groups in all community-based forest management regimes, also linking with local government resources (e.g. matching funds, and resource leverage) to create incomes, livelihood options and job opportunities for forest dependent poor, women, IPs and Dalits.</p>
<i>S7: Increase</i>	7.1 Intensify agricultural practices with identification of climate smart species

Strategies	Major Strategic actions:
<p><i>agricultural productivity of forest dependent subsistence and near landless farmers through increased supply of inputs, technologies, and incentives for agricultural intensification.</i></p>	<p>and technology for agroforestry, organic farming, and use of alternative sources of fertilizer.</p> <p>7.2 Promote development of policies supportive of small-scale sustainable agriculture (e.g. relating to agricultural tariffs, subsidies)</p> <p>7.3 Support in the application of Sloping Agriculture Land Technologies (contours with fodder trees/grasses in bare lands)</p> <p>7.4 Increase fodder and forage production in community based forestry and support to develop fodder and forage resource center.</p> <p>7.5 Promote multi-purpose fodder management, stall feeding and scaling up of fodder reserve systems, especially silage and hay, for use during slack periods</p> <p>7.6 Support to increase access to crop & livestock breeding and husbandry improvement programs</p> <p>7.7 Conserve water sources and promote improved water harvesting and management technology.</p>
<p><i>S8: Increase access to affordable and gender-friendly technologies of alternative wood and energy to poor and marginalized.</i></p>	<p>8.1 Increase investment and promote gender-friendly fuel wood efficient and alternative energy technologies (including improved kilns and cooking stoves) to reduce fuelwood demand.</p> <p>8.2 Promote sustainable, cost-effective (and increase availability and affordability of) renewable energy sources (e.g. Biogas, Access to electricity, Solar power) linking the energy end-use to enterprise development/income generation.</p> <p>8.3 Develop mechanisms to increase access to alternative energy technologies for forest-dependent poor and marginalized people.</p> <p>8.4 Promote cost effective wood technologies (e.g. particle board, pressed board, timber treatment, timber processing, bamboo housing etc.) and increase access for forest-dependent poor and marginalized communities.</p>
<p><i>S9: Improve collaboration, cooperation and synergy among various stakeholders, sectors and sectoral policies for climate change mitigation and adaptation.</i></p>	<p>9.1 Improve policy coordination among Forest, Soil and water conservation, Land Reform, Agriculture, Local development, Energy, and Physical planning for effective integrated planning, monitoring and evaluations of development projects.</p> <p>9.2 Identify and amend legal frameworks in line with international commitments and harmonize contradictory issues between cross-sectoral policies and legal frameworks (e.g., among Forest Act 1993, National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973, and other acts).</p> <p>9.3 Strengthen multi-stakeholder and integrated planning approach at regional/landscape and national levels, in order to seek consensus-building, validation and clarify sector and extra-sectoral commitments.</p> <p>9.4 Develop fiscal policies for investment to climate change mitigation including performance-based payment mechanisms.</p> <p>9.5 Develop functional collaboration and cooperation with security forces, media, indigenous peoples and civil society to control illegal forest activities.</p>

Strategies	Major Strategic actions:
	<p>9.6 Sensitize various actors on issues of forestry sector governance, DD, climate change mitigation and adaptation.</p> <p>9.7 Recognize the traditional and customary practices of forest management and incorporate appropriately in community-based forest management with due consideration to their socio-cultural values.</p> <p>9.8 Incorporate forest carbon and conservation elements in school curriculum.</p> <p>9.9 Control cross-border illegal trade of forest products through inter-country cooperation with Indian and Chinese (Tibetan) authorities.</p>
<p><i>S10: Improve capacity, institutional performance and service delivery of the forestry sector through better public relations programs, institutional reform, capacity development, good governance and GESI responsive practices.</i></p>	<p>10.1 Improve management and leadership competency, GESI responsiveness, commitment and morale of forestry personnel through coaching, counseling, motivation and capacity development programs.</p> <p>10.2 Increase awareness and capacities of all stakeholders, political leaders, and parliamentarians including poor, women, <i>Dalits</i>, and IPs in different aspects of REDD+.</p> <p>10.3 Re-structure and reform forestry institutions to improve forestry governance, public relations, service delivery, accountability and transparency.</p> <p>10.4 Review and update judiciary and judicial processes and strengthen forest law enforcement to control illegal harvest, trade of forest products, encroachment and other forest offences.</p> <p>10.5 Institutionalize and strengthen functioning of Apex body, REDD Working Group and REDD Stakeholder Forums at center, and DFSCC and DRWG at districts.</p> <p>10.6 Adopt approach of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) in consultations with stakeholders and right holders particularly, IPs.</p> <p>10.7 Ensure adequate representation and leadership competency of women, poor, IPs and <i>Dalits</i> in key forestry decision-making bodies and processes.</p> <p>10.8 Establish and strengthen grievance-addressing mechanisms that are gender-sensitive and respond to people's grievances and concerns.</p> <p>10.9 Link M& E - promoting public hearing and public audits, especially at local level - as a mechanism to improve governance and performance</p> <p>10.10 Develop incentive and penalty system for both government and Forest User Groups to address illegal harvesting, and illegal trade with confidential system for whistle-blowers to report illegal practices.</p>
<p><i>S11: Promote forest and climate-friendly infrastructure planning, construction and maintenance - ensuring that location and applied</i></p>	<p>11.1 Ensure environmental, social and economic measures in infrastructure development and maintenance (Hydropower, transmission lines, highways, rural roads, irrigation canals, railways etc.)</p> <p>11.2 Implement climate smart infrastructure planning, implementation and monitoring ensuring social and environmental safeguards.</p> <p>11.3 Avoid forest area for infrastructure development, resettlement and</p>

Strategies	Major Strategic actions:
<i>technologies to minimize impacts on forests.</i>	<p>make compulsory provision of tree planting to substitute forest cleared if any.</p> <p>11.4 Ensure effective implementation and compliances of IEE and EIA for all types of forest land use conversions including tourism ventures, settlements, road construction, hydropower and transmission lines, expansion of conservation areas.</p>
<i>S12: Establish and maintain a well-equipped national forest monitoring system for monitoring and reporting and that is capable to deal with the verification mechanisms.</i>	<p>12.1 Enhance the national capability to conduct forest resource survey and inventory periodically and make data available for specific physiographic and administrative regions.</p> <p>12.2 Develop the capacity for data collection, analysis, storage, management and dissemination for the national/local planning, and policy development.</p> <p>12.3 Establish and make functional a database and Forest Management Information System at different levels</p> <p>12.4 Establish cost effective mechanisms for monitoring, measurement, reporting and verification of land use changes (and their impacts on commitments to achieving emissions reduction and enhancement at sub- regional/jurisdictional and national level)</p> <p>12.5 Identify monitoring indicators and establish community-monitoring systems in all community based management regimes and include them in their operational/management plans.</p>

Criteria 16: Selection and prioritization of REDD+ strategy options

The strategy addresses all the sectoral pillars of forestry, governance, livelihoods, strengthened policies and performance (MRV systems). The strategies address the root causes of deforestation and forest degradation, performance monitoring, alternative livelihoods and aim at reducing carbon emissions. The draft strategy is a reference document and a comprehensive baseline for future activities and reports, and was formulated in a participatory and transparent manner engaging multiple stakeholders in multiple geographic regions. The objectives and strategic guidelines incorporate a variety of objectives, indicators and targets strongly linked to Nepal's low carbon economic development strategies.

The draft National REDD+ Strategy has suggested several actions to develop appropriate mechanisms to address cross-sectoral conflicts at central, regional and district levels. The major strategic actions are to resolve inconsistencies between the draft National REDD+ Strategy and other relevant development policies. These actions include identification, amendment and harmonization of legal frameworks; cross-sectoral coordination; multi-stakeholder and integrated planning; mechanisms for promoting policy and planning linkages among the line ministries and the National Planning Commission; and development of fiscal policies for investment to climate change mitigation.

The draft Strategy is comprehensive in scope and embraces all of Nepal's forest categories, including incorporating the possible inclusion of leasehold, religious, public lands forests and private forests at a later stage. Initially, accounting will cover above and below ground biomass with options to expand to other carbon pools at later stages. Accounting will follow nested approaches, at national and sub national levels, complementing each other. The Strategy also identifies several areas where additional work is required before a national REDD+ mechanism can be operationalized, including determination of an accurate National Forest Reference Level (FRL) and design of an appropriate Forest Carbon Trust Fund.

However, REDD+ strategy options have not been prioritized. With the UN-REDD targeted support, they are being prioritized based on comprehensive assessment of direct and indirect drivers of deforestation, barriers to forest enhancement activities and/or informed by other factors, as appropriate) selected via transparent and participatory process.

Expected emissions reduction potentials of proposed strategies are qualitatively described, but not quantified.

Criteria 17: Feasibility Assessment

Each of the strategies is reviewed for its weaknesses/risks and the mitigation measures and/or options to reduce the weaknesses and/or risks. Similarly, the specific social and environmental impacts are assessed for each strategy. However, cost-benefit analysis has not been done for the strategies.

The strategy embraces 10 Guiding principles reinforcing the links to broad alignment with Nepal's development priorities, utilizing people centric, community-based approaches, encouraging inter-sectorial coordination, enhanced benefit sharing and promoting broader "payments for ecosystem services".

The draft National REDD+ Strategy will be implemented during the implementation phase of REDD+. A number of investment tools and instruments need to be designed before a national REDD+ mechanism can be operationalized, including improvement of a National FRL where performance can be measured, and designing an appropriate Forest Carbon Trust Fund.

Criteria 18: Implications of strategy options on existing sectoral policies

Major inconsistencies between the priority draft REDD+ strategy options and policies or programs in other sectors related to forestry (e.g., transport, agriculture) have been identified. Recommended measures to resolve inconsistencies and integrate REDD+ strategy options with relevant development policies are present, but an agreed timeline and process.

Nepal's forest laws, policies and regulations are robust and well established in the context of REDD+. However, coordination and synchronization remains complex. There are sources of

duplication and contradiction, and some areas are prone to misunderstanding and conflict. Environmental and social safeguards within Nepal's development sector have well established legal systems, policies and regulations. These can be summarized as 1) policies related to land acquisition, compensation and resettlement; 2) safeguarding the rights of indigenous peoples (IPs) and other vulnerable communities and 3) good governance, social accountability and public consultation.

While policies are clear and strong, public participation has been broad and uneven at national level, particularly among the indigenous peoples and marginalized groups. This is complicated by poor governance in some cases. Nepal is successful on involving local communities through participatory decision making process in the forestry sector. Additionally, a REDD+ project specific information and disclosure of consultation and participation plan needs to be developed.

Overall multi-stakeholder self-Assessment and progress rating

Overall ranking for Component 2b is GREEN. The draft REDD + strategy, as well as its development process, is thorough and comprehensive. The study on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation is detailed and multi-disciplinary, and identifies direct, indirect and underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation. Prioritization of strategies is ongoing.

Subcomponent: 2c.Implementation Framework

Implementation framework/plan of any REDD+ project/program is very important to receive performance based payments from emission reduction activities. The implementation arrangements are described under six broad categories in the R-PP.

- i. Forest Carbon Ownership and Land Tenure
- ii. REDD Implementation
- iii. Financing Mechanisms
- iv. Stakeholder Engagement and Governance
- v. Data Management, Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
- vi. Institutional and Governance Reform

A draft REDD+ implementation framework has been finalized, but yet to be adopted by the government. The draft framework provides comprehensive approach on forest carbon ownership and land tenure, institutional mechanism, benefit sharing mechanism, and carbon registry among other issues. The framework seeks to be implementable and cost-effective. Five issue papers on key aspects of REDD+ implementation were prepared, based on literature review from Nepal and globally available study and research. These include: i) forest tenure and carbon ownership rights, ii) financing mechanism, iii) benefit sharing mechanism, iv) feasibility assessment of hybrid approaches and v) issues and options surrounding the national carbon registry. The report presents Nepal's REDD+ country context, its objectives and guiding principles and an implementation framework for

effective REDD+ implementation. Roles of actors, institutions and institutional arrangements in national REDD+ architecture are described and then assessed.

The five issue papers present an analysis of the findings and recommendations for appropriate solutions to be instituted in Nepal. Based on these findings, refinements in Forest and NPWC Acts to strengthen forest tenure rights and their security, harmonization of forest tenure rights, inclusion of carbon ownership rights and benefit sharing are suggested. Framing of new legal frameworks pertaining to establishment and operationalization of Nepal's carbon registry, REDD+ financing mechanism and the institutionalization of REDD+ benefit sharing mechanism are proposed.

A three-tiered national REDD+ institutional mechanism that builds on the existing entities and institutional structure has been proposed. It suggests new entities including a national REDD+ carbon registry and a Payment Authority at the central level. The proposed institutional structure is expected to accommodate the future needs of the national REDD+ architecture after federalization. This provides an action plan and a tentative estimate of the funds required for preparing for the implementation of the framework.

The draft implementation framework recommends a hybrid approach of REDD implementation with its strategic focus on:

1. forest-based mitigation actions at local, district/sub-national level further strengthening the existing multi-level, cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder institutional governance mechanism that have emerged in course of successful implementation of CBFM initiatives and further evolved in course of REDD+ readiness preparation in Nepal;
2. reforming and harmonizing policies and implementing policy and measures (PAM) to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation rooted in policy and market failure and compliment on-the-ground REDD+ actions; and
3. enabling simultaneous financing of local/sub-national REDD+ actions and the institutional, technical and capacity strengthening of national REDD+ architecture including institutional and technical strengthening to develop a comprehensive and fully operational national MRV system.

The draft plan also suggests legal reforms including defining carbon rights and amendment of some acts related to forest governance.

Regarding the financial mechanism the draft implementation plan does not recommend any specific model. Rather it says that both options – a national trust fund and a separate fund within the government administration will be appropriate for Nepal if improvements are made to achieve REDD+ requirements.

Development of the draft REDD+ implementation plan is a good progress. However, much work is necessary to reach the implementation phase. Firstly, there are some issues on the

overall institutional mechanism that needs to be established for REDD+. The proposed institutional mechanism need to be aligned with the future federal structure of the country.

Similarly, benefit sharing is a sensitive and complex issue. Until now, only benefit sharing has been discussed, but not the cost. In the final benefit sharing mechanism, clarity is required on the transaction costs associated with the carbon trading mechanism in the international carbon markets. Similarly, establishment of a National Entity for REDD+ and carbon registry system is a very important step for emission reduction program. This will be undertaken during the course of ERPD preparation.

Criteria 19: Adoption and implementation of legislation/regulations

Nepal's existing forest laws and policies such as the Forest Act, 1993; Forest Regulations, 1995; National Park and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1973 are in harmony with REDD+ programs. They have been fully adopted and implemented. Nepal is known for the successfully pioneering the devolution of the forest management to the local communities in the world. Over 2.87 million households have been managing over 1.8 million hectare of national forests in the form of community, leasehold and collaborative forests (MFSC, 2015). Similarly, over 0.65 million households have been participating in the buffer zones programme of 12 protected areas of the country (MFSC, 2015: Forest Policy). These different community based management paradigm provides different proportion of the bundle of rights to the forests and their products. The use and revenue rights of the community varies from zero (national forests) to 100 percent (community forests in hills; pro-poor leasehold forestry) (GoN/Forest Acts, 1993).

However, revisions to these existing laws and policies to accommodate new arrangements for REDD+ is yet to happen, which is expected during the course of additional funding implementation.

Criteria 20: Guidelines for implementation

The draft implementation framework report defines carbon rights, benefit sharing mechanisms, REDD+ financing modalities, and grievance mechanisms. But these arrangements have to be endorsed by the government, and on the basis of these, existing laws and policies have to be revised or new laws policies to be promulgated. This has not occurred yet, and is expected to happen during the course of additional funding implementation.

Also, the existing forest laws and policies define the clear tenure rights of the local communities over the forest products and revenue. However, the tenure rights to the carbon and ecosystem services, and the customary rights of indigenous peoples is not explicitly elucidated anywhere. The rights over the carbon and thus generated revenue is planned to share among the community and other stakeholders following the forest

products tenure arrangement in community based forest management paradigm (e.g. ER-PIN, National REDD+ Strategy).

Criteria 21: Benefit-Sharing Mechanism

Two recent studies details the proposed benefits sharing mechanisms (BSM) for Nepal's REDD+ programs; one detailing the proposed BSM in the 12 districts of the Terai Arc Landscape (REDD-IC, 2015) and the other detailing the mechanisms more generally (REDD+ Implementation Framework). Both studies were completed in June 2015. Benefit sharing mechanisms propose distribution of financial incentives generated from the forest amongst stakeholders based on their costs for being involved in sustainable forest resource management. The Forest Act (1993) has clear provisions for the benefit sharing arrangements for forest products under all forest management regimes, and forms a solid basis for designing the benefit-sharing arrangement under REDD+. At present, Nepal utilizes a variety of different benefit sharing mechanisms for revenues from forestry, natural resources and biodiversity, ranging from 100% community benefits for community forestry to 100% revenues going to the state for National forests.

Table 7: Existing benefit sharing arrangement under different forest management regimes

Forest management regimes		Forest benefits		
		State share (%)	Community share (%)	Individual share (%)
Government managed forest		100%	0	0
Collaborative forest		50%	50%	-
Community forest	Normal	0	100	-
	Selling of <i>Sal</i> and <i>Khair</i>	15	85	-
Religious forest		0	100	-
Leasehold forest	Ultra Poor	0	100	-
	Individual and organization	**	0	100
National Park and Wildlife reserve (excludes forest products from the core area)		70-50%	30-50%	-
Buffer zone community forest		0	100%	
Private forest		*	0	100

*If forest products are sold in the market then sales tax and VAT are applicable per the regulations of the GoN.

** Individuals or organizations shall pay the agreed royalty as per the regulations of the government.

The projected revenue generated from REDD+ will flow through different institutions including MFSC, DFRS, DFO, National Parks (NP), local communities and local government. Proportion of benefits among various stakeholder institutions involved in

REDD+ implementation will vary based on carbon tenure arrangements. Communities engaged in community forest will receive the highest proportion of the REDD+ revenue, while communities or local government engaged in management of government managed forest will receive the least. The communities or institutions involved in other forest management regimes will receive proportion of the revenue in between government managed and community forest.

Multiple actors are expected to be involved in carbon transactions, including actors at the national and international levels. In addition, costs will vary at different stages of carbon transactions. Distribution of benefits are expected to be shared between national government and local communities, but also include other actors such as the provincial government, and local government based on their contributions to the REDD+ process. The two studies fall short of designing a distinct benefit sharing arrangement. The key issues of REDD+ benefit sharing will emerge if benefit sharing follows same pattern like product distribution in CBFM because of multiple actors in REDD+ value chain. The recently completed REDD-IC's benefit sharing and carbon rights study (June 2015) confirmed benefit sharing ideas through broad consultation with some 15 focus groups and 16 stakeholder consultations distributed geographically across the country. It suggested sharing of benefits and costs among different actors involved in carbon transactions following Climate Change Policy (GoN, 2011), which envisions sharing up to 80% of climate change related fund with local communities. The study falls short of designing the ideal benefit sharing mechanism, but suggests that the model be guided by principles of fairness, equity, inclusivity, and be democratic and interactively designed with local communities.

Non-carbon benefits are expected from the implementation of the REDD+ activities in Nepal. A preliminary estimate from the UN-REDD (2014) demonstrates that the Nepal has the possibility of generating annual financial revenue of upto USD 86 million from REDD+. Apart from the carbon benefits, Nepal identified six types of the substantial non-carbon benefits (REDD-cell, 2012) namely i) improvement in local livelihoods, ii) biodiversity conservation, iii) quality ecosystem services, iv) resilient ecosystems against climate change, v) improved forestry governance and vi) achieving international commitments. Detail costs of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation including opportunity costs have to be estimated before embarking into this newly proposed mechanism.

Criteria 22: National REDD+ registry and system monitoring REDD+ activities

Nepal has made progress to develop a National Data Base of Basic Attributes of All Forest Management Regimes and on developing National REDD+ Information System or Registry. The National Forest Database (NFD) integrates and incorporates existing data collection at the management regime level, covering all forest types including community forests, collaborative forests, leasehold forests, government managed forests, forests under protected areas and buffer zones, private forests and religious forest. The standard NFD

model was designed through comprehensive consultations with stakeholders, incorporating data related to forest resources, forest carbon accounting, forest management, forest users and beneficiaries, REDD+ Safeguards, etc. It incorporates spatial data related to the management regime unit boundaries and is sufficiently flexible to incorporate additional thematic data in future. Data management protocols and standard operating procedures have also been designed and tested.

The other component was to develop an integrated National Forest/REDD+ Information System(NFIS) that incorporates analysis, synthesis and decision support tools for uploading and accessing forest resource inventory, forest carbon, management plan and program, users and beneficiaries, REDD+ activities and safeguard indicators. The decision support tools include automated reporting, data query and analysis, visualization and web GIS applications with hardware and software support at GIDC. The process and products related to NFIS are documented and stakeholders at district, regional and national levels are trained to use NFIS. The implementation of NFIS is interrelated to development of the NFD. The information stored in the NFD constitutes the foundation of the data and can be used for multiple purposes in land use-planning. The system design appears robust and multi-functional and implementation has started. Improvements will be incorporated into the system as experience is gained.

However, a national geo-referenced REDD+ information system or registry comprehensive of all relevant information (e.g., information on the location, ownership, carbon accounting and financial flows for sub-national and national REDD+ programs and projects) has not been in place yet. Hence this activity has been planned under the additional funding under the Readiness Fund of FCPF. When this registry is developed, it will ensure public access to REDD+ information.

Overall multi-stakeholder self-Assessment and progress rating

Overall ranking for Component 2C is ORANGE. Nepal is making steady progress in the introduction of instruments needed to effectively implement REDD+. An assessment of the current legal framework can be found in the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ref: National REDD+ Strategy). Several gaps have been identified including a) determination of whether carbon and carbon rights are a forest product or a by-product; b) arbitrary allocation of forestland for other uses and lack of compensation for development in forest areas; c) inconsistencies among acts and by laws governing community forestry; d) lack of recognition for customary rights and management practices; e) lack of clarity on tenure arrangements and the role of private sector; f) conflicts with Sectoral Acts and Regulations and g) rent seeking practices, pricing issues, confusion over tenure rights and benefit sharing, and issues concerning accountability and transparency.

To address these issues, Nepal has developed a new forest development strategy (draft), revised and updated its National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan (2014), introduced a

Forest Encroachment Control Strategy (2012) and revised sectorial regulations including incorporating climate change and low carbon development.

Subcomponent: 2d. Social and Environmental Impacts

Nepal has several existing laws, policies, and institutions that address environmental and social safeguards in forestry operations and development activities. However, in order to address recent developments on REDD+ social and environmental safeguards at national and international levels, including the UNFCCC Cancun decision and World Bank requirements, two areas of work have been completed in Nepal.

First, under the FCPF Readiness Fund, Nepal has completed a study on Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). The SESA/ESMF documents are available at www.mofsc-redd.gov.np. Government is fully committed to comply with the safeguards. The outcomes of the study are well integrated into the draft REDD+ Strategy.

Second, Nepal has already developed the REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards (SES), and has demonstrated consistent commitment to using these standards through a country-led, multi-stakeholder process. Nepal views the REDD+ SES process as complementary to SESA/ESMF, both in terms of articulating country-specific needs for safeguard information systems in addition to World Bank safeguards requirements, developing a foundation for what could be shared under UNFCCC requirements, and for providing information to national and international stakeholders on non-carbon benefit, benefit sharing and governance. The English and Nepali versions of Nepal specific REDD+ SES indicators are available at www.redd-standards.org and www.mofsc-redd.gov.np.

Criteria 23: Analysis of social and environmental safeguard issues

Applicable social and environmental safeguard issues relevant to Nepal's context have been fully identified/analysed through SESA and ESMF studies in highly multistakeholder consultation processes. Nepal has designed its REDD+ programs to ensure that the social and environmental impacts are in full compliance with the World Bank's Common Approach, as described in the SESA and the stand alone ESMF (REDD-Cell, 2014). At the time of conducting SESA/ESMF, Nepal didn't have REDD+ Strategy. To form the basis for SESA, 14 REDD+ strategic options were identified and divided into several sub-options. The implementation of these options may have an array of environmental and social impacts. These impacts may have both positive and negative aspects which are enlisted clearly. Social impacts are categorized under five broader categories including rights and access; livelihood and poverty reduction; gender empowerment and social inclusion; participation, knowledge, and ownership; and accountability. The magnitude of such impacts rely on the size of activities implemented. In addition, the implementation of identified strategic options may also have some positive institutional outcomes as well as may raise some institutional concerns. Among other aspects, Nepal's approach creates a sustainable institutional setting

that will last beyond the Readiness Phase of REDD+. A combination of official government, indigenous peoples and civil society institutions are operational. While their function can be strengthened through more frequent meetings, more consistent membership and participation and advance notice on topics for discussion would help significantly.

Criteria 24: REDD+ strategy design with respect to impacts

Nepal's social and environmental safeguards are designed to incorporate Nepal's specific issues as demonstrated by the thorough and comprehensive SESA study that was completed in the Readiness phase. Particular attention to Nepal's evolving political structure, customary land and rights, and the role of both community forest user groups and the needs and aspirations of forest dependent communities especially vulnerable and marginalized groups has been incorporated into the SESA and impacts considerations.

The draft National REDD+ strategy preparation utilized the SESA/ESMF findings as a baseline when developing the strategy options and strategic actions.

The national level SESA framework was developed prior to developing national REDD+ strategy. Rigorous analysis of the strategy options identified in the RPP was done and initial social and environmental impacts risks were identified. However, it was acknowledged that resources from the additional grant would be used to do some gap filling measures once Nepal has a robust national strategy in place. This would include analysis of the current national REDD+ strategy from an environment and social point of view reviewing the new land law, encroachment control strategy as well as the new constitution. It is important to update institutional and other analyses given that the Government of Nepal's political structures going to be changed since the SESA was done.

Note: Nepal's federal structures and roles and powers of different levels of government are not clear yet; hence, such updating is meaningful only after clarity in political structure.

Criteria 25: Environmental and Social Management Framework

Nepal has prepared ESMF to assist managing environmental and social risks/potential impacts, and impacts anticipated in the REDD+ process. SESA/ ESMF were prepared prior to finalization of REDD+ Strategy. When REDD+ strategy were developed, for each of the Strategy, its strengths, weaknesses/risks and the mitigation measures and/or options to reduce the weaknesses and/or risks have been identified in the REDD+ Strategy document.

The REDD+ SESA and ESMF were prepared before formulating this REDD+ strategy where there was nothing concrete in place to provide a clear focus for SESA, nor was there any agreed institutional structures and mechanisms for implementing the REDD+ strategy - against which an ESMF could be structured or framed. Therefore, the SESA need to be reviewed and revised once the REDD+ Strategy is finalized, when its areas of focus are known. Thus, it becomes feasible to gauge social and environmental risks and implications of

the range of actions that are likely to implement the strategy's actions and objectives. Because the ESMF was prepared based on the Strategic Options proposed by SESA (2014) and institutional structures proposed in an ER-PIN developed by the REDD Cell (January 2014) prior to the development of this REDD+ strategy, it contains a number of inherent limitations which need to be updated and revised on the basis of the final REDD+ Strategy. Particularly the following aspects of the ESMF need to be updated and included explicitly:

1. The institutional structure and mechanism for implementation of safeguard measures, the safeguard monitoring mechanism and its indicators and the safeguard information system need to be embedded and harmonized with the overall implementation arrangements, monitoring processes and procedures and forest information system acknowledged by the REDD+ strategy.
2. The Grievances Redress Mechanisms (GRM) at national, regional, district and local levels require review and update to harmonize the requirements of the final REDD+ Strategy. The GRM should respond to concerns of project-affected communities related to the REDD+ project in a timely manner. For this purpose, the ESMF should explicitly provide a grievance mechanism, process or procedure to receive and facilitate resolution of stakeholders' concerns and grievances regarding the environmental and social performance of the REDD+ projects or initiatives.
3. The framework for meaningful consultation with stakeholders, including forest dependent IPs, Dalits and other vulnerable communities, following the principles of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) requires to be included in the ESMF. Also, the approaches of meaningful consultation based on the FPIC require to be adopted and an engagement process with affected stakeholders including IPs and other vulnerable communities should be included. This engagement process includes stakeholder analysis and engagement planning, disclosure of information, and meaningful consultation, in a culturally appropriate and gender and inter-generationally inclusive manner. It is expected that this consultation approach, if followed effectively will be instrumental to promote effective REDD+ project design, to build local project support or ownership, and to reduce the risk of project-related delays or controversies.

Overall multi-stakeholder self-Assessment and progress rating

Overall ranking for Component 2d is GREEN. Nepal's SESA documents incorporate and follow the guidelines provided by the World Bank on safeguards. National forest governance can be improved but the basic institutions are in place and operational. Sincere efforts are being made to incorporate the inputs and aspirations from indigenous people. While outreach and inclusion efforts can be improved, again the basic mechanisms and communication channels are in place and operating. However, there are several area of improvement that may help to enhance the quality of these documents. Since, implementation of all options, at a time, may not be possible due to resource constraints, prioritization of these options would be

helpful in the implementation phase. In addition, the SESA has identified to establish Grievance Addressing Mechanism but also need to develop a strategy to avoid misuse of grievance mechanism. The document didn't identify the strategy for sharing and access to information.

2.3 Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels

A national Forest Reference Level (FRL) has been developed for Nepal along with a RL for a sub-national Emission Reduction program area in the Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) that covers 12 Terai districts. The later has been submitted with the Emission Reduction Program Idea Notes (ER-PIN) for the proposed Emission Reduction (ER) program. Assessments of these RLs for the purpose of R-Package Assessment were carried out in two stages. First, the available FRLs documents were reviewed and assessed against the criteria and diagnostic questions of R-Package Assessment Framework. Second, those findings and statements were validated through multi-stakeholders consultation or self-assessment workshops conducted at district, regional and national levels. The reflections of the consultation workshops are stated in the multi-stakeholders' self-assessment sections of each criterion.

The national FRL is based on the analysis of historical satellite imageries. While it may be difficult to reconcile this analysis with only satellite-based land cover change analysis, the survey data helps to provide at least a qualitative understanding of the magnitude of the major drivers. But the amount of the Gross Historic Emissions from Deforestation especially in the High-Mountain is surprisingly very high. The FRL report recommends progressively updating the RL based on more robust national datasets for country-appropriate extrapolations and adjustments, and updating the FRL based on more spatially explicit activity data and driver specific information. It is suggested to further check and verify national FRL using available FRA data, field surveys and high resolution data (possibly few samples of LiDAR). This way we can make sure that the sub-national and national RL are consistent. The 10-year intervals used in the analysis raise significant concerns about classification confusion resulting from a lack of temporal resolution. Since much of the analysis is based on fractional indexes of ground cover, regrowth and regeneration can easily be confused with forest cover.

The final report of REDD+ FRL developed as a part of the REDD+ readiness activities indicates the following.

- Gross historical emissions from deforestation and forest degradation between 1990 to 2000 is 132,742,895 tCO₂e which increased to 293,231,645 tCO₂e between 2000 and 2010. This shows an increasing trend of emission during the period 1990 -2010.
- During the period 2000 – 2010 forest degradation accounted for more emissions from the forest sector, totaling 279,378,779 tCO₂e, whilst deforestation accounted for only 22,852,865 tCO₂e during the same period.

- There was an increase in GHG removals, estimated at 33,608,560 tCO₂e between 1990 – 2000; it increased to 85,964,612 tCO₂e between 2000 – 2010.
- By 2020 net emissions are projected to continue in line with the reference period average at 18,842,458 tCO₂e / year, with deforestation accounting for 2,077,533 tCO₂e/year while forest degradation will account for 24,579,889 tCO₂e/year. During the same period, enhancement of forest carbon stocks is predicted to result in the removal of 7,814,964 tCO₂e/year based on a continuation of the average removals achieved during the period 2000 - 2010.

Since TAL sub-national RL is methodologically robust, based on that Nepal is in the process of drafting Emission Reduction Program Document (ERPD) for the FCPF Carbon Fund. The UN-REDD in its recent publication (UN-REDD, 2014) included Nepal's sub-national RL as one of the operational and emerging REDD+ forest reference levels in the world. The reference level was established using LiDAR-Assisted Multisource Programme (LAMP), an innovative effort that utilizes field sampling, satellite imagery, and airborne LiDAR data to measure deforestation and forest degradation, regrowth and maintenance of forests, and the resulting emissions and sequestration of CO₂ in the project districts for the period 1999–2011.

The RL developed for the proposed emission- reduction program area of the TAL, shows that during the 12-year period between 1999 and 2011, a total of 52,245,991 tons CO₂ e was emitted from deforestation and forest degradation, an average emission of 4,353,833 tons CO₂e/year. In the period 2006-2011, emissions averaged 6,879,686 tCO₂e/year, an increase of 58% over the 12-year average, and in the period 2009-2011, emissions increased even more dramatically, averaging 11,412,396 tCO₂e/year or 162% higher than the 12-year average. It shows that in a business-as-usual (BAU) scenario, emissions from deforestation and forest degradation is likely to continue at an increasing rate. Based on the average historical rate of net carbon flux of 4,353,833 tons CO₂e/year, the FRL projection shows that during the first five years of the ER program (2015 to 2020) CO₂ e emission will be 21,769,650 tons in a BAU scenario (ER-PIN, 2014).

Criteria 26: Demonstration of the Methodology

Both the sub-national and national forest reference level provides a clearly documented methodology, based on a step-wise approach. They also provide additional data needs, and the relationship between the sub-national and the evolving national reference level is demonstrated.

The national forest reference level was calculated following three steps:

- Step 1. Starting with simple projections based on historical data;
- Step 2. Progressively updating the FRL based on more robust national datasets for country-appropriate extrapolations and adjustments; and

Step 3. Updating the RL based on more spatially explicit activity data and driver specific information.

Wall to wall land cover map of five physiographic regions: Terai, Siwaliks, Hills, Middle Mountain and High Mountain were prepared for the defined time periods; 2000-2010 for national RL and 1999-2011 for sub-national forest reference level. Spatially explicitly data has been used to construct the sub-national RL while IPCC default values have been used for the rest of the country. Only the major GHG, i.e. CO₂ was considered in the construction of the forest reference level. Two major carbon pools; aboveground biomass and belowground biomass are included.

Nepal recognized requirement of transparent development protocols and a standardized approach to harmonize and reconcile between the sub-national and evolving national RLs. The parameters for the development of the sub-national FRL for the Terai Arc Landscape are consistent with the FCPF CF Methodological Framework and the FRL accounts for all of the activities included in the Emissions Reductions program, including deforestation, degradation, regeneration, and enhancement . Use of following three outputs of sub-national FRL while developing national FRL is an attempt to establish the relationship between the two RLs:

- Development of activity data based on landcover/forest cover change analysis;
- Development of emissions factor based on modeling of LiDAR data, field plot data, allometric equations, and classifications of forest type and structure. Considering that the national FRL is based on Landsat imagery, this provides a useful comparison between different techniques and satellite imageries; and
- Assessment of accuracy and uncertainty of carbon estimates.

Criteria 27: Use of historical data, and adjusted for national circumstances

Nepal decided to use historical data, including remotely sensed data and land cover/forest cover maps to establish RL. For the purpose of creating historical activity data for national RL, the period 2000-2010 was selected with the period 1990-2000 as an essential ancillary data to inform and corroborate data from the period 2000-2010 and to assist with improved land use classification. International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) land cover products were used for the 1990 and 2010 time points and raw landsat-based imagery was processed for 2000 to generate land cover maps. Land Resource Mapping Project dataset of 1979 was used as a key ancillary data to aid ‘cleaning’ and ‘stratification’ purposes. Similarly, FRA dataset of 2010, Forest Cover Change Analysis of the Terai districts of the years 1990/91 and 2000/01, and Topographical Map (1996) were used to cross check quality of the products.

A detailed explanation of all assumptions, data sources, equations, landcover/forest cover change analysis methodological approach and tools, default equations and derivations of emission/removal factors is provided with each relevant product. All products including remote sensing data and excel files are in custody of the REDD Implementation Center. Those products will be made available through a yet-to-be established data sharing platform.

Criteria 28: Technical feasibility of the methodological approach, and consistency with UNFCCC/IPCC guidance and guidelines

National forest reference level of Nepal consists of complete information for each of the three time points for which emissions and removals have been estimated. These include;

- All satellite images used for 1990, 2000 and 2010 to map deforestation, forest degradation and enhancement of carbon stocks;
- Forest cover changes through the use of change matrices for the three time points;
- Default values used;
- The calculation of emission/removal factors for each of the physiographic regions.

The estimation of emissions by sources and removals by sinks followed the methodological guidance in the IPCC Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry (IPCC, 2006). Moreover, Nepal adopted approach 3 for land representation, meaning that all the land conversions and lands remaining in the same land category between inventories are spatially explicit. The basis for all activity data as well as the assessment of deforestation for the purposes of this submission relies on the use of remotely sensed data of similar spatial resolution (Landsat-class, up to 30 meters).

The accuracy assessment of Nepal's FRL was carried out both qualitatively and quantitatively. Qualitatively, the products have been compared with existing maps/spatial data. This check forms a general control on the spatial distribution and class labels of the maps. Quantitatively, available reference data, including biomass-plot data over Terai sourced from FRA Project; sample data across the whole country sourced from FRA Project; and data over Terai Arc landscape sourced from WWF was used to evaluate the accuracy of the land cover maps. With respect to the quantitative accuracy assessment, confidence intervals were constructed for the key accuracy measures as an indicator of accuracy estimates. For the purpose of the accuracy assessment of ICIMOD generated land cover map (2010), the available FRA dataset was used as a reference, since it had been prepared using very high resolution satellite images (Rapid Eye) and complimented by extensive field survey.

Overall multi-stakeholder self-Assessment and progress rating

Overall ranking for Component 3 is YELLOW.

The national RL report can be a basis for further improvement in order to achieve acceptable levels of accuracy to allow Nepal to receive result-based payment at national level. The Phase 1 of this improvement would produce activity data, and Phase 2 would produce emissions factors. The UNFCCC's (2011) decision allows for a phased approach and amelioration over time whereby countries can develop a RL based on available data and update and refine the RL with better data, and improved methodologies, and estimates for additional pools becoming available overtime.

The subnational RL includes only two carbon pools (aboveground and belowground) in the first iteration. It is recommended to include all five carbon pools in the next iteration. Another area to improve is forest degradation mapping. Some improvements are suggested especially for degradation mapping in future e.g. field plots collection to guide degradation mapping by periodic measurement of regeneration (also recommended by UN-REDD report, 2014).

Nepalese forestry consists of multiple management regimes; protected areas, community forest, government managed forest, collaborative forest etc. Regime wise disaggregated RL may provide valuable information not only to design effective emissions reduction strategies and activities for the specific regime, but also has implications on equitable benefit sharing of possible carbon revenue. However, this may be costly and time taking; so this aspect is not considered while developing sub-national as well as national FRLs. The FRA plot data could be used to calculate emission factors to generate national FRL as well as to estimate future FRL.

Currently, there are some inconsistencies between draft national and subnational reference level because the first was prepared following the UNFCCC guidance, which doesn't have specific requirements, while the later was prepared following the Carbon Fund Methodological Framework, which has specific requirements to be met. The next iteration of national reference level will build on subnational reference level to ensure consistency. Relationship between the national and sub-national RLs are not clearly demonstrated and hardly comparable because of the different reference periods used. More data points observations with lesser years interval is recommended. IPCC default values of C stocks used to construct national level gives over estimation of C stocks as evidenced in the C stock data of the forest of the Terai. Stakeholders expressed concern about the technical capability especially at sub-national scale RL to address the recommended additional steps to implement above mentioned step-wise approach. Forest reference level related data and products are yet to be available publicly through the proposed data sharing platform for the purpose of independent cross-checking. Both National and sub-national FRLs are consistent with UNFCCC/IPCC Guidance and Guidelines. However, methodology adopted to build sub-

national FRL is robust but relatively costly and technically demanding. Stakeholders are concerned about local capacity and access to those technologies.

Emissions related to major drivers of deforestation and forest degradation have yet to be estimated while preparing RLs to establish linkages between FRL and REDD+ Strategy options. Capacity building of stakeholders on refinement of RL would greatly help.

2.4 Component 4: Monitoring System for Forests, and Safeguards

Component 4 consists of 2 subcomponents; 4a) The National Forest Monitoring System; and 4b) Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts Governance and Safeguards.

REDD IC commissioned a detailed study for designing a robust Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system for Nepal's REDD+ process. The study was completed on time and the final report of the study is publically available online (<http://mofsc-redd.gov.np/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Full-Cost-Proposal-document.pdf>). During the nine months of the study (from June 2013 to March 2014), the team produced 11 working papers. The report clearly states the basic requirements for developing a robust MRV system for REDD+.

Subcomponent 4a is well developed and demonstrates significant progress but subcomponent 4b requires additional work and more resources are suggested. The national monitoring system has been developed and is robust and transparent. The proposed 4 unit structure is comprehensive and thorough; the MRV system combines both remote sensing and ground based approaches, and strong links and foundations have been developed with the FRA project. Some gaps remain particularly that monitoring indicators for non-carbon benefits need further strengthening and further efforts to strengthen inclusion and representation will provide considerable benefits. Particular efforts to further clarify and disseminate the REDD+ process, and its implications on rights

of forest use, tenure, customary rights and cultural values are recommended. With additional resources, GoN can build on the established foundations and address these areas to improve.

Subcomponent: 4a.National Forest Monitoring System

MRV systems allow the measurement, reporting and verification of changes in carbon stocks and in emissions and removals of greenhouse gases. The system is designed to integrate national, sub-national/district and management unit level data to account for contributions to carbon emissions and removals. The information produced by the MRV system is designed to be integrated into the NaFIMS to be shared with relevant stakeholders.

The national forest monitoring system designs are in line with Decision 11/CP.19 (UNFCCC, 2013) to provide data and information that are transparent, consistent over time, suitable

for measuring, reporting and verifying anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest-area changes. The system supports decision making related to REDD+ strategy options and provide information to governmental organizations, NGOs, research institutions, other relevant institutions and general public.

The development of a robust and transparent national forest monitoring system is a pre-requisite to measure changes in forest area, carbon stock and associated greenhouse gas emissions. The national forest monitoring system provides comparison of REDD+ outcomes in terms of GHG emissions reductions relative to the reference levels. The system involves combination of remote sensing technology and ground-based field measurement approaches including community forest inventory to national forest inventory. Like RLs, national forest monitoring system is an iterative process; countries may use step-wise approach to gradually develop the system with further refinement being made later as the methodological guidance evolves.

Nepal's proposed national forest monitoring system will be comprised of four independent but closely connected units; viz. i) Database/IT/Metadata Unit, ii) Remote Sensing/GIS unit, iii) Forestry Inventory Unit and, iv) Reporting Unit. Remote Sensing and GIS unit will be responsible for image processing and analysis to produce Land Use/Land Cover classification, while Forest Inventory Unit will be responsible for undertaking forest inventories nationally and coordinating inventories at sub-national, district or local level to estimate GHG emissions. Database/IT/Metadata Unit will manage and maintain MRV database, maintain IT platform interface and provide aggregated data to Reporting Unit. The Reporting Unit produces periodic standard MRV reports for dissemination.

Criteria 29: Documentation of Monitoring Approach

There is clear rationale or evidence supporting the selection of the proposed methodology (combination of remote sensing and ground-based forest carbon inventory approaches, systems resolution, coverage, accuracy, inclusions of carbon pools and gases) and improvement over time.

The proposed MRV system has been technically reviewed and nationally approved, and it is consistent with national and international existing and emerging guidance. Potential sources of uncertainties are also identified to the extent possible.

The proposed methodology for the MRV system includes remote sensing and ground-based forest carbon inventory approaches. The preference among the available data sources for a national monitoring of forest cover and forest cover change is Landsat data (30 m resolution) with option of possible integration of rapid eye (5 m resolution). From 2013 on, Landsat 8 provides a complete coverage of the country every 2 weeks. The resolution permits to monitor forest cover changes with 1 to 5 ha Minimum Mapping Unit (MMU).

The design of the monitoring system of carbon is built on the activities conducted under the FRA project and the work already carried out for Tarai Arc Landscape (TAL). The monitoring system is closely linked with the technical approach for assessing emissions and removals since the system is designed to monitor carbon stock changes over time. Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) project has developed a modern technique of forest inventory, using appropriate scientific methods and a statistically sound approach. So it is natural to implement the same approach to carry out forest carbon inventory. For the continuous forest inventory in the context of MRV biennial reporting is necessary (UNFCCC, 2013) though there is some flexibility given to the least developed countries like Nepal.

The TAL LAMP method can be applied to provide both Tier 2 and Tier 3 monitoring data and provides data on changes in carbon stocks down to 1-hectare resolution. Systems are designed to encourage local community participation in monitoring systems as much as possible, especially in collecting socio-environmental baseline data for national safeguard information. The development and capacity-building efforts of the forest monitoring system relies heavily on the activities conducted under the FRA project and the sub-national REDD+ projects (such as TAL), supporting all REDD + decision making. The system is designed to be open access, providing information to governmental organizations, NGOs, research institutions, the public and other relevant institutions. In addition, Nepal's systems are being designed to engage more than 18,000 CFUGs throughout the country as much as possible in MRVs. This must be carefully structured to avoid bias, as they are also expected to receive significant carbon benefits from the benefits sharing mechanisms being designed.

The draft of the proposed monitoring system was shared and discussed among technical experts and officials of Ministry of Forest and reviewed by the experts. Comments and suggestions from experts were addressed and incorporated while devising the proposed system. The monitoring system has adopted international good practices including IPCC methodological guidance and accepted and approved by REDD-IC.

Potential sources of uncertainties were identified specially focussing on activity data; the accuracy related to the land cover and land cover change assessment. As mentioned in GOF-C-GOLD (2012) Good Practice Guidelines, the proposed monitoring system identified following potential sources of uncertainties which can affect the quality of the outcomes, including:

- The quality and suitability of the satellite data (i.e. in terms of spatial, spectral, and temporal resolution);
- The radiometric and geometric pre-processing (i.e. correct geolocation), the cartographic and thematic standards (i.e. land category definitions and minimum mapping unit, MMU);

- The interpretation procedure (i.e. classification procedure), the post-processing of the map products (i.e. dealing with no data values, conversions, integration with different data formats, e.g. vector versus raster); and
- The availability of reference data (e.g. ground truth data) for evaluation and calibration of the system.

Criteria 30: Demonstration of early system implementation

Responsibility of undertaking MRV of REDD+ activities lies in Department of Forest Research and Survey (DFRS), which is mandated to conduct forestry research and survey to produce knowledge and information for sustainable management and utilization of forest resources of Nepal. The department has three divisions: Forest Research Division, Forest Survey Division, and Remote Sensing and Planning Division. Forest Research Division is responsible for developing and demonstrating appropriate technologies related to natural and manmade forest management, determining forest growth to maximize forest productivity, and identifying suitable tree species for different site conditions. Research is also conducted in the fields of agroforestry, tree improvement, forest utilization, socio-economic studies, etc. Forest Survey Division generates valuable statistics and information necessary to plan overall forestry development at national, regional and district levels. Remote Sensing and Planning Division is responsible for acquiring remote sensing data to generate useful products for conducting forest inventory and mapping. It is also involved in preparing programme and budget of the department and monitoring of activities.

The department has been functioning well and works in close collaboration with various national stakeholders and international agencies. In order to assume added responsibility of REDD+ MRV, the department would require more staff, additional finance, and equipments. The needs have been identified and restructuring has been proposed (see next criteria). A large portion of additional funding under FCPF Readiness Fund is being utilized to strengthen the capacity of the department.

Another possible source of reference data for national level forest cover and forest cover change maps validation are the forest cover and forest cover change maps produced at sub-national (local) level, when available. An error matrix (also called confusion matrix) is generated in which classified points and reference points are compared for each class. Errors of commission (error of including an area in a category to which it does not truly belong, i.e. area over-estimation) and omission (error of excluding an area from a category to which it does truly belongs, i.e. area under-estimation) for the classification are displayed and an overall accuracy term may be calculated. Additional statistics can be used to describe classification accuracy (e.g., kappa coefficient, tau statistics) (Sanchez-Azofeifa et al. 2009). There is no fixed rule for the determination of the number of points to be validated, but a rule of thumb is that 30 to 50 points are needed for each class, where forest classes can be sampled at higher intensity. Validation is integral part of the Activity Data estimation.

The recently completed FRA project strengthened forestry sector and its administration, improving quality of forest data for national forest policy development and reporting. The project also collected national level baseline data as required for REDD+ and establish the MRV system (FRA, 2012). At national level, FRA project established more than 1500 permanent sample plots for periodic ground based inventory. As the project tenure is over, the DFRS plans to monitor changes in forest resources every five years and serves as the central agency to provide national and sub national level data required for MRV of REDD+. The periodic measurement of permanent sample plots would allow comparison of changes in forest area and carbon content (and associated GHG emissions) relative to the baseline estimates used for the REL/RL.

Involvement of key stakeholders in the development and/or early implementation of the system, including data collection and any potential verification of its results, is highly promising due to existence of community-based forest management regimes. Community Forest User Groups, who have already demonstrated their performance in reducing deforestation and forest degradation, are expected to conduct local level monitoring activities. Consequently, costs will be substantially lower compared to professional surveys, and the accuracy will be relatively good. Entrusting forest inventory work to communities also enhances transparency and highlights the value of community forest management to provide carbon services. It will need to be complimented with third party validations and verification to comply with international voluntary and compliance market demands to ensure optimal carbon prices.

Criteria 31: Institutional arrangements and capacities

In the MRV system, mandates to perform tasks related to forest monitoring are clearly defined (e.g., satellite data processing, forest inventory, information sharing). There are evidences that a transparent means of publicly sharing forest and emissions data are presented and are in at least an early operational stage. A full cost proposal is prepared which identifies associated resource needs and estimates the cost of required capacities such as training, hardware/software, and budget. The report also provides a financial plan for total MRV implementation in national and sub-national level, which is expected to be between US\$ 5.2 to 9.5 million.

A framework of the Nepal's MRV system builds on the present structure and the works of the Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) project as envisioned in the R-PP. The report proposes a Central MRV Section under the Department of Forest Resource and Survey (DFRS) having a coordination unit and four independent but closely connected units namely: (1) Database/IT Unit; (2) Remote Sensing/GIS Unit; (3) Forest Inventory Unit; and (4) Reporting Unit.

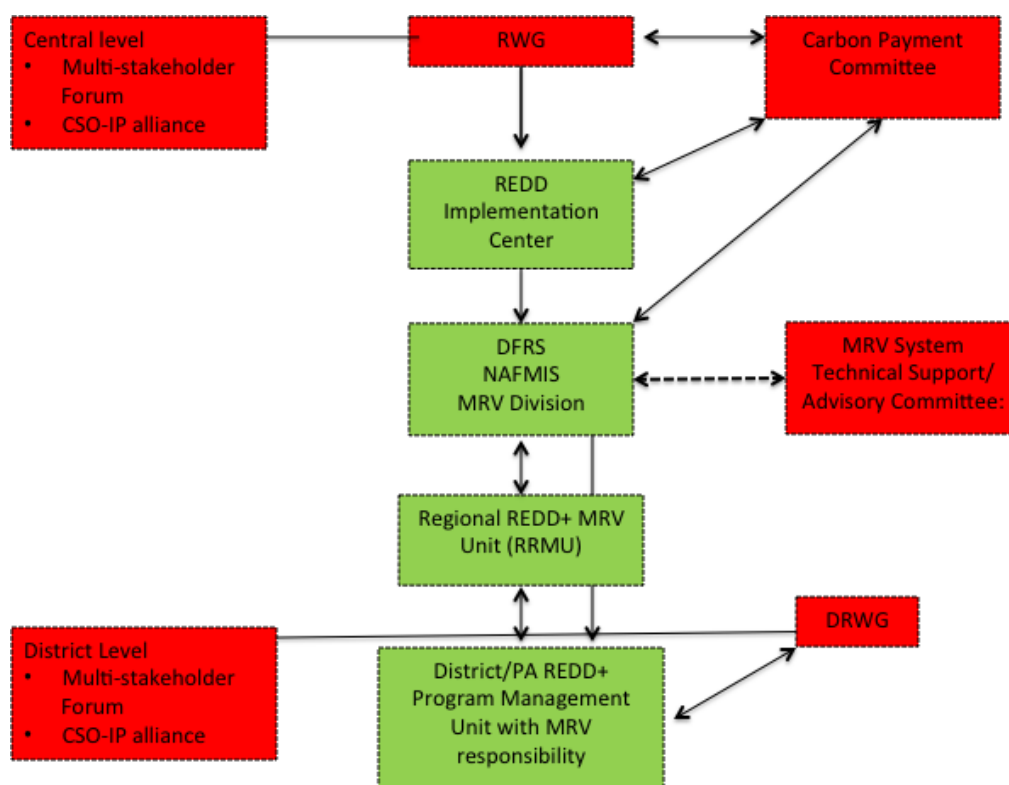


Figure 6: Proposed position of DFRS/NFMS/MRV Division

The National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) will have MRV as one cabinet of a larger box. The proposed position of the MRV Division is presented in **Error! Reference source not found..** This MRV Division will have dual reporting responsibility to DFRS and the REDD Implementation Center and will receive technical advice and assistance from an MRV System Advisory Committee. At the national level the MRV Division will be linked with the National Carbon Registry and the Carbon Payment Authority, which are yet to be decided to establish. Within the MRV Division, apart from other sections, there will be four interconnected units as depicted in Figure 7: Units and their interaction within MRV Division

. The verification and reporting unit will verify and report the periodic carbon change and will report to the Carbon Registry. The REDD and MRV sections at sub-national/provincial and district/local level will work to support the MRV system and function under the guidance of their respective RWGs and multi-stakeholder forums.

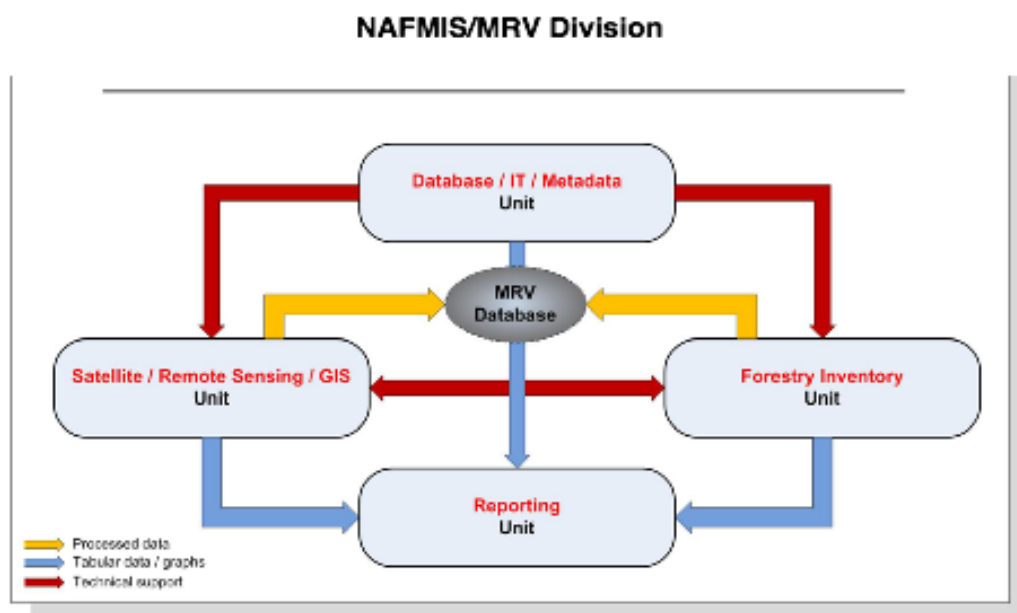


Figure 7: Units and their interaction within MRV Division

(Source: REDD Cell, 2014, institutional assessment for MRV, WP# 3)

As stated the NFMS/MRV division will have four units, namely:

- i) Database/IT/Metadata Unit
- ii) Remote Sensing/GIS Unit
- iii) Forestry Inventory Unit
- iv) Reporting Unit

i) Database/IT/Metadata Unit (DBIT): This is technically the core unit with a System Administrator and a Database Administrator. The DB Administrator will be responsible for managing and maintaining the MRV database structure (tables, relationships, keys) and assigning privileges and roles to different kinds of users (public, editor, stakeholder, etc.). The System Administrator will manage and maintain the IT web platform interface, server system, OS, firewalls, web services, connections, software update and Web Content Management.

ii) The Remote Sensing / GIS Unit (RSGIS): The RSGIS Unit will be responsible for image processing and analysis to produce Land Use/Land Cover classification layers and perform GIS editing and analysis to ensure data integrity in the MRV database. It will undertake change detection in different forestry classes and categories using Multi-temporal satellite images, DEM and other ancillary data. Once LU/LC layers have been produced and validated, they will be uploaded into the MRV database. The Unit is also responsible for REL and WISDOM data entry and spatial data integration in the MRV system. The Unit will need six GIS/remote sensing experts and could also take technical support from DBIT and FORINV unit for specific tasks. The unit should also provide tabular data graph to the Reporting Unit periodically upon on request.

iii) The Forest Inventory Unit (FORINV): The FORINV Unit will be responsible for the national forest inventories and will coordinate the inventories at sub-national and district/local level (also integrated by FRA Nepal data, if applicable) to estimate GHG emissions using specific

algorithms and models applied to local data collected by the District/local unit. Once GHG estimates have been produced and validated, they will be loaded into the MRV database. The unit will require two forestry experts for the management of the unit and could get technical support from RSGIS and DBIT units.

iv) The Reporting Unit (REP): Reporting is a key element of MRV because it provides the means by which the performance of the country will be assessed compared to its commitments or reference scenarios in a future REDD+ mechanism. Hence, it provides the basis for assigning incentives. This REP Unit is the unit for reporting, which provides periodic standard MRV reports (consistent with the reporting requirements outlined in the UNFCCC guidelines) for dissemination of aggregated data and information, collecting the necessary info by the other three units. The unit will require one REDD-MRV expert.

At Sub-National Level:

At sub-national level, a Regional REDD+ MRV Unit (RRMU) will be established under Regional REDD+ Focal Office (RRFO) at the regional forest office, which will coordinate with and guide the district /local level forestry institutions and also supervise and monitor the MRV related activities. The RRMU will be managed by an MRV coordinator (forestry expert) assisted by an IT/monitoring expert skilled at operationalizing the MRV related database, as well as a capacity building expert. The unit will remain integrated with the national MRV system and provide policy and operational guidance for the implementation of MRV at district/local level. Its major technical functions will be; 1) the coordination and implementation of forest inventories and field verifications of GIS based forest maps produced by the central MRV; ii) processing of data and reporting to the central MRV; ii) technical/capacity and other defined support to district/local levels.

At district/local level:

To set up a functional MRV system at district/PA level, a District/PA MRV section (DMRVS) will be established under the District/PA REDD+ Program Management Unit of the DFO, with computer and internet-based database management arrangements. Forest carbon measurement data from all CBFM units and other FMUs participating in REDD+ will have to be validated by the DFO/PA authority, refined and entered in the database maintained at the district/PA level. In this section, two forestry technicians with additional knowledge and skills of IT and database maintenance/management and a computer operator skilled at data entry, maintenance/management is needed.

Overall multi-stakeholder self-Assessment and progress rating

Overall ranking for Category 4a is GREEN. The substantial progress has been achieved at national level during the FRA project (2010-2014). The RL and MRV work have been done thoroughly at the sub national level within the 12 TAL districts. Much of the current excellent work provides the foundation for replication with modifications but the systems designed to date do not provide national level data in a single platform. More work is required to expand the systems to represent all of Nepal's forest including Tree Outside Forest (TOF) and Private Forest. Greater emphasis on capacity building both within Government of Nepal and

among concerned indigenous peoples and civil society organizations and stakeholders is also needed.

Subcomponent: 4b.Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards

REDD implementation produces carbon benefits, and many other co-benefits including rural livelihood enhancement, conservation of biodiversity, ecosystem service provision, and influenced improved governance. Effective monitoring of these benefits ensures that REDD+ implementation does not impede quality and quantity of the benefits. A monitoring system was designed to be capable of reporting how variables representing the benefits (safeguards) are being addressed and respected during the implementation of REDD+ activities. Recognizing the high dependency on forest resources, non carbon aspect of REDD+ is highly prioritized in REDD+ readiness process. Nepal developed safeguards indicators using REDD+ Social & Environmental Standards facilitated by the Secretariat of REDD+SES.

Criteria 32: Identification of relevant non-carbon aspects, and social and environmental issues

Nepal submitted an idea note on co-benefits to the UNFCCC prior to the 38th session of SBSTA, in which Nepal has identified six types of co-benefits from REDD+, their indicators and means of verification. Through the REDD+ program, Nepal seeks to achieve all of these six co-benefits as priority Non-Carbon Benefits:

- Enhancement of local livelihoods
- Increase in the value of biodiversity
- Better ecosystems services to people and environment
- More resilient ecosystems for climate change adaptation
- Improved governance, institutional setup and policies for natural resource management at local to national levels
- Contributions to MEAs (meeting the targets of many international conventions)

The following Non-Carbon Benefits (NCBs) and social and environmental issues are recognized in MRV framework of Nepal:

- Governance, such as recognized and improved land rights, improved participation of forest dependent groups, new and revised policies and laws;
- Ecosystem services and biodiversity conservation;
- Soil conservation and watershed protection;
- Climate change adaptation such as reduced vulnerability of communities and forest ecosystems to climate change impacts;

- Economic and livelihood conditions such as alternative livelihoods, improved employment and income, improved health well-being, increased contribution of forests to economic development; and
- Social and cultural values such as the promotion of traditional knowledge and the preservation of spiritual sites.

The safeguard indicators have been developed to suit the country specific situation, through a series of public consultations, including special regional level and interest groups consultations. The notices requesting comments on indicators were published in the national news papers and websites seeking feedback. A comprehensive list of 14 strategic options was developed for the SESA including Land tenure, carbon rights and benefit sharing; Community-based forest management; biodiversity and ecosystem management of forest and other land types, payments for ecosystems services; private forestry, cross sectoral issues including agriculture and infrastructure; law enforcement, governance and anti-corruption and institutional issues. Impacts of REDD+ interventions have been thoroughly analyzed and detailed in the SESA document.

Criteria 33: Monitoring, reporting and information sharing

The FRA Nepal project has developed an Open Source Forest Information System (OSFIS). This system in its current stage manages the inventory data, spatial data sets and also has a standard platform for data dissemination. The OSFIS, however may not be considered as a full Management Information System as the system is primarily designed for the FRA project only. It needs to be upgraded to enable continuous monitoring of the permanent sample plots. The proposed NFIMS is designed as an overarching information management system that includes tools and protocols for system managers and interfaces for accessing data, information and maps from the NFD and other relevant databases, links to and between these databases, analysis, synthesis, tabulation and other thematic tools. The proposed system will be accessible for the general public through internet. This requirement requires a solution based on Software as a Service (SaaS) that resides on a cloud and is accessible through a web application. Key modules to be included are forest resources, forest carbon, working plan and programs, users and beneficiaries, remote sensing, Land use, Land-use Change, and Forestry (LULUCF), REDD+ activities and social and environmental safeguards (SES) indicators.

Criteria 34: Institutional arrangements and capacities

A study has been conducted, developing guidelines for institutional coordination and standard operating procedures of NFIMS. Recommendations prepared for the institutional management of the system including manpower, computer hardware and software to ensure system sustainability and use. More relevant government staff need to be trained to operate, maintain and administer the NAFIMS. After operationalization, continued support for system operation will be required.

On the other hand, a technical working group was formed to develop safeguard indicators based on the generic principles and criteria developed by the Secretariat of REDD+ SES. The committee is comprised of representatives from indigenous community, women's group, gender expert, government agencies, indigenous peoples and civil society. The REDD Working Group works as National Standard Committee and oversees and supports the use of standards of the country.

Safeguard Information System (SIS)

While there has been no specific report on SIS produced yet, the ongoing work on Development of National Forest Database and National Forest Information System integrates SIS into the system. The REDD-IC has also developed some indicators corresponding to each Cancun safeguard principles.

The proposed Safeguard Information Systems (SIS) provides a systematic approach for collecting and providing information on how REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout REDD+ implementation and should have the following components:

Indicators: These will determine whether a particular policy, law or regulation or REDD+ safeguard activity is being effectively implemented. The indicators provide the parameters on information to be collected.

Methodologies for collection of information: These outline the types of information to be collected for each indicator and how the information collection should be carried out (e.g. sample size, frequency, etc.).

Framework for provision of information: This defines how information is stored and shared and provided to the UNFCCC and other donors and among key stakeholders including REDD+ project affected communities. Plans are to provide information in an accessible manner, contribute to transparency and are accessible in local languages when possible.

Finally, the SIS framework should be consistent with the NFIS.

Overall Assessment and Color Ranking

Overall ranking for Category 4b is YELLOW. Nepal has progressed well to establish a system for multiple benefits, impacts, governance and safeguards. Nepal is yet to develop monitoring indicators for Non-Carbon Benefits (NCBs). While a participatory process was used to conduct the SESA, issues of inclusion and representation remain of concern. Awareness of the REDD+ process and its implications on rights of forest use, tenure, customary right and cultural values remain under-described and valued.

3.0 Report on Results of the Multi-Stakeholder Self-assessment Process

3.1 Preparing for the Assessment

Organizing team, facilitator and support

The consortium organized all consultation workshops. A technical team was formed to organize and facilitate the consultation process. Two national consultants (both having the PhD degree in forestry) organized the facilitations in the district and regional workshops with the management supports of the staffs provided by the Green Governance Nepal. The international consultant (team leader) supervised the overall preparation and outputs of the consultations. He had also facilitated the inception, focus group discussions and national validation workshops.

Development of process and schedule

The facilitators in consultation, with the team leader and REDD-IC, designed and finalized the consultation process and schedule for organizing the district and regional level consultation workshops. The REDD-IC wrote the letter to respective District Forest Offices and Regional Forestry Directorate to support the workshop organizing team by selecting and inviting participants. The facilitators developed and prepared various materials related to facilitation of the consultations. The FCPF framework guidelines criteria and indicators for the assessment of the REDD preparedness were translated into Nepali language.

Preparation of guided questionnaires

The R-Package Team prepared the survey instruments and questionnaires, tailoring the 34 criteria and guiding questions contained in the annexes to fit specific conditions that occur in the Nepali context. Issues of traditional use rights, tenure and benefits sharing were also explored given Nepal unique conditions and context.

The consultations formed a nested set of data, with each consultation building on prior work and learning, rather than conceived as individual stand-alone consultations. The R-Package design process began with the gathering of the Team members to finalize the work-plan and schedule, including developing methodologies and guiding questions as a team. The final work-plan and schedule were presented to the REDD Implementation Centre, for finalization as part of the inception work, as suggested in the FMT Framework Document. The work-plan was jointly developed with the REDD Implementation Centre and other stakeholders. Results are summarized in the following sections.

स्थान:
भित्त:

	क्षेत्र राम्रो				राम्रो				मध्यम				नराम्रो				कैफियत
	१	२	३	४	१	२	३	४	१	२	३	४	१	२	३	४	
भाग १. रेड सम्बन्धी तयारी व्यवस्थापन र परामर्श																	
उपभाग १ (क) नेपालमा रेड सम्बन्धी व्यवस्थापकीय परिपाटी																	
१. जवाफदेहिता र पारदर्शिता																	
क) राष्ट्रिय रेड संरचना तथा व्यवस्थापकीय इन्टरनेट कसरी खुला, जवाफदेहि र पारदर्शीरूपमा संचालन भइरहेका छन् ?																	
२. कार्यवाहक र बजेट																	
क) रेड सम्बन्धी संस्थाहरु प्रशस्त, शुनिचित (सोचेअनुरूप) र विगो बजेटका साथ एक आपसमा सहयोगात्मक र स्पष्ट कार्यवाहक अनुरूप संचालन भएको कसरी देखिन्छ ?																	
३. बहुपक्षीय समन्वयका संरचना र परक्षेत्र (cross-sector) सहयोग																	
क) राष्ट्रिय रेड संरचना र व्यवस्थापकीय परिपाटीले रेडका क्रियाकलापहरुलाई कसरी व्यापक राष्ट्रिय तथा क्षेत्रगत नीति (जस्तै: कृषि, वातावरण, प्राकृतिक स्रोत व्यवस्थापन, पूर्वाधार विकास तथा भू-उपयोग योजना) सित समन्वय तथा एकिकृत गर्नका साथै प्रभावित पारेको छ ?																	
४. प्राविधिक सुपरिवेक्षण क्षमता																	
क) राष्ट्रिय रेड संरचना र व्यवस्थापकीय परिपाटीले कसरी प्रभावकारी र कुशलतापूर्वक बहुक्षेत्रगत रेड सम्बन्धी तयारीका क्रियाकलापहरुलाई नेतृत्व तथा सुपरिवेक्षण																	

स्थान:
भित्त:

	क्षेत्र राम्रो				राम्रो				मध्यम				नराम्रो				कैफियत
	१	२	३	४	१	२	३	४	१	२	३	४	१	२	३	४	
भाग २. रेड रणनीति तयारी																	
उपभाग २क. भू-उपयोग, भू-उपयोग परिवर्तन, वन कानून, नीति र शासन सम्बन्धी मूल्यांकन																	
११. मूल्यांकन तथा विश्लेषण																	
क) R-PP निर्माणका क्रममा तयार गरिएका ऐतिहासिक भू-उपयोग प्रवृत्ति (Trend) र भू-अधिकार, स्वामित्वकरण, प्राकृतिक सम्पदामाथिको अधिकार, जिविकोपार्जन (परंपरागत एवं प्रचलित समेत), वन सम्बन्धी कानून, नीति र शासन सम्बन्धी कुराहरुको विश्लेषण गरिएको छ ?																	
१२. वन कार्वन वृद्धिमा प्रत्यक्ष वा अप्रत्यक्षरूपमा असर पुर्याउने ढाँडभर तथा वाघाहरुको प्राथमिकीकरण																	
क) रेड रणनीतिमा उल्लेखित कार्यक्रम तथा नीतिमा प्रत्यक्ष तथा अप्रत्यक्ष ढाँडभरहरुलाई सम्बोधन गर्न उक्त विश्लेषणलाई प्रयोग कसरी गरिएको छ ?																	
१३. रेड क्रियाकलाप र ढाँडभर/वाघाहरुको सम्बन्ध/कडी																	
क) वन कार्वन अभिवृद्धिका मुख्य ढाँडभर तथा वाघाहरु र रेड क्रियाकलापहरु बीच प्रणालीगत सम्बन्ध स्थापना गरिएको प्रमाण के छ ?																	
१४. प्राकृतिक सम्पदा, भू-अधिकार तथा शासनलाई सम्बोधन गर्ने कार्य योजना																	
क) छोटो, मध्यम तथा विर्धकालिन रूपमा भू-उपयोग, भू-																	

स्थान:
मिति:

	छैरे राम्रो				राम्रो				मध्यम				नराम्रो				कैफियत
	१	२	३	४	१	२	३	४	१	२	३	४	१	२	३	४	
भाग ३. सम्बर्धन उत्सर्जन तह/उत्सर्जन तह																	
२६. प्रक्रिया/तरीको प्रदर्शनी																	
क) के प्रारम्भिक उपक्षेत्रीय वा राष्ट्रिय उत्सर्जन कटौती सम्बन्ध (तह) वा तह कटौतीका बारेमा पाइलागत (step wise) आधारमा स्पष्ट प्रक्रिया उल्लेख गरिएको छ?																	
ख) के थप पाइलाहरु (steps) र डाटाको आवश्यकताको बारेमा योजनाहरु बनेका छन्? उपक्षेत्रीय सम्बन्धित तह र राष्ट्रियरूपमा विकसित हुँदै गरेको सम्बन्धित तह बीचका सम्बन्धलाई उचित तवरले देखाइएको छ?																	
२७. राष्ट्रिय आवश्यकता अनुसार ऐतिहासिक तथ्यांकहरूको समायोजन (adjustment)																	
क) सम्बन्धित उत्सर्जन तह निर्धारण गर्दा ऐतिहासिक तथ्यांकहरू एवं यदि यसलाई राष्ट्रिय आवश्यकता अनुसार समायोजन गरिएको भए सो समेतलाई कसरी उपयोग गरिएको छ? समायोजित तथ्यांकहरूको विश्वसनियता र गुणवत्ताका लागि के कस्ता शीघ्रचलपुल र सहायक तथ्यांकहरू प्रयोग गरिएका छन्?																	
ख) स्वतन्त्र रूपमा सम्बन्धित उत्सर्जन तहको चेकजाँच गर्ने, र पुनर्निर्माण गर्ने आवश्यक पर्ने पर्याप्त तथ्यांक एवं सूचना संग्रह पारदर्शी तवरले उपलब्ध छ?																	
२८. प्रक्रियागत आधारहरूको प्राथमिक मौलिकता र UNFCCC/IPCC को निर्देशन र निर्देशिका सिद्धान्तको समीपत्व																	
क) उत्सर्जन कटौती सम्बन्धी तहको निर्धारण पारदर्शी, पूर्ण र सही सूचनाको आधारमा गरिएको, UNFCCCको निर्देशन र IPCC को पछिल्लो निर्देशन र निर्देशिका अनुसार गरिएको जसले गर्दा प्रयोग गरिएको तथ्यांक, आधार, प्रक्रिया, मोडल र माप्यताहरूलाई उत्सर्जन तह निर्धारण सित तुलना गर्न सकिनेछ।																	
जम्मा																	

स्थान:
मिति:

	छैरै राम्रो				राम्रो				मध्यम				नराम्रो				कैफियत
	१	२	३	४	१	२	३	४	१	२	३	४	१	२	३	४	
भाग ४. वन र सुरुवात कवचका लागि अनुगमन प्रणाली																	
उपभाग ४.१. राष्ट्रिय वन अनुगमन प्रणाली																	
२९. अनुगमनका आधारहरू तह																	
क) के प्रयोग वा प्रस्ताव गरिएका विधि छनोटको बारेमा स्पष्ट मौलिक र विश्लेषणात्मक प्रमाणहरू (जुनै क्षेत्र, स्थानगत कार्वन हुनेदो, प्रणालीगत संकेत, कम्परेन, गुणवत्ता, कार्वन पुर्ण र स्थिति सम्बन्धितता आदि) रहेका छन्? के यी समय सावधानी सुधार हुने अनुमान गर्न सकिन्छ?																	
ख) के यस प्रणालीलाई प्राथमिक रूपमा समीक्षा गरिएको र राष्ट्रियतहमा अनुगमन गरिएको छ? के यी राष्ट्रिय तथा अन्तर्राष्ट्रियतहमा अस्तित्वमा रहेको वा उभारिएको (emerging) निर्देशन सित सामान्य (consistent) रहेको पाइन्छ?																	
ग) के अतिरिक्तताका शर्मासित क्षेत्रहरूको पहिचान गरिएको छ?																	
३०. पूर्व प्रणाली कार्वनको प्रदर्शनी																	
क) तोकिएको प्रणालीले निर्धारित रेड रयनीतिमा प्राथमिकता पाएका रेड रयनिकारणलाई अनुगमन गर्ने क्षेत्रहरूको बारेमा के प्रमाण रहेको छ?																	
ख) प्रभावका बारेमा संचालित प्रक्रियाले कसरी बाह्य पारदर्शक र यसको के पुर्ण परिणाम हुन सक्छ?																	
ग) मुख्य सरोकारवालाहरूलाई प्रणाली विकास र कार्वनियनका साथै तथ्यांक संचयन र प्रणालीकरणमा कसरी संलग्न गरिएको छ?																	
घ) आधारभूतमा गरिएको उत्सर्जन कटौती तह सित वन क्षेत्र तथा संचित कार्वन (हरितगृह ग्यास) वा बायोमास परिवर्तनका बारेमा तुलना गर्न प्रणालीको उपयुक्तताको बारेमा के प्रमाण रहेको छ?																	
३१. अनुगमन व्यवस्था र प्रणाली																	
क) वन अनुगमन गर्नका लागि स्पष्ट म्यापिङहरू (स्यस्टमाइज्ड डाटा प्रशोधन, वन मापन, सूचना प्रवाह) के छन्?																	
ख) वन तथा उत्सर्जन सम्बन्धी तथ्यांकहरू (कम्प्लीमा कार्वनसंचालनको प्रारम्भिक चरणमा) पारदर्शी तरिकाले प्रवाह गर्न बारे के प्रमाण देखिएको छ?																	
ग) उपयुक्त कार्वन संचालन गर्नका लागि आवश्यक पर्ने स्रोत (आवरणक जनशक्ति, तालिम, हाइवेयर तथा सफ्टवेयर, बजेट आदि) पहिचान तथा अनुमान गरिएको छ?																	
उपभाग ४.२. बहुपक्षीय साह, अन्य प्रभावहरू, सुसासन र सुरुवात कवचका बारेमा सूचना प्रणाली																	

Figure 8: Consultation Materials (FCPF Assessment Framework criteria and questions in Nepali)

Materials (FCPF Readiness Assessment Framework criteria and diagnostic questions translated into Nepali language) used for the group exercise in the consultation workshop

Identification of stakeholders

Participatory selection of the potential participants, their number and organizations were made in consultation with the REDD-IC, various central level CSOs and IPOs and their district counterparts. The main objective of the participatory selection was to encourage free, fair and lively consultations at the districts for unbiased assessment of Nepal's REDD+ preparedness.

3.2 Conducting the Assessment

The R-Package Team conducted series of nested stakeholder consultations, using nine sub-component and 34 assessment criteria as guidelines for data collection. The summary of the consultation process is reported in the following table. This was a participatory and inclusive process, to collect and synthesize the perspectives, experiences and recommendations of various stakeholders. Through this process, national stakeholders identified achievements, gaps and further needs in the REDD+ Readiness process. This was the most significant aspect of the R-Package process, as many different perspectives, experiences and recommendations were received. To maximize efficiency, the consultation workshops were designed using a “nested” approach, where the inputs from one workshop fed into the following workshop, allowing findings to build on one another.

Progress rating in terms of traffic light system is not reported on disaggregated fashion by different stakeholders group because the traffic light system was agreed on consensus basis by all stakeholder groups. However, differences in views and perception on the progress are described in the text.

Organization of the Consultation workshop

National Inception Workshop

The inception workshop was held in Kathmandu on February 18, 2015. The objective of the first workshop was to explain the R-Package process, to describe the consultative process, timeline and schedule for the upcoming workshops, to seek recommendations for additional information and to identify key gaps or concerns on the process. This workshop provided critical inputs for the district and regional level consultations. Inputs gathered from this workshop helped to guide the final design for the district and regional level consultations.



Figure 9: Picture of Participants in the Inception Workshop

Summary of the Workshop Findings

The workshop was attended by 42 participants including three R-Package technical team members, 16 representatives from Government of Nepal and 23 representatives from various Nepal's Indigenous Peoples, Civil Society Organizations and a variety of National Non-Governmental Organizations operating in Nepal. 5 women participants were also present. The workshop consisted of 4 parts including:

- 1) An introductory presentation on the R-Package Process from Dr. Narendra Chand of REDD Implementation Center;
- 2) A detailed presentation of the R-Package process, objectives, components and sub components by the R-Package Team Leader Mr. Brian Peniston;
- 3) Detailed description of the proposed District, Regional and special interest group consultations with proposed timing and locations by the M&E Expert Dr. Rajendra K.C.; and
- 4) A question and answer session was conducted with all participants. Participants raised three major types of suggestions. These were:

a) The process should be as inclusive and participatory as possible and include active participation of academia, women, youth, adivasi and janjati groups (indigenous and ethnic communities), workers and labour associations, forestry professionals, indigenous people, dalit groups and others as much as time and budgets permit. The R-Package Team and REDD Implementation Center endorsed this recommendation.

b) The participants suggested that the R-Package process and Team make use of all completed documents, on-going project experience and project reports when establishing the baseline, including documents still being finalized. Recommended documents and experience to include were MSFP, Hariyo Ban, ICIMOD, RECOFTC, Rupantaran (Plan Vivo) and the MTR, SESA, REDD+ Studies; Forest, Biodiversity, Low Carbon Development and Climate Change Policies. The R-Package Team also took the opportunity to further clarify that the objective of the R-Package process is to assess Nepal's progress on REDD+ Readiness, and not to increase REDD+ awareness or assess the overall REDD+ mechanism, which have been done in other forum.

c) The Participants also suggested several modifications to the selected Districts for Consultations and these suggestions were well noted. Participants also suggested that the R-Package team build on the experience of on-going REDD+ Projects in various districts, which was accepted. One additional suggestion was to expand the number of districts to be included in the consultations, and while endorsed in principle, budget and time constraints was noted.

Team members and REDD Implementation Center staff responded to these suggestions one by one. To conclude the Q&A Session and overall Inception Workshop, Mr. Rajendra Kafle, the Acting Chief of the REDD Implementation Center clarified several remaining points endorsing an inclusive and participatory process while concluding R-Package work. At that point the Inception Workshop was adjourned. On February 20, the R-Package Team held an additional debriefing session with members of the REDD Implementation Center to verify points raised during the Inception Workshop and finalize schedules and other issues.

District and Regional Consultations

Nine district level consultations (Figure 1) were held during March-April, 2015. A postponed consultation at Sankhuwasabha, due to the massive earthquake, was held in July. A total of 336 people including 75 women (22.3%) were consulted at district workshops. The participants comprised of the DFO and National Parks and Protected Area staff, FECOFUN, NEFIN, NEFUG, CFUGs, I/NGOs, other CSOs, district line agencies, forest based private entrepreneurs and other forest dependent communities. A woman participant from "Kusunda" indigenous committee was found actively engaged in REDD+ awareness program in Dang. Kusunda is the smallest indigenous community with mere population of 273 in Nepal (CBS 2011: National Population Census).

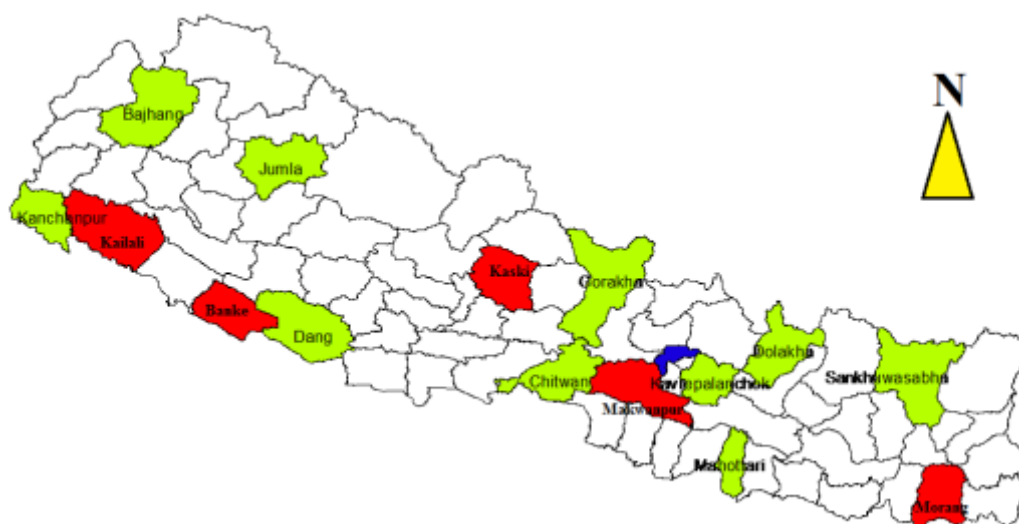


Figure 10: Map of Nepal showing the places of consultations

[Consultation places of districts (Green), regional (Red) and national (Blue) consultations]

Nepal is divided into five administrative regions. The team organized five regional consultations (one in each region), in which total 162 people including 22 female (13.5%) participated. These consultations were chaired by the respective Regional Forestry Director. The date of the workshop and the disaggregated number of the participants are given in the Figure 4-5 and Table 2.

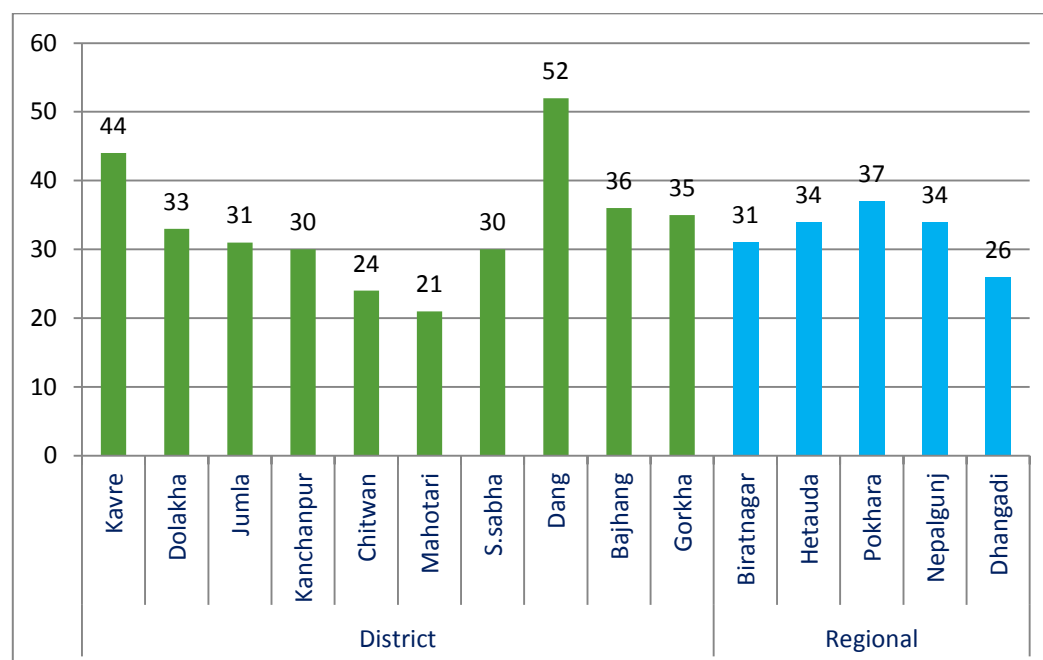


Figure 11: Number of participants in districts and regional consultations.

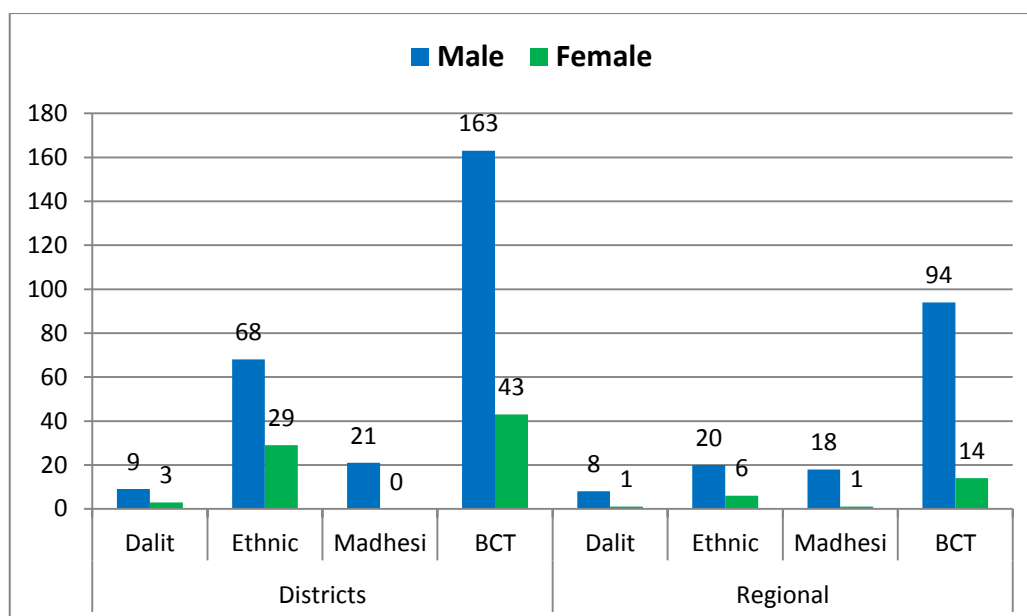


Figure 12: The disaggregate number of participants in Consultations

Note: The disaggregate number of participants in the district and regional consultation workshops (Ethnic: Indigenous and Janajati; BCT: Bahun, Chhetri and Thakuri caste people)



Figure 13: Picture of Participants in a group discussion in Dolakha

The FCPF readiness assessment framework (2013) was intensively used for facilitating the consultations. The assessment was done based on four components, nine sub-components and 34 assessment criteria. The facilitator introduced the assessment framework and core REDD+ activities at the beginning of the workshop. Flexes were prepared for all components, sub components and criteria in Nepali language and provided to them for the group's collective assessment. The individual rating/assessments were done in the regional workshop held at Nepalgunj and Dhangadi. The group was asked to rate the elements on four “traffic” light system of the framework.



Figure 14: Picture of Participants in group discussion in Kavre

Picture : Participants engaging in group discussion and overall ranking of REDD+ Readiness in Kavrepalanchok district

Table 8: Description of the consultation workshop

Consultation WS	Places/Districts	Date	Participants
District Level	Kabhrepalanchok, Dolakha, Dang, Jumla, Kanchanpur, Bajhang, Mahottari, Chitwan, Gorkha, Sankhuwasabha	March 20, 21, 22, 24, 27, 29, 29, April 1, 3, July 27, 2015	336 (261 male, 75 female; 98 Indigenous people, 21 Madhesis, 12 Dalit, 205 BCT)
Regional Level	Nepalgunj, Biratnagar, Dhangadi, Hetauda, Pokhara	26M, 27M, 31M, 31M, 5A	162 (140 male, 22 female; 26 indigenous, 19 Madhesis, 9 Dalits, 108 BCT)

Note for Name of month: M (March), A (April), J(July). BCT (Bahun, Chhetri, Thakuri castes)

Findings of the District level consultations

Establishment of REDD-Desk

Most of the districts have established REDD+ desk at the district forest offices. About 25 districts are known to have already established REDD+ desk involving district level stakeholders. The REDD+ desk have assumed the coordinating roles for district level consultation and outreach programme. All five regional forestry directorate have already established regional REDD+ desks.

High enthusiasms/varied knowledge

A very high level of curiosity, enthusiasm and interest on REDD+ mechanisms, processes and implementation was found among many stakeholders in all geographical regions. However, the level of the awareness, engagement and opinions in REDD+ activities varied widely among participants and districts. Out of 10 assessed districts, the level of the key stakeholders awareness and involvement in five districts was very high; mainly supported by various pilot projects. Three piloted districts (Gorkha, Dolakha and Chitwan) had already been piloted the programme at benefit sharing level from the technical and financial support of ANSAB, FECOFUN and ICIMOD (Sharma et al., 2015). Two districts are at the middle levels and three are less aware on REDD+ mechanism (Jumla, Bajhang, Mahottari). The western regions of Nepal are usually more advanced than the eastern parts due to the interventions of the various projects and programme (TAL, RECOFTC, Hariyo Ban etc.)

High level of awareness and engagement in Climate Change/LAPA/CAPA

Even the less REDD+ aware districts have very strong knowledge and engagement in the Climate Change mitigation activities. They are highly engaged in preparation and implementation of the LAPA (Local Adaptation Plan for Actions) and CAPA (Community Adaptation Plan for Actions), mainly supported by various projects and programme, suggesting possible ways to combine the programs to increase REDD + awareness among the general population.

Active Engagement of CSOs and IPOs

Besides many others, mainly three important civil society organizations and Indigenous Peoples organizations such as FECOFUN, DNF and NEFIN are found actively engaged from the designing to implementation of REDD+ activities at the centre and district levels despite limited resources. FECOFUN has been actively engaged in the piloting REDD+ pilot projects in many districts including Dang and Kanchanpur.

Overall rating

The district and regional level consultation demonstrated rather weak REDD+ preparedness when examined at a national scale. Most of the REDD+ preparedness activities such as the

establishment of the REDD-IC, and different coordination mechanisms, preparation of the various outreach materials, Reference Emission Level/Reference level, and MRV were conducted mostly in the center. Besides, their participation in the implementation of few sub-national level projects, local communities were consulted during the preparation of the national documents. In addition, the outreach and capacity building programme of the REDD-IC has been done in 43 districts reaching out to over 10,000 people conducted after the R-Package assessment activities was completed. All these resulted into relatively poor evaluation of the REDD+ preparedness at the district and regional levels.

Simple statistical analysis showed that 9% of participants rated the overall REDD preparedness (for all 34 criteria) in GREEN, 42% in YELLOW, 39% in ORANGE and 10% in RED category at Dhangadi (Far Western Development Region). The rating was slightly poorer in the case of Regional Workshop held at Nepalgunj (Mid Western Development Region), with 8% in GREEN, 28% in YELLOW, 53% in ORANGE and 11% in RED zone. The R-Package team conducted individual rating for all 34 criteria in Regional consultations at two places. The result showed that Dhangadi is slightly better than Nepalgunj. The reason might be because of the many ongoing REDD+ related activities in Dhangadi by various organizations/programs (e.g. TAL program, RECOFTC). However, overall rating of most of the criteria are green mainly because most of the preparedness activities were carried out at national level and documents review satisfied most of the assessment criteria.

Focused Group Discussion

Three separate focus group discussions with various CSOs, IPOs, I/NGOs, federations, interest groups etc. were held in Kathmandu. Most of participants at FGD were central level organizations who were involved in implementing various REDD+ activities.

While groups were designed to be separated by specialization, some mixing of groups occurred. Each group shared their experiences and lessons learned with REDD+ programs. Results from the District and Development Regional level consultations were shared and an informal session was conducted to get participants ranking of REDD+ readiness using the 4 components and 9 sub components frameworks. Results from the first focus group discussion were also shared with each successive focus group discussion participants. This allowed latter interest groups to compare their rankings with those of previous groups. Results of other countries going through the R-Package process were also shared, especially from Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Guyana.

Overall REDD+ awareness within the National focus groups was higher than the general public consultations based on their professional involvement in either REDD+ programs or participation in REDD+ training and awareness programs. Ranking varied by group composition, with greater understanding of the REDD+ structure and technical issues such as Reference Emission Level (R ELs)/Reference Level (RLs) and Monitoring, Reporting and verifications (MRVs) by professional forestry groups, with indigenous peoples and civil

society groups raising more concerns about Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), representation, benefit sharing, full and effective participation, customary tenure rights and governance. I/NGOs involved in current or recent REDD+ programs had a greater all around understanding of REDD+ readiness and preparedness, based usually on active participation in on-going REDD+ projects. Overall color ranking was more green and yellow within the special interest groups compared to the district and development regional consultations.

The first focus group discussion with DNF Nepal, FEWUN, NAFAN, FEPFOS, ACOFUN, REDD-IC (observer) concluded with green colour for component 2. REDD+ Strategy options, and yellow color for other three components.



Figure 15: Picture of Focused group discussion in Kathmandu

The second group discussion with NFA, NEFUG, Youth Alliance demonstrated better assessment than focus groups discussions earlier. It depicted all yellow for three subcomponents under components 3 and 4. Two yellow marking for subcomponents 1b and 2 c. Rest 4 subcomponents were rated green. The FCPF CSO observer Mr. Dil Raj Khanal, presented at the consultation, opined that the Strategy preparation of the Nepal is exemplary when compared with other FCPF countries in the Asia and Pacific.

The third group discussion with I/NGOs comprised of ICIMOD, ANSAB, WWF/Hariyo Ban, RECOFTC-Nepal etc. demonstrated increased understanding and ranked all categories with higher rankings and colors. All subcomponents under components 1 and 2 were marked as green, components 3 as yellow (but near to green) and components 4 as the yellow. This is probably because this groups is involved in direct REDD+ implementation and has greater understanding of the mechanism through their own actions.

Facilitation of the Assessment Process

The workshops were facilitated by qualified facilitators with doctoral degree in forestry over 20 years' experiences in the forestry sectors in Nepal. The participants were first briefed about the REDD+ process in the workshop. Various assessment criteria and indicators under all 4 components and 9 subcomponents were clearly explained prior to collectively letting them to assess the REDD+ preparedness of Nepal through group exercises.

The REDD-IC monitored the consultation process by attending some of the consultation workshops. Senior officials from the REDD-IC were present in all central level consultation workshops .

3.3 Communicating and Disseminating the Assessment Outcomes

Synthesis of the Outcomes

The outcomes of the all consultations were synthesized. The summary of the multistakeholder process, assessment results, major gaps and future way forward was prepared and discussed with REDD-IC and other experts time to time, mostly after completion of the each level consultation workshops.

Dissemination and Validation

The outcome of the R-Package assessment was broadly disseminated through the webpage of the REDD-IC for public comments and feedback. A national level R-Package validation workshop was organized to share and validate the outcomes of the assesment with important national level stakeholders of the REDD+.

R-Package Validation Workshop

The national information sharing and validation workshop on R-package was organized at Kathmandu on 14 July, 2015. The national workshop had 33 participants representing all major stakeholders. Senior official from the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation, all five departments of the Ministry, REDD-IC, Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment and various I/NGOs (such as ICIMOD, WWF, IUCN, RECOFTC), civil society organizations (DANAR, ACOFUN), indigenous peoples organizations, independent researchers and journalists from the important national newspaper actively participated in the workshop. The workshop was conducted with the objectives to:

- Share the results and outcomes of the various consultations (district, regional and FGDs) to the key stakeholders at central level;

- Share and discuss the overall outcome of the 'R-Package' assessment and its validation; and
- Seek approval the R-Package assessment report.

The process and outcomes of the consultations workshop conducted at the district, regional and central level (Focus group discussions) were thoroughly described and presented in the workshop by M&E expert Dr. Rajendra K.C. The team leader of the study team, Mr. Brian Peniston elaborated overall ranking methods and presented the overall assessment of the various components, sub-components and criteria based on the 18 different consultations, extensive document review and formal and informal interactions with various stakeholders/officials.

The assessment results demonstrating the varied levels of the REDD+ preparedness at the districts and regional level were thoroughly discussed in the workshop. Attempts were made to explore the reasons for relatively weaker performance in few districts compared to many districts which have advanced level of the REDD+ awareness and engagement. A large number of the capacity building and outreach programme had been implemented by REDD-IC (previously REDD-Cell), indigenous peoples(NEFIN), I/NGOs and civil society organizations in the past, however the focus of the programme were mostly in piloted/ project districts presenting those districts had brought the best results compared to the low level of the awareness in less project intervened districts. The workshop concluded that the overall national level preparedness is better than the local people's assessment on R-Package. All participants agreed upon that the large sections of the society are informed about the broad level REDD+ and climate change mechanisms. However, in most of the cases, the technical level information was rather weak.



Figure 16: Picture of a final sharing workshop

The national workshop agreed on the well preparedness of the country in REDD+ implementation. All participants, from the government, indigenous peoples, to civil society organizations, thanked the R-Package team for the honest assessment of the country's preparedness. They further approved/validated the R-package assessment and recommended to finalize the R-Package assessment report as soon as possible. The workshop suggested to include the private sector in the national REDD+ mechanism, include issues of watershed conservation, and extend the programme into the Terai (eastern) and high mountain regions of the country. The workshop concluded with the note that the country is ready to implement a full fledged REDD+ programme. While significant challenges and issues remain, the broad based, inclusive and participatory preparedness of the REDD+ mechanism in Nepal was considered exemplary for many developing countries. The workshop finally approved the key findings of the R-Package assessment.

3.4 Overall Rating and Analysis of the Results of the REDD+ Preparedness of Nepal

The R-Package Assessment Team considered the outcomes of the various consultations while doing overall assessment in each sub component. The review of large number of the documents related to the REDD+ mechanism, various informal discussion with several stakeholders and independent assessment of the REDD-IC working styles were also included in the final grading of the country status. In the light of the widely distributed and functional community-based forest management paradigms, strong indigenous peoples and civil society organizations, extremely large number of the public consultations, the team concluded that the country is ready for the implementation of the REDD+ programme as there has been good progress in most of the criteria.

When conducting the R-Package, a total of 18 consultations were conducted. An Inception workshop took place on 19 February 2015 to describe the R-Package process and solicit inputs on proposed consultations. In March and April 2015, 9 district and 5 regional level workshops were conducted. In July 2015, one remaining District level workshop was conducted (postponed due to Nepal's earthquakes) and 3 Focus Groups Discussion were conducted. Finally, a closing level workshop was conducted on 14 July 2015 to present the draft Final R-Package report and solicit final comments and suggestions.

Based on the R-Package consultations, the conclusion is that REDD+ awareness is high in districts where on-going project activities have been taking place (5 districts). Knowledge remains more limited in 2 districts where some awareness activities were conducted, and awareness levels are very low in districts where no activities have taken place (3 districts). Unrelated to the FCPF R-Package process, in May, June and July 2015, the REDD-IC conducted extensive REDD+ awareness workshops and consultations in 43 districts, dramatically increasing the number of people exposed to the REDD+ concept and

mechanism. These consultations occurred after the R-Package Consultations took place, and the results are not included here.

In contrast, overall awareness on climate change adaptation is broader and more comprehensive across the general population, especially when local level and local language extension materials have been prepared and used, and where Training of Trainers programs have taken place. Linking expanded REDD+ awareness training with the more broadly disseminated Local Adaptation Plan of Actions (LAPA) and Community Adaptation Plan of Actions (CAPA) planning processes can easily and cost effectively expand awareness with limited cost and time burdens. While knowledge of the REDD+ mechanism remains limited, awareness among the general population on forest degradation and conservation issues is good, again suggesting potential linkages to expand awareness levels effectively.

During the R-Package Regional Level workshops, Regional Directors and District Forest Officers participated and again awareness levels varied by levels of prior exposure and whether or not individuals had direct experience working on REDD+ pilot activities, or had participated in the REDD+ Strategy Preparation Consultations. Generally foresters had some general knowledge of the REDD+ mechanism, but often not of operational details. Civil society organizations and Indigenous Peoples Organizations at both District and Regional levels also had some exposure to the REDD+ concept, the mechanism and its implementation. Where prior exposure to REDD+ had occurred, a number of civil society actors and indigenous peoples had extremely detailed knowledge of REDD+, ranging the full continuum from knowledge on grassroots level issues to issues current debated at UNFCCC and IPCC negotiations.



Figure 17: Picture of a Consultation workshop

3.5 Results of the multi-stakeholder self-assessment

Subcomponent: 1a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements

Table 9: Results of the multi-stakeholder self-assessment

Criteria and Assessment color coding		Strengths	Weaknesses	Areas for improvement
1	Account ability and transparency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of multitier coordination mechanism such as the Apex body (Chair: Minister of Forest and Soil Conservation), REDD Working Group (Chair: Secretary of Forest and Soil Conservation), REDD-IC etc. - Establishment and operation of the REDD Multi stakeholder Forum, National IPO and CSO alliance. - Running fully functional REDD-IC web page with complete information related to decisions taken at various stages, publication of the payments details prior to actual payment - Agenda for the meeting distributed sufficient prior to meeting and the decision taken also circulated publicly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The infrequent meetings of the Apex body and its huge size (49 members from 11 ministries). - Low number of the representation from non-government sector in REDD working group (3 out of 12). - Frequent transfer of the REDD-IC staffs - No representation of the women, Dalit and Private Sector in RWG. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reconstruction of the APEX Body need to be considered when National Entity will be established before the ERPA is signed. - APEX Body meets twice in a year. - APEX Body need to be made more inclusive with representative from the private sector women, Dalit and Private Sector in RWG.

2	Operating mandate and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government has established the REDD-IC for overall REDD+ implementation and coordination, which has operating mandate. - The FCPF, UN-REDD and GoN are contributing for the implementation budget of the REDD IC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actual disbursements of the REDD funding from some development partners are less than their commitment in RPP. - Low government budget. - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government should allocate more budget in REDD+ programs. - REDD IC needs to be capacitated for implementation of the second phase of the readiness more effectively and efficiently. - National Entity need to be established, which will work closely with various development partners to get financial support for the implementation of the ER Program
3	Multi-sector coordination mechanisms and cross-sector collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The government ensures the multisector coordination in REDD+ mechanism, promotes the participation of all relevant government and non-government partners from the commencement of the programme. - Government promotes Multi-Stakeholder participant in all forestry plans and programme. - Establishment and operation of REDD multi-stakeholder forums, REDD+ CSOs & IPOs Alliance and REDD experts working groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Difficult to engage sufficient relevant partners from the field level for the central level planning and strategy preparation. - Expectation from the non-government partners are very high compared to available budget basket. - Weak cross-sectoral collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multi-sectoral coordination mechanism need to be strengthened. - Cross-sectoral collaboration plan need to be developed and implemented.

4	Technical supervision capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strong and dedicated team at the REDD-IC deputed by the GoN/MFSC. - Highly skilled man-power with higher academic degrees at REDD-IC demonstrated technical capacity in coordinating, supervising and implementing REDD+ activities. - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Frequent transfer of few technical staffs at the REDD-IC. - Limited supportive Staff and their capacity - Inadequate technical supervision capacity at the district level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All staff working at the REDD IC should not be transferred for at least two years. - Technical and managerial capacity of the staff at the REDD IC and at district level must be improved through providing relevant trainings and learning opportunities.
5	Funds management capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The REDD-IC has satisfactory fund management capacity within the limited authority. - National accounting and auditing systems in place to minimize the fiduciary risks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low consumption capacity of the country is also reflected at the REDD IC - Minor cases of unintended misappropriation (Beruju) exist. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fund management capacity of the REDD IC need to be improved.
6	Feedback and grievance redress mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final report of the study on feedback and GRM is available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feedback and GRM has not been operationalized. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feedback and GRM must be operationalized during the next phase of the readiness and implementation phase.

Subcomponent: 1b. Consultation, Participation, and Outreach

Criteria No and Assessment color coding		Strengths	Weaknesses	Areas for improvement
7	Participation and engagement of key stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active participation of all key stakeholders in the REDD+ process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No clear distinction among the stakeholders, right holders and interest groups. - Different stakeholders have different interest - Stakeholders participation at local level is limited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Efforts need to be made to distinguish stakeholders, right holders and interest groups - Local level participation must be improved - After the local level election, local governance representatives need to be fully engaged in the decision making process of any REDD+ related programs
8	Consultation processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - About 2,70,000 people consulted on REDD+ issues by different stakeholders. - Parent organizations of LFGs/CFUGs, Indigenous communities are regularly consulted. - REDD+ desk established in many districts. - All REDD+ documents and strategy prepared with larger consultation. - Readiness campaigns conducted in 43 additional districts. - Some Local language extension materials and radio programs developed. - Developed 450 LRPs on REDD+ to facilitate local consultation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relatively little consultation with women, marginalized, disadvantaged and indigenous peoples, at grass root level. - Insufficient use of mass media tools. - Insufficient use of the extension materials in local languages. - FPIC principle has not been fully implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation process should continue and it should be wider and wider in coming years. - Principle of FPIC must be implemented. - Extension and outreach materials need to be made available in Nepali language.

9	Information sharing and accessibility of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All information are uploaded in REDD-IC webpage. - Several REDD+ related documents, brochures, leaflets etc prepared and distributed (free of costs). - Several IPOs, I/NGOs and CSOs also disseminating REDD + information. - Existence and use of local FMs in information sharing (mostly in local languages). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Most of the information is in English and only at the central level - There is no information sharing culture in government as well as in other stakeholders' organization - Information (printed materials) on REDD+ has not reached to the drastic and community level - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Major documents (Study reports, policies, strategy, and programs) related to the REDD+ must be translated into Nepali language - Arrangement need to be made to send all the information to the district and community level - Information sharing culture need to be developed in government as well as other stakeholders' organizations.
10	Implementation and public disclosure of consultation outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compulsory provisions to make sufficient public consultation during development of the REDD+ documents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a trend of conducting consultation to fulfill the target – consultation for the sack of consultation - In most cases, suggestions, feedbacks and comments received during the consultations are not incorporated in the final outcomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation need to be made more useful in coming years. - A mechanism must be developed so that suggestions, feedbacks, and comments received during the consultation process are well incorporated in the final outcomes. - Principle of FPIC must be implemented in the consultation process.

Subcomponent:2a. Assessment of LandUse, Land-Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance

Criteria No and Assessment color coding	Strengths	Weaknesses	Areas for improvement
11 Assessment and analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment and analysis on different policies and customary rights have completed Incorporating all historical data, management regimes, forest tenure and contemporary forest policies, laws and strategies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment and analysis might have not covered all customary rights of indigenous peoples and natural resource management activities implemented by them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The assessment and analysis must continue and must cover wider geographical area to find out the more customary practice on natural resource management.
12 Prioritization of direct and indirect drivers/barriers to forest carbon stock enhancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Major drivers and barriers have been identified in the R-PP, other studies conducted during the readiness phase and ER-PIN submitted, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prioritization of direct and indirect drivers/barriers to forest carbon stock enhancement has not yet been done. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prioritization of the drivers/barriers need to be done in coming years in national level and during the ER-PD development process for the 12 ER-program districts in the Terai Arc Landscape.
13 Links between drivers/barriers and REDD+ activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - REDD+ strategy is formulated based on the various studies on drivers of the DD - 12 working strategies were developed based that considers to reduce the causes of DD and future demands for forest products. - ER-PIN developed on the basis of the links between drivers/barriers and REDD+ activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Links shown are more subjective rather than objective - Empirical analysis has not been done 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quantitative analysis of drivers and links between the REDD+ activities and drivers must be encouraged.

14	Action plans to address natural resource rights, land tenure, governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community based forest management systems well organized/legalized. - Clear provisions of the communities and government tenure rights on forest products on all CBFM. - REDD+ strategy and other REDD+ documents such as SESA. - Suggested holistic approach. - Land use policy in place. - Many legal provisions to control deforestation and degradation. - Strong and active people's participation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No action plans to address natural resource rights, land tenure yet. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clear, concise and harmonized law and policy action plan to address the issues of natural resource rights, land tenure and governance need to be developed according to the constitution and national and state level legal frameworks in coming years whenever possible
15	Implications for forest law and policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inter-sectoral Policies on Biodiversity, Low Carbon Development, Agriculture. Climate Change Policy in place. - Recently implemented National Forest Policy-2015 provides due emphasis on REDD+ mechanism. - REDD+ is the highest priority (P1) programmer - Nepal Signatory to many international agreements, e.g. UNFCCC, BD Convention, Kyoto Protocol, Ramras Conventions, UN Convention to Combat against Desertification, ILO 169, UNDRIP, Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of long term implications for forest law and policy of draft REDD+ strategy has not yet done. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Long term implications for forest law and policy of the REDD+ strategy must be assessed in future whenever possible.

Subcomponent: 2b. REDD+ StrategyOptions

No.	Criteria	Strengths	Weaknesses	Areas for improvement
16	Selection and prioritization of REDD+ strategy options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strong Mission, vision and objectives related to carbon and non-carbon benefits. - Benefits sharing mechanisms recommended. - Links with non-carbon benefits, policy harmonization and forest management. Systems strong 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No prioritization of the REDD+ strategy options have been done. 	Prioritization of the REDD+ strategy options should be done before the implementation phase commences
17	Feasibility assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Result of multiple studies. - SESA and other impacts considered. - Positive and negative risks outlined. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft REDD+ strategy options have not been assessed and prioritized for their social, environmental and political feasibility, risks and opportunities, and cost and benefit analysis of the options have not been done 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inconsistencies identified need to be resolved before implementation of the REDD+ strategies.
18	Implications of strategy options on existing sectoral policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inconsistencies identified and described. - Support broader integrated goals. - Good community support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Timeline not developed. - The draft REDD+ Strategy not widely disseminated yet (especially Nepali translation). 	

Subcomponent: 2c. Implementation Framework

Criteria No and Assessment color coding		Strengths	Weaknesses	Areas for improvement
19	Adoption and implementation of legislation/regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are number of legislations/regulations related to the REDD+ which have been adopted - Environmental and Social Management Framework in place. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specific REDD+ legislation/regulations have not yet been developed except the draft REDD+ strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specific or separate REDD+ legislation/regulation need to be developed in future if necessary. - When the mechanism is finalized, it will be implemented in a transparent way. - The system need to be operational before the REDD+ implementation commences.
20	Guide lines for implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft REDD+ implementation framework is prepared. - Use existing structures. - Involve multiple stakeholders. - Enhance local UG representation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Issues of carbon rights and benefit sharing mechanism and REDD+ financing modalities have not yet been finalized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lot of works need to be done in finalization of the implementation framework.
21	Benefit-sharing mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A draft benefit sharing mechanism is proposed - Demonstration of transparency cannot be seen until it is implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The mechanism is not finalized and there is no full agreement regarding the proposed mechanism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Benefit sharing mechanism should be finalized
22	National REDD+ registry and monitoring system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Works on REDD+ registry and system monitoring is on progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The system is not yet developed and operational. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - needs to be developed and operationalized

Subcomponent: 2d. Social and Environmental Impacts

Criteria No and Assessment color coding	Strengths	Weaknesses	Areas for improvement
23	Analysis of social and environmental safeguard issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SESA process finalized. - Participatory design. - Comprehensive and inclusive. - CSO and IPO involved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SESA was conducted before the REDD+ strategy was finalized
24	REDD+ strategy design with respect to impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SESA process finalized. - Participatory design. - Comprehensive and inclusive. - CSO and IPO involved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harmonization of REDD+ strategy and SESA might be necessary. - Prioritization of SESA options. - Develop a strategy to avoid misuse of FGRM. - Clearly state what options could address what drivers systematically. - Develop a standard Free, -Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) mechanism.
25	Environmental and Social Management Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - REDD+ strategy options and SESA have been finalized - ESAMU designed and being tested. - Links to Region and District established. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - REDD+ strategy has not yet been endorsed by the government. - Not fully operational.

Component 3: Reference EmissionsLevel/Reference Levels

Criteria No and Assessment color coding		Strengths	Weaknesses	Areas of improvement
26	Demonstration of methodology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sub national RL established and endorsed by the GoN and FCPF – through the ER-PIN for 12 districts of the Terai Arc Landscape - Recommendations developed to expand to National-level RELs. - National RL prepared - TAL RL is compatible with UNFCCC/IPCC. - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More central level, training needed at community level. - National RL developed has some weaknesses such as AD accuracy, degradation calculation and data consistency. - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Include all five carbon pools in the next iteration. - Suitable methodology need to be developed to estimate of emissions from forest degradation - Proposed national RL need to be improved.
27	Use of historical data, and adjustment for national circumstances			
28	Technical feasibility of the methodological approach, and consistency with UNFCCC/IPCC guidance and guidelines			

Subcomponent: 4a. National Forest MonitoringSystem

Criteria No and Assessment color coding		Strengths	Weaknesses	Areas of improvement
29	Documentation of monitoring approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Well-documented monitoring approach including remote-sensing and ground-based inventory methods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited central level technical depth. - Few staff trained. - Synchronized systems weak. - Designed systems not tested. - The system is not yet operational - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Share data with other stakeholder. - Release FRA reports of other regions. - Include Tree Outside Forest (TOF) and Private Forest. - Put greater emphasis on capacity building.
30	Demonstration of early system implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DFRS Designated as Central level body. - National system designed. 		
31	Institutional arrangements and capacities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FRA data could be used for future monitoring (especially verifications). 		

Subcomponent: 4b. Information System on Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards

Criteria No and Assessment color coding		Strengths	Weaknesses	Areas of improvement
32	Identification of relevant non-carbon aspects, and social and environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FRA proposes Open Source Data system. - Sub National system piloted and operational. - Within TAL sharing Ok. - National system designed but not tested. - DFRS Designated as Central level body. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of field tests for national system. - Limited Capacity of DFRS officials. - Limited National level sharing. - Limited central level technical depth. - Few staff trained. - Synchronized systems weak. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The participatory and inclusive community based MMR guidelines need to be developed - Organize technical trainings to related stakeholders - Provide higher education opportunities to DFRS and other staffs - Develop monitoring system with SMART indicators for Non-Carbon Benefits (NCBs). - Improve inclusion and representation of wider stakeholder. - Sub-national experience need to scale up to National. - Recognise rights of forest use, tenure and customary right. - Follow bottom up approach and involve ethnic minority, women and forest dependent communities.
33	Monitoring, reporting and information			
34	Institutional arrangements and capacities			

4.0 Conclusions

The REDD+ Readiness Package is the result of a participatory multi-stakeholder self-assessment, by REDD+ stakeholders involved in the REDD+ process in Nepal, plus a thorough review of documents and reports prepared since Nepal started the REDD+ process in 2008. It reflects the consensus stemming from all 18 of the consultations that took place between February 2015 and July 2015 with stakeholders (See chapter 3 and annex for detailed of consultations). It followed the process outlined in the Readiness Package Assessment Framework (FCPF, 2013). Of the 34 criteria, significant progress (green) was made on 15 of the 34 identified criteria, with satisfactory process on 13 criteria (yellow), and 6 criteria (orange). Areas to improve have been identified throughout the report, but they include the Feedback and Grievance and Redress Mechanism, the benefits sharing mechanism, determining carbon rights, clarifying customary rights for indigenous peoples and forest dependent communities and development of monitoring mechanism for non-carbon benefits. These are important as the country moves towards adapting a new Constitution that address some of the wrongs as perceived by exclusion of the poor, vulnerable communities, Indigenous Peoples, women and other disadvantaged minorities. Until this is addressed, there may be significant challenges for broad community level support and endorsement of the REDD+ process in Nepal.

The R-Package result shows that the Government of Nepal has made significant progress in preparing for REDD+ Readiness. However, more clarification, consultation and engagement is required in several criteria and steps for additional action remain. This is an expected normal place for countries to end up at by the end of the Readiness phase, particularly for an evolving instrument as REDD+. Based on the significant progress in many areas as measured by the 34 criteria, it can be concluded that Nepal is ready to proceed to the implementation phase with the caveat that several of these areas of weakness continue to be addressed. Particular attention needs to be paid to 1) improving of the Feedback and Grievance and Redress mechanism, 2) improving the national forest reference level, 3) design and testing of a Trust Fund for Forest Carbon that incorporates transparent and accountable management systems, and also emphasizes equitable and broad benefits sharing between Government, local communities, indigenous peoples and key civil society actors.

Given Nepal's significant progress, it appears that few obstacles remain to overcome in order for Nepal to advance to the Implementation Phase of the REDD+ process and initiate pilot emission reduction programs using result-based payment systems. This requires additional inputs to finalize Nepal's REDD + Readiness.

In addition Nepal is expecting that there will be continued interest and support from the FCPF Participants Committee to validate this assessment and permit Nepal to proceed into the implementation Phase of REDD+. It is also expected that purchase agreements for the expected emission reductions generated by the Terai Arc Landscape REDD+ activities can

rapidly be put into place and field tested, allowing Nepal to proceed to developing REDD+ projects in other critically threatened landscapes including mountain forests whose opportunity costs is low for carbon forestry projects. Rapid progress is highly desirable as Nepal faces critical challenges immediately following the recent earthquakes that have caused immense challenges in forest conservation as demand for timber and land for relocation have increased substantially. Advancement in these areas will help Nepal provide verifiable and validated emission reductions as well as many other non-carbon benefits desperately needed to provide critical ecosystem services such as hydrologic regulation and landslide risk reduction following the earthquake.

5.0 Course of further REDD+ Readiness

While Nepal has made significant progress on REDD+ Readiness, there are some readiness activities to be continued. Some of such activities include strengthening institutional capacity, operationalization of feedback and grievance redress mechanism, refinement of the national Reference Level incorporating new Forest Resource Assessment data, development of national and regional MRV system with National Forest Information system (NFIS), establishment of the Safeguard Information System, preparation for the sustainable management of Terai forests, especially in the 12 districts of the proposed ER-Program area, capacity building of all relevant stakeholders, and making conducive environment for active involvement of the private sector in forest management.

For the ongoing process of implementing readiness activities, REDD IC on behalf of the Government of Nepal requested FCPF Participant Committee, at PC20 in November 2015, for additional readiness fund of US\$ 5 million. Participant Committee's decision to allocate additional \$5 million through Resolution PC/20/2015/3 is greatly appreciated by the Government of Nepal.

Once the Grant Agreement is signed between the World Bank and Nepal, additional funding would be used to implement the activities proposed at the time of requesting additional funding; address weaknesses and gaps identified through R-Package assessment process; and follow any recommendations to be received from TAP and PC during the R-Package review and endorsement process. Similarly, the issues PC encouraged Nepal to take into account will be fully respected in the next phase of REDD+ Readiness. Those issues, as listed in the co-chair's summary, are:

- Adjust the REDD+ work program, including benefit sharing approaches, to the new federal structure, as necessary. Note, however, that Nepal's federal structures and detail roles and powers of different levels of government are not clear yet (and not sure when they will be clear); hence, such updating is meaningful only after clarity in

political structure. Due to this, REDD IC has constraint of producing time line for updating readiness studies as it hinges overall on state restructuring and political clarity.

- Address capacity needs and incentivize long term staffing in the REDD+ implementation center.
- Continue to enhance capacity building, timely dissemination of information, and awareness raising of local stakeholders, especially indigenous peoples and local communities.
- Improve coordination in the development of the safeguard information system and SESA/ESMF.
- Improve coordination of forestry and REDD+ related work supported by other development partners.
- Strengthen national and local level grievance redress mechanisms.

Table 10: Proposed Readiness activities under FCPF Additional Funding

	<u>Component 1: Readiness Organization and Consultation</u>
No.	Sub-component 1a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements
1	Follow up on current readiness studies, revise existing policies as required, identify gap further work, and integrate institutional set up req, and operationalize district level REDD Working Group in 12 ER Program districts.
2	Operationalize Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism (FGRM), including development of FGRM guidelines with clear role and responsibility of each stakeholder
3	Additional Readiness Funding management, including enhancing technical supervision capacity, fund management capacity and procurement capacity of REDD IC.
	<u>Sub-component 1b. Consultation, Participation and Outreach</u>
4	Conduct targeted consultations for awareness raising and capacity building of relevant stakeholders on FCPF supported REDD+ activities (to be managed by IPOs, CBOs, and FUGs)
5	Conduct targeted consultations for awareness raising and capacity building of district level MoOFSC officials on FCPF supported REDD+ activities (to be managed by government agencies)
6	Publish abridged version of readiness study findings in Nepali and English, and disseminate nationwide.
	<u>Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation</u>
	Sub-component 2a. Assessment of Land-Use, Land-Use Change, Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance
7	Assessment of timber market and supply system in order to develop recommendations for a smooth and sustainable timber supply system, including revision of timber royalty based on local and international markets
	Subcomponent 2b. REDD+ Strategy Options

9	Assessment of private sector engagement in REDD+ in general and ER Program in particular
10	Revise and prepare district forest management plans and operational plans in 12 districts of ER program area
11	Assess forest based enterprises, develop enterprise database, and prepare long term program for promoting forest based livelihood, and micro and macro enterprises
12	Prepare operational guidelines for silvicultural practices for sustainable forest management
13	Prepare a program for enhancing nature based tourism and community resilience
	Subcomponent 2c. Implementation Framework
13	Design of Emission Reduction Program based on ER-PIN of 12 districts of Nepal Terai (including safeguards and consultations)
14	Develop REDD fund flow mechanism and its operationalization
15	Prepare cost and benefit sharing plan
16	Develop and institutionalize carbon registry mechanism
	Subcomponent 2d. Social and Environmental Impacts
17	Prepare and operationalize Safeguard Information System
	<u>Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels</u>
18	Update national RL/REL with information from FRA result
	<u>Component 4: Monitoring System for Forests and Safeguards</u>
	Subcomponent 4a: National Forest Monitoring System
19	Develop allometric equations (volume/biomass equations) and for fuelwood and timber of 16 major species
20	Technical capacity building of government staff and relevant stakeholders on Reference Level, MRV and other aspects of REDD+
21	Expand National Forest Database and National Forest Information System currently under development under the Readiness Grant(District level infrastructure development, computer hardware and software)
22	Re-measure permanent sample plots and establish new plots if needed
23	DFRS Office support, equipment, IT and database experts
24	Revise and update participatory monitoring and reporting tools and formats/ Implementation
	Subcomponent 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards
25	Develop MRV system of major non-carbon benefits or multiple benefits

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UN-REDD, 2015. Review of Institutions and Policy, Legal and Regulatory Context Pertaining to REDD+ in Nepal. Draft Report.

Annexes 1: Reports of major studies conducted during the Readiness Phase

(Note: reports submitted separately)

- 1) A report on Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism
- 2) A report on outreach and capacity building
- 3) REDD+ Training Manual for mid-level professionals
- 4) REDD+ training manual
- 5) Economic Model to Forecast Future Rates of Deforestation and forest Degradation in Nepal
- 6) Study on Drivers of Deforestation and Degradation of Forests in High Mountain Regions of Nepal
- 7) The Demand and Supply of Wood Products in Different Regions of Nepal
- 8) Role of Forest on Climate change adaptation
- 9) Documentation and assessing customary practices of managing forest resources at local level
- 10) National REDD+ Strategy (Draft)
- 11) Institutional and Cost-Benefit-Sharing Arrangement In 12 TAL districts
- 12) Study of Forest Carbon Ownership in Nepal
- 13) Nepal REDD+ Implementation Framework
- 14) Draft Report on SESA and ESMF
- 15) National Forest Reference Level
- 16) National Forest Monitoring System

Annex 2 REDD+ related studies/ reports published by different organizations

Produced by REDD Implementation Centre

All of the following reports are available at: http://mofsc-redd.gov.np/?page_id=14

- MMR guideline Final RDF_31122015
- Institutional and Cost Benefit Sharing Arrangement for Implementation of Emission Reductions Programme in 12 TAL Districts of Nepal
- Report on Economic Modeling to Forecast Future Rate of Deforestation and Degradation in Nepal
- Report on Forest Carbon Ownership
- Report on Nepal REDD+ Implementation Framework
- Report on REDD+ Grievance Redress Mechanism
- Nepal REDD+Strategy – Draft
- Customary Practices

- 2015 02 05 Nepal-Forest-RL-Revised-Final-Report
- Nepal-Forest-RL-Report

- Report on Drivers of Deforestation and Degradation

- Full Cost Proposal document
- Full Cost Proposal Summary Report
- Institutional Assessment Report
- MRV Geographic Information System Data Catalog
- MRV IT and GIS Platform Report
- MRV Nepal User Manual
- MRV System Nepal organization and HR requirements
- MRV-FinalReports
- Nested Approach Report
- Report on Capacity Needs for Community Carbon Monitoring
- Report on WISDOM model

- REDD Inception presentation 15 August
- Inception Report

- Nepal REDD SESA report Final revision (6 Aug 2014)
- Nepal REDD ESMF Final revision (6 August 2014)

- Nepal's Readiness Preparation Proposal REDD 2010-2013
- RPP Executive Summary (Nepali)

- Nepali translated version of REDD+ Strategy framework structure of Nepal
- REDD Strategy Framework

- Reference Material on REDD+ Training (Nepali)
- REDD+ Training Mannual for Community Levell
- REDD+ Training Mannual for Mid Level
- Forest Carbon Inventory Guidelines (Nepali) 2011

- REDD+ SES Nepal Version 2014 – Nepali (Feb. 2014)
- REDD+SES Nepal Version 2014 – English (Feb. 2014)

- Study on Drivers of Deforestation and Degradation of Forests in High Mountain Regions of Nepal
- Study on Invasive Alien Species (IAS) as Drivers to Deforestation and Degradation of Forests in Different Physiographic Regions of Nepal
- A Study on The Demand and Supply of Wood Products in Different Regions of Nepal
- Environmental Safeguards in Forestry Projects

- Invasive and Alien Species as Drivers
- Drivers of Deforestation in High Mountains
- Demand and supply of wood products

- REDD Terminology (Nepali)
- Brochures on REDD

- Nepal RPP Monitoring & Evaluation Framework

- REDD plus feasibility study
- REDD plus piloting Report
- Role of forest on climate change adaptation Report

Produced by NEFIN

Number	Studies/reports	Website links
1	Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples Concern in Nepal - without hard cover	
2	Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples Concern in Nepal -with hard cover	
3	समुदायमाआधारित रेडप्लस आदिवासीजनजाति समुदायकालागिनिर्देशिका(Community Based REDD+ A manual for Indigenous Communities)	
4	रेडप्लस स्वतन्त्र, अग्रिमजानकारी सहितको मञ्जुरी आदिवासीजनजाति समुदायकालागितालिमनिर्देशिका(Training Manual on Free, Prior	

	and Informed Consent (FPIC) in REDD+ for Indigenous Peoples)	
5	स्वतन्त्र, अग्रिमजानकारी सहितको मञ्जुरी कार्यान्वयनकालागि संयन्त्रनिर्माण निर्देशिका(Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)	
6	जलवायु परिवर्तन र रेडप्लस सम्बन्धीजनवकालत र पैरवीकालागि:आदिवासीजनजातिहरुको क्षमताविकास तालिमनिर्देशिका(Advocacy & Lobby Manual)	
7	National Level Sharing & Dialogue on Indigenous Women's Issues & Concerns in Nepal (UN-Women) National Workshop Report	
8	Consultaion and dialogue of Indigenous peoples on forest reltated policies and strategies	
9	जलवायु परिवर्तन, रेडप्लस र आदिवासीजनजाति सम्बन्धमाजान्नैपर्ने कुराहरु(Frequently Ask Question Book)	
10	जलवायु परिवर्तन तथा रेड सम्बन्धमावनभूमि र आदिवासीजनजातिको अधिकार (अनुसन्धान पुस्तकभाग १)	
11	वनजंगल संरक्षण र दिगो व्यवस्थापनमाआदिवासीजनजातिहरुको भूमिका (अनुसन्धान पुस्तकभाग २)	
12	वनजंगल, प्राकृतिकश्रोतको संरक्षण र दिगो व्यवस्थापनमाप्रथाजनितकानुनतथा परम्पराको भुमिका (अनुसन्धान पुस्तकभाग ३)	
13	जङ्गल नै जिवन समुदायलाई ज्ञान(Cartoon Book)	
14	जलवायु परिवर्तन र रेड सम्बन्धमाआदिवासीजनजातिहरुको लागि प्रशिक्षण निर्देशिका	
15	के हो वन फँडानी तथावनको विनासबाट हुनेकार्वन उत्सर्जनको कटौती (रेड) ?-आदिवासीजनजाति समुदायकालागिपथप्रदर्शक पुस्तक	
16	Nepali indigenous peoples' perspective on climate change and REDD/REDD+ (Booklet) – English	
17	जलवायु परिवर्तन र रेड अवधारणाका सम्बन्धमा नेपालीआदिवासीजनजातिको दृष्टिकोण(Booklet) -Nepali	
18	Brochure (Old)	
19	Brochure (New)	
20	Newsletter	

21	Diary (Climate Change)	
22	Copy (Climate Change)	
23	Class-5-Curriculum Book	
24	Class-4- Curriculum Book	
25	Position paper	
26	Poster	
27	Understanding Climate Change (CD)	
28	Dura cultural on forest management (CD)	
29	REDD+ in Nepal, Indigenous Peoples' Experience and Learning नेपालमा रेडप्लस, आदिवासीजनजातिको अनुभव र सिकाई -CD	
30	MHITHEWA, An Indigenous Customary Sistem of Nishyangba in Nepal -CD	
31	Indigenous Peoples' Position on Forest Related Strategies (RRI CD)	
32	हाम्रो वन, हाम्रो जिवनOur Forest, Our Life - Cartoon CD	
33	जलवायु परिवर्तन र रेडमा आदिवासीजनजाति सरोकारNepali Indigenous Peoples' Perspective on Climate Change and REDD+ -CD	

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Number	Studies/reports	Website links
1	Chitwan Annapurna Landscape: Drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation	http://www.wwfnepal.org/hariyobanprogram/hariyo_ban_program_publications/?212398/Chitwan-Annapurna-Landscape-Drivers-of-Deforestation-and-Forest-Degradation#
2	Forest Carbon Assessment of Chitwan Annapurna Landscapes	Draft report ready (under process for printing)
3	Vulnerability Assessment of Hill Sal Forest	
4	SELECTING CLIMATE RESILIENT TREE SPECIES FOR FOREST RESTORATION IN THE	http://d2ouvy59p0dg6k.cloudfront.net/download/s/selecting_climate_resilient_tree_species_for_fo

Number	Studies/reports	Website links
	HIMALAYAN REGION OF NEPAL	rest restoration in the himalayan region .pdf
5	ANALYSIS OF AVAILABLE MODELS OF IMPROVED COOK STOVES (ICS) AND THEIR SUITABILITY IN DIFFERENT ECOLOGICAL ZONES IN NEPAL	http://www.wwfnepal.org/hariyobanprogram/hariyo_ban_program_publications/
6	Strategy and Action Plan: 2015-2025 Terai Arc Landscape, Nepal	http://www.wwfnepal.org/hariyobanprogram/hariyo_ban_program_publications/?259190/Strategy%2Dand%2DAction%2DPlan%2D2015%2D2025%2DTerai%2DArc%2DLandscape%2DNepal#
7	Climate-change Impacts on the Biodiversity of the Terai Arc Landscape and the Chitwan-Annapurna Landscape	http://www.wwfnepal.org/hariyobanprogram/hariyo_ban_program_publications/?259130/Climate-change-Impacts-on-the-Biodiversity--of-the-Terai-Arc-Landscape-and-the-Chitwan-Annapurna-Landscape#
8	Broom Grass: Rehabilitation of Forests Degraded by Shifting Cultivation/Slash and Burn Agriculture	http://www.wwfnepal.org/hariyobanprogram/hariyo_ban_program_publications/?252130/Broom-Grass-Rehabilitation-of-Forests-Degraded-by-Shifting-CultivationSlash-and-Burn-Agriculture#
9	रेडप्लसका सामाजिक एवं वातावरणीय मापदण्डका सिद्धान्त	http://www.wwfnepal.org/hariyobanprogram/hariyo_ban_program_publications/?223971/
10	जलवायु परिवर्तनको सन्दर्भमा प्राकृतिक श्रोत व्यवस्थापनमा लैंगिक र सामाजिक समावेशीकरण	http://www.wwfnepal.org/hariyobanprogram/hariyo_ban_program_publications/?223958/
11	Identifying Barriers to Dalit and Janajati Women's Successful Leadership in Community Based Forest Management in Nepal	http://www.wwfnepal.org/hariyobanprogram/hariyo_ban_program_publications/?212412/Identifying-Barriers-to-Dalit-and-Janajati-Womens-Successful-Leadership-in-Community-Based-Forest-Management-in-Nepal#
12	Training Needs Assessment and Training Strategy	http://www.wwfnepal.org/hariyobanprogram/hariyo_ban_program_publications/?212396/Training-Needs-Assessment-and-Training-Strategy#
13	Internal Governance Tool 3: Participatory Governance Assessment	http://www.wwfnepal.org/hariyobanprogram/hariyo_ban_program_publications/?209502/Internal-Governance-Tool-3-Participatory-Governance-Assessment#

Number	Studies/reports	Website links
14	Internal Governance Tool 2: Participatory Well-Being Ranking	http://www.wwfnepal.org/hariyobanprogram/hariyobanprogrampublications/?209501/Internal-Governance-Tool-2-Participatory-Well-Being-Ranking#
15	Internal Governance Tool 1: Public Hearing and Public Auditing	http://www.wwfnepal.org/hariyobanprogram/hariyobanprogrampublications/?209500/Internal-Governance-Tool-1-Public-Hearing-and-Public-Auditing#

Produced by RECOFTC/FECOFUN

Number	Studies/reports	Website links
A	Other Training manual and Guides	
1.	FPIC in REDD+ guidebook in Nepali	http://www.recoftc.org/project/grassroots-capacity-building-redd/training-manuals-and-guides/fpic-redd-guidebook-nepali
2.	Putting Free, Prior, and Informed Consent into Practice in REDD+ Initiatives-Nepali	http://www.recoftc.org/recoftc/download/22512/1792
B	Questions and Answers (A&A) Booklets:	
1.	Gender in REDD+: Q&A handbook – Nepali	http://www.recoftc.org/project/grassroots-capacity-building-redd/q-and/gender-redd-qa-handbook-nepali
2.	Forests and climate change after Durban-Nepali	http://www.recoftc.org/project/grassroots-capacity-building-redd/q-and/forests-and-climate-change-after-durban-nepali
3.	Climate change and our role-Nepali	http://www.recoftc.org/node/24882
4.	Climate Change, Forests, and You: Q & A handbook-Nepali	http://www.recoftc.org/project/grassroots-capacity-building-redd/q-and/climate-change-forests-and-you-qa-handbook-nepali
5.	FPIC in REDD+: A handbook for grassroots facilitators – Nepali	http://www.recoftc.org/recoftc/download/22579/1841
6.	Equity in climate change and REDD+: A handbook for grassroots facilitators – Nepali	http://www.recoftc.org/recoftc/download/48493/2863
7.	Grassroots Capacity Building for REDD+ in Asia Project Brochure – Nepali	http://www.recoftc.org/recoftc/download/22575/1833
8.	Social and environmental safeguards: Q and A booklets – To be uploaded	

9.	Booklet on lessons learnt from REDD+ in Nepal – Under peer review	
10.	Booklet on issues and concerns in REDD+ in Nepal- under peer review	
C	Books:	
1	Hamro Ban Sampada (Climate Change and REDD+ special issues)	www.forestation.org
2	Policy Brief :	
3	Grassroots capacity development for REDD+: Approaches and key lessons from Nepal	http://www.forestation.org/publications/view/158
4	Grassroots concerns and issues in REDD+ in Nepal – To be uploaded	
D	Occasional Paper	
1.	Outreaching REDD+ through Media Fellowship in Nepal	www.forestation.org/publications/view/191
2.	REDD+ <i>SoochanaaMelaa</i> : An Innovative Way of Creating Mass Awareness	www.forestation.org/publications/view/192
	Research Papers:	
1.	<u>Social equity in community forests: Two case studies from Nepal</u>	http://www.recoftc.org/project/grassroots-capacity-building-redd/research-papers/case-study-climate-change-and-redd-nepal ,
2.	<u>Case Study on Climate Change and REDD+ in Nepali</u>	http://www.recoftc.org/recoftc/download/22565/1817

Produced by WWF/YAE

Number	Studies/reports	Website links
1	REDD+ Readiness in Nepal- 2014	http://yae.org.np/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/REDD+-Readiness-in-Nepal-.pdf
2	Training Report- 2013	http://yae.org.np/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Final-Training-Report.pdf
3	Forest Carbon Inventory in SHL: A portrayal of ground realities	http://yae.org.np/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/YAEPublicationForestCarbonInventory.pdf

Annex 3: Participants List of the Stakeholder Consultations

1.1 Inception Workshop

First National Workshop on Development of R-Package and Assessment of REDD+ Readiness in Nepal				
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24	Prakash S. Thapa	REDD	Seasoniof@gmail.com	9858051877
25	Rajendra K.C.	Team member	rajendra.kc@fao.org	9851149420
26	Rajendra Kafle	REDD-IC	kafle_rajendra@hotmail.com	9849063904
27	Rajendra Neupane	DFO Gulmi	rneupane77@yahoo.com	9807064479
28	Rajesh Rai	SANDEE	rjerung@gmail.com	9840090613
29	Ram Hari Pantha	MoSTE	rhpantha@hotmail.com	9851150202
30	Rama Ale Magar	HIMAWANTI	rhimawanti@gmail.com	9851132808
31	Renuka Kaucha	INWYN	inwyn.nepal@gmail.com	9813520017
32	Resha Shrestha	YNF	reeshas@yahoo.com	9841517602
33	Riwaj Rai	Republica National Daily	riwajrai83@gmail.com	9841467727
34	Sagendra Tiwari	Forestry Expert	saagendra.tiwari@gmail.com	9841200659
35	Shankar Poudel	Rupantaran	s-poudel@rupantaran.org.np	9857010453
36	Suman Subedi	GGN	sunansub4@gmail.com	9841605561

37	Tika Ram Adhakari	DNPWC	tikaramadhakari.cw@gmail.com	9758000501
38	Tunga Bhadra Rai	NEFIN	tungarai@hotmail.com	9851069718
39	Urmila Sunuwaar	Himawanti	sunuwarurmila@gmail.com	
40	Yogendra Bijaya Dahal	FEWUN	forestunion12@gmail.com	9841444966

1.2 District/Regional Consultations

S.N.	Name	Gender	Designation	Organization	Phone No.	Ethnicity	District
1	Ganesh Raya	M	DFO	DFO, Kavre	9854035825	Madhesi	Kavre
2	Ram Kumar Bhandari	M	AFO	DFO, Kavre	9841331358	Others	Kavre
3	Bir Bahadur Shrestha	M	Member	Kalapani CFUG	9741264244	Indigenous	Kavre
4	Parbati Shrestha	F	Member	Kalapani CFUG	9849317768	Indigenous	Kavre
5	Bachhuram Pudasaini	M	AFO	Janagal Area Forest Office	9855068811	Others	Kavre
6	Thal Bahadur Waiba	M	Secretary	Ahlapakha CFUG	9741214135	Indigenous	Kavre
7	Durga Devi Rayamajhi	F	Member	Karmapunya CFUG	9844140673	Others	Kavre
8	Shekhar Lama	M	Chairperson	Leasehold Forest Group	9611149252	Indigenous	Kavre
9	Gita Dhakal	F	Member	Badarepakha CFUG	9843026367	Others	Kavre
10	Tara Magar	F	Member	Sardungpakha CFUG		Indigenous	Kavre
11	Kunsang Lama	M	Member	Saurepakha CFUG	9849470965	Indigenous	Kavre
12	Dalsur Moktan	M	Chairperson	Chautaroseltar Pakha CFUG	9741313440	Indigenous	Kavre
13	Surya Tamang	M	Member	Chisapani pakhure CFUG	9860040487	Indigenous	Kavre
14	Padam Tamang	M	Treasurer		9849470052	Indigenous	Kavre
15	Jagat Bahadur Tamang	M			9841329198	Indigenous	Kavre
16	Ramprasad Timalisina	M	Farmer	Private Nursery	9741000242	Others	Kavre
17	Gopal Prasad Timalisina	M	Secretary	Private Forest Network	9751008146	Others	Kavre
18	Ramkala Kunwar	F	Vice Chairperson	Private Forest Network	9849283866	Others	Kavre
19	Ambika Basnet	F	Member	Private Forest Network	9841753336	Others	Kavre
20	Bishnu Prasad Humagain	M	Staff	Sector Forest Office	9841486208	Others	Kavre
21	Keshab Prasad Acharya	M	Office Assistant	Sector Forest Office	9841909873	Others	Kavre
22	Santosh Mishra	M	Ranger	Sector Forest Office	9849572396	Madhesi	Kavre

23	Tek Bahadur Thapa Magar	M	Treasurer	Private Forest Network	9841181474	Indigenous	Kavre
24	Rabel Krishna Thapa	M	Farmer	Private Tree Grower	9841101112	Indigenous	Kavre
25	Bharat Pradhan	M	Member	Palkapa CFUG	9809136572	Indigenous	Kavre
26	Gagan Bahadur Bhandari	M	Member	Khaltepakha CFUG	9803216236	Others	Kavre
27	Saroj Prasad Dahal	M	Member	CFUG	9860656601	Others	Kavre
28	Bishal Sapkota	M	Member	CFUG	9843470842	Others	Kavre
29	Shyam Krishna Shrestha	M	Treasurer	CFUG	9849574079	Indigenous	Kavre
30	Rudra Bahadur Khadka	M	Farmer	Private Nursery	9849684979	Others	Kavre
31	Prabin Bajagain	M	Farmer	Private Nursery	9842974394	Others	Kavre
32	Baburam Aryal	M	AFO	Chaubas Area Forest Office	9841969048	Others	Kavre
33	Sabitri Thapaliya	F	Secretary	Lamidanda CFUG	9849934222	Others	Kavre
34	Maiya Rokaya	F	Treasurer	FECOFUN	9849442198	Others	Kavre
35	Hariram Sapkota	M	Member	Private Forest Network	9851044547	Others	Kavre
36	Binod Sapkota	M	G. Secretary	FECOFUN	9841522088	Others	Kavre
37	Gopal Krishna Rai Danuwar	M	Chairperson	NEFIN	9741033142	Indigenous	Kavre
38	Ram Ashish Sharma	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9842836870	Madhesi	Kavre
39	Padam Bahadur Tamang	M	Member	Private Forest Network	9741022298	Indigenous	Kavre
40	Rita Devi Sigdel	F	Member	Private Forest Network	9849317839	Others	Kavre
41	Shekhar Nath Dulal	M	Member	Private Forest Network	9741004177	Others	Kavre
42	Krishna Bahadur Thapa	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9841406415	Others	Kavre
43	Kanchharam Tamang	M	Advisor	NEFIN	9841536906	Indigenous	Kavre
44	Pasang Tamang	M	Farmer	Forest User	9611147442	Indigenous	Kavre
45	Jagannath Basnet	M	G. Secretary	FECOFUN	9754201327	Others	Dolakha
46	Dhruba Acharya	M	Secretary	FECOFUN	9844175748	Others	Dolakha
47	Rajendra Subedi	M	Dep. Clerk	District Forest Office	9844060459	Others	Dolakha
48	Ramji Basnet	M	Forester	District Forest Office	9741059976	Others	Dolakha
49	Sahadev Khadka	M	Secretary	FECOFUN	9803947415	Others	Dolakha
50	Jitendra Kumar Das	M	Forester	District Forest Office	9807635678	Madhesi	Dolakha

51	Sabina Rijal	F	Ranger	District Forest Office	9845296498	Others	Dolakha
52	Damodar Timalisina	M	IDO		9741018717	Others	Dolakha
53	Tembagelje Sherpa	M	Treasurer	Pandit CFUG	9744048448	Indigenous	Dolakha
54	Janga Man BK	M	Chairperson	Chhirnagi CFUG		Dalit	Dolakha
55	Shambhu Baraili	M	Ranger	District Forest Office	9754200738	Dalit	Dolakha
56	Hari Prasad Bhujel	M	Secretary	Charnawati CFUG	9844195382	Indigenous	Dolakha
57	Bhima Shrestha	F	Joint Secretary	Charnawati CFUG	9846043760	Indigenous	Dolakha
58	Malisha Shrestha	F	Member	Charnawati CFUG	9844308863	Indigenous	Dolakha
59	Bhagwati Dahal	F	Member	Hanumanteshwar CFUG	9744021844	Others	Dolakha
60	Sitaram Subedi	M	Chairperson	Mathani CFUG	974101954	Others	Dolakha
61	Bed Chandra Upreti	M	Chairperson	Bande CFUG	9744001035	Others	Dolakha
62	Kamala Basnet	F	Chairperson	FECOFUN	9844060271	Others	Dolakha
63	Ishwor Bahadur Thapa	M	Child Psychologist		9744039873	Others	Dolakha
64	Urmila Karki	F	Secretary	Nepal Trade Union	9741100568	Others	Dolakha
65	Gokarna Prasad Bhandari	M	Publisher	Bhimeshwar Weekly/RSS	9851005968	Others	Dolakha
66	Raghunath Subedi	M	Member	FECOFUN	9744045203	Others	Dolakha
67	Bharat Sharma	M	DPO	ANSAB	9849162778	Others	Dolakha
68	Ramkrishna Shrestha	M	User	Cwase Bhagawati CFUG	9844014040	Indigenous	Dolakha
69	Rabindra Gautam	M	Media Person	Image TV / Abhiyan Daily	9844011999	Others	Dolakha
70	Chandra Bahadur Thapa	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9741031897	Others	Dolakha
71	Govinda Dahal	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9751055177	Others	Dolakha
72	Ramji Pokahrel	M	NaSu	District Forest Office	9851182696	Others	Dolakha
73	Narendra Prasad Guragain	M	AFO	Bhirkot Area Forest Office	9745032688	Others	Dolakha
74	Srijana Karki	F	President	Mahila Manab Adhikar Rakshyak Jilla Sanjaal	9744007478	Others	Dolakha
75	Nabaraj Khadka	M	E.D.	ECARDS	9844308153	Others	Dolakha

76	Harihar Neupane	M	Advisor	FECOFUN	9844308153	Others	Dolakha
77	Sita K.C.	F	Former Chairperson	FECOFUN	9844399985	Others	Dolakha
78	Nabaraj Kafle	M	DFO	District Forest Office		Others	Dang
79	Pushpa Raj Bartaula	M	DFO	District Forest Office, Banke	9858021844	Others	Dang
80	Hari Gautam	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9856025105	Others	Dang
81	Dipak Kumar Regmi	M	AFO	Narayanpur Area Forest Office	9812800908	Others	Dang
82	Shovakar Sapkota	M	Chairperson	FECOFUN	9857820064	Others	Dang
83	Tika Dangi	F	Secretary	Rawatgaun Jagriti Women CFUG	9809503836	Others	Dang
84	Sabitra DC	F	Treasurer	Rawatgaun Jagriti Women CFUG	985782019	Others	Dang
85	Sushila Paudel	F	Vice Chairperson	Arogya CFUG	9847818930	Others	Dang
86	Dorna Bahadur Khatri	M	Secretary	Pakhapani CFUG	9857823671	Others	Dang
87	Mairam Khadka	M	Chairperson	Belanpadanda CFUG	9806269631	Others	Dang
88	Bharat Raj Devkota	M	Former Chairperson	Human Welfare and Environment Protection Centre	082-560240	Others	Dang
89	Bhim kumar Subedi	M	Field Facilitator	Rupantaran/UNDP	9847827797	Others	Dang
90	Shanta Chaudhary	F	District Coordinator	BASE Nepal, Dang	9848420134	Indigenous	Dang
91	Parbata Yogi	F	Advisor	Tridevi Women CFUG	9847821865	Others	Dang
92	Krishna Rana	F	District Member	HIMAWANTI	9844972580	Indigenous	Dang
93	Deba Subedi	F	Member	Rapti Women Coordination Committee	9847225971	Others	Dang
94	Chandra Puri	M	Chairperson	Janasewa CFUG	9812804443	Others	Dang
95	Bharat Kumar Devkota	M	Chairperson	Khujuwarani CFUG	9847982004	Others	Dang
96	Nar Bahadur Roka	M	Forester	Ambikeshwari Area Forest Office	9857832232	Others	Dang
97	Lila Nepali	F	Member	Nepal Dalit Sangh, Dang	9847857051	Dalit	Dang
98	Sangita Kusunda	F	Secretary	Nepal Kusunda Bikas Samaj	9809802883	Indigenous	Dang
99	Kamala Kusunda	F	Member	Nepal Kusunda Bikas Samaj		Indigenous	Dang
100	Bhup Bahadur	M	Field Officer	FECOFUN	9847834163	Others	Dang

	K.C.						
101	Karna Bahadur Budhathoki	M	Chairperson	FECOFUN	9847841689	Others	Dang
102	Rishiram Chaudhary	M	Secretary	Ambe CFUG	9847848771	Indigenous	Dang
103	Hari Prasad Chaudhary	M	Secretary	Jana CFUG	9847863567	Indigenous	Dang
104	Laxmi Chaudhary	F	Social Mobilizer	TAL program, Dhangadhi	9801710538	Indigenous	Dang
105	Umakanta Panta	M	Chairperson	CFCC, Gadhawa	9857821757	Others	Dang
106	Jagannath Chapagain	M	Sub-Engineer	District Soil Conservation Office	9856037448	Others	Dang
107	Ram Bahadur Pun	M	Forester	Malawar Area Forest Office		Indigenous	Dang
108	Dipti Khadka	F	Operator	Bharatpur Sector Forest Office	9806294725	Others	Dang
109	Kapil Dahal	M	Program Officer	MSFP/Rupantaran	9857153551	Others	Dang
110	Devi Prasad Chaudary	M	AFO	Bharatpur Sector Forest Office	9847845663	Indigenous	Dang
111	Bhakta Bahadur Chaudhary	M	AFO	Ambikeshwari Area Forest Office	9847828009	Indigenous	Dang
112	Baijanath Mandal	M	AFO	Malawar Area Forest Office		Indigenous	Dang
113	Gaucharan Chaudhary	M	AFO	Satbariya Area Forest Office		Indigenous	Dang
114	Dinesh Prasad Bhattarai	M	Technical Assistant	District Soil Conservation Office	9858320099	Others	Dang
115	Mahesh Kumar Singh	M	Sub-Engineer	District Soil Conservation Office	9847837994	Madhesi	Dang
116	Poshan Raj Neupane	M	Accountant	District Forest Office	082-560868	Others	Dang
117	Bam Bahadur Budhamagar	M	Member	NEFIN	9809510165	Indigenous	Dang
118	Amar Chaudhary	M	Member	NEFIN	984803410	Indigenous	Dang
119	Kalpana Chaudhary	F	Member	NEFIN	9866924050	Indigenous	Dang
120	Nirita Chaudhary	F	Member	NEFIN	9848343799	Indigenous	Dang
121	Resham Bahadur Ghartimagar	M	Member	NEFIN	9809594430	Indigenous	Dang
122	Ramkali Pariyar	F	Chairperson	Bhagawati CFUG		Dalit	Dang
123	Khima Adhikari	F	Member		9844910335	Others	Dang

124	Damodar Sharma	M	Member	FECOFUN	9847828364	Others	Dang
125	Debika Ghartimagar	F	Journalist	Himal Khabar/Ganatantra Daily	9857832222	Indigenous	Dang
126	Reba Dangi	F	Member	Rapti Women Coordination Committee	9847956322	Others	Dang
127	Til Bahadur Punmagar	M	Chairperson	NEFIN	9857832438	Indigenous	Dang
128	Tekman Budha Magar	M	Member	NEFIN	9812867055	Indigenous	Dang
129	Bal Narayan Shrestha	M	Member	Janpriya CFUG	9809856101	Indigenous	Dang
130	Hemlal Aryal	M	DFO	District Forest Office	087-520035	Others	Jumla
131	Bishnu Prasad Luitel	M	District Coordinator	MSFP Sundar Nepal	9851126784	Others	Jumla
132	Bharat Budhthapa	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9843478527	Others	Jumla
133	Nanda Bahadur Gurung	M	Joint Secretary	Chimara CFUG	9848914240	Indigenous	Jumla
134	Gagan Bahadur Kathayat	M	Technical Assistant	District Soil Conservation Office	9748013349	Others	Jumla
135	Gita Pariyar	F	Project Coordinator	PACE Nepal	9848747653	Dalit	Jumla
136	Dal Bahadur Khadka	M		Jadibuti, Jumla	9748912410	Others	Jumla
137	Gorkha Bahadur Pachhai	M	Vice Chairperson	Jadibuti, Jumla	9848025960		Jumla
138	Durga Prasad Pandey	M	Chairperson	NGO Federation	9758900062	Others	Jumla
139	Gokarna Chaulagain	M	Secretary	FECOFUN	9848307542	Others	Jumla
140	Krishna Bahadur Budhthapa	M	Secretary	Dhadthapala CFUG		Others	Jumla
141	Khadka Lal Nepali	M	Ranger	District Forest Office	9748923942	Dalit	Jumla
142	Pratima Khatri	F	Forester	District Forest Office	9849989447	Others	Jumla
143	Kamala Gharti Magar	F	Forester	Chandannath Area Forest Office	9847865843	Indigenous	Jumla
144	Ganga Bhandari	F	Treasurer	Bhandaribada CFUG		Others	Jumla
145	Hima Laxmi Bhandari	F	Chairperson	Bhandaribada CFUG		Others	Jumla
146	Nuwa Rokaya	F	Kharidar	District Forest Office	9848355094	Indigenous	Jumla

147	Kamala Thapa	F	Technical Assistant	District Agriculture Development Office	087-520027	Others	Jumla
148	Naurate Nepali	M	Project Coordinator	Radio Karnali FM	9848319203	Dalit	Jumla
149	Puran Ayer	M	Program Office	KIRDARC Nepal	984703871	Others	Jumla
150	Pushpa Budha	F	Forester	District Forest Office	9848312986	Indigenous	Jumla
151	Govinda Bahadur Mahat	M	Livestock Development Officer	District Livestock Services Office	9858023538	Others	Jumla
152	Lal Chandra Kami	M	Staff	R.D.G.P.	9848363252	Dalit	Jumla
153	Gorkha Bahadur Thapa	M	Station Manager	Community Radio Karnali FM	9858320239	Others	Jumla
154	Chhetrabahadur Budhthapa	M	Senior Programme Officer	DDC	9858320114	Others	Jumla
155	Santimaya Khatri	F	Editor	Radio Nari Aawaj	9848382408	Others	Jumla
156	Kamala Acharya	F	Chairperson	Acharya Bada CFUG	9848362371	Others	Jumla
157	Madan Kumar Khadka	M	D.P.R.O.	District Plant Resources Office	9858320142	Others	Jumla
158	Devi Prasad Upadhyaya	M	Secretary	Siddhi Binayak CFUG	9848300861	Others	Jumla
159	Ratnachandra Upadhyaya	M	Technical Assistat	LI-Bird, Jumla	9848307744	Others	Jumla
160	Shyam Lal Mahat	M	AFO	District Forest Office		Others	Jumla
161	Puskar Bahadur Singh	M	Chairperson	Shuklaphanta Buffer Zone Management Committee	995226224	Others	Kanchanpur
162	Bhuaneshwar Chaudhary	M	Ranger	NTNC	99524703	Indigenous	Kanchanpur
163	Rajendra Prasad Awasthi	M	Chairperson	Agriculture Journalist Society	9851154360	Others	Kanchanpur
164	Dharma Singh Khadka	M	Chairperson	NGO Federation	9848724238	Others	Kanchanpur
165	Keshab Dutt Joshi	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9848720699	Others	Kanchanpur
166	Tara Dutt Joshi	M	Chairperson	Janachetana CFUG	9809465391	Others	Kanchanpur
167	Dharmaraj Joshi	M	Secretary	Janachetana CFUG	9812728949	Others	Kanchanpur
168	Mahananda Joshi	M	Kharidar	District Forest Office	9848724054	Others	Kanchanpur
169	Mohan Bahadur	M	Chairperson	Amar CFUG	9749511361	Others	Kanchanpur

	Chand						
170	Rabindra Bhadur Kunwar	M	Chairperson	Chure Samrakshan Sanjaal	9848724080	Others	Kanchanpur
171	Karna Bahadur Bista	M	Chairperson	Sahid Smriti CFUG	9749501184	Others	Kanchanpur
172	Shukra Dutt Bhatta	M	Forester	Betkot Illaka	9749509791	Others	Kanchanpur
173	Lalit Bahadur KC	M	Forester	District Forest Office	9848286422	Others	Kanchanpur
174	Gopal Dutt Joshi	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9749502000	Others	Kanchanpur
175	Jibachha Yadav	M	AFO	Brahmadev Area Forest Office	9858751172	Madhesi	Kanchanpur
176	Prakash Dutt Joshi	M	Secretary	FECOFUN	9858750845	Others	Kanchanpur
177	Dhruba Raj Bhatta	M	Office Assistant	District Forest Office	9848724831	Others	Kanchanpur
178	Binod Chaudhary	M	Office Assistant	District Forest Office	9809476092	Indigenous	Kanchanpur
179	Navaraj Bhatta	M	Office Assistant	District Forest Office	9868476503	Others	Kanchanpur
180	Ishwor Upadhyaya	M	P.C.	NEEDS	9848819695	Others	Kanchanpur
181	Shankar Singh Kunwar	M	Accountant	District Forest Office	9749501796	Others	Kanchanpur
182	Prem Bahadur Dhanuk	M	Forester	Betkot Area Forest Office	9806473989		Kanchanpur
183	Nain Singh Khatri	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9848880624	Others	Kanchanpur
184	Shiv Raj Awasthi	M	Ranger	Betkot Area Forest Office	9848763344	Others	Kanchanpur
185	Bir Bahadur Thagunna	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9848892038	Madhesi	Kanchanpur
186	Naresh Raj Bhatta	M	Secretary	CF Coordination Committee	9849531846	Others	Kanchanpur
187	Sita Thapa Magar	F	Vice Chairperson	NEFIN	9806404466	Indigenous	Kanchanpur
188	Shobha Dhami	F	Member	NEFUG	9848721290	Others	Kanchanpur
189	Laxmi Saud	F	Chairperson	FECOFUN	9848725299	Others	Kanchanpur
190	Kishan Nath	M	Chairperson	Baijanath CFUG	9748906933	Others	Kanchanpur
191	Ramesh Chand	M	DFO	District Forest Office		Others	Bajhang
192	Sunil Damai	M	Chairperson	Dalit Sahayog Samaj	9749002624	Dalit	Bajhang
193	Sadev Dhami	M	Member	Dhamentoli CFUG	9868584982	Others	Bajhang

194	Shushila Pujara	F	Member	Kalthum CFUG	9848684270	Indigenous	Bajhang
195	Ganesh Bahadur Bohara	M	Member	Sidat CFUG	9868410018	Others	Bajhang
196	Laxman Bahadur Bohara	M	Member	Simsail CFUG	9848447364	Others	Bajhang
197	Jhalak Bahadur Bohara	M	Forester	Chainpur Area Forest Office	9741137308	Others	Bajhang
198	Surendra Bahadur Thapa	M	Member	Ghadarakhne CFUG	9848589434	Others	Bajhang
199	Harka Bahadur Bam	M	Vice Chairperson	Panikafap CFUG	9868543111	Others	Bajhang
200	Jagat Jhadka	M	Chairperson	FNJ, Bajhang	9749002791	Others	Bajhang
201	Janmajaya Joshi	M	Chairperson	FECOFUN	9749004307	Others	Bajhang
202	Rita Bogati	F	Forester	Malumela Area Forest Office	9749053022	Others	Bajhang
203	Lal Bahadur Bohara	M	Chairperson	Kafalseri Kungul	9749039178	Others	Bajhang
204	Hiralal Bohara	M	Forester	Kotdewal Area Forest Office	9749042064	Others	Bajhang
205	Dharmaraj Chaudhary	M	Forester	District Forest Office	9748019855	Indigenous	Bajhang
206	Ramesh K.C.	M	Station Manager	Seti Community FM	9848448264	Others	Bajhang
207	Mane Okhade	M	User	Hemantawad CFUG		Others	Bajhang
208	Himal Khati	M	User	Salyari CFUG	974902470	Dalit	Bajhang
209	Bal Bahadur Khadka	M	V. Doctor	District Livestock Services office	9749009039	Others	Bajhang
210	Harihar Prasad Yadav	M	Field Coordinator	SDC/IDS/MSFP	9868450276	Madhesi	Bajhang
211	Min Bahadur Singh	M	Chairperson	Saipal FM	9841545365	Indigenous	Bajhang
212	Damar Raj Joshi	M	Farmer		984848151	Others	Bajhang
213	Sarada Joshi	F	Chairperson	CFUG	9749076679	Others	Bajhang
214	Bishnu bahadur Khadka	M	Manager	Radio Bajhang FM	9848436140	Others	Bajhang
215	Karna Bahadur Khati	M	AFO	Chainpur Area Forest Office	9848436021	Dalit	Bajhang
216	Nityananda Joshi	M	Planning Officer	District Agriculture Development Office	9848829023	Others	Bajhang
217	Chandrika Dhobi	M	Forester	Chhanna Area Forest Office	9749085608	Indigenous	Bajhang
218	Maya Tamang	F		Women and Children Office	9868406861	Indigenous	Bajhang

219	Dhaniram Chaudhary	M	Forester	District Forest Office	9848463995	Indigenous	Bajhang
220	Jog Bahadur Khati	M	Secretary	Sadhipatan CFUG		Dalit	Bajhang
221	Tipure Upadhyaya	M	Forester	Kotdewal Area Forest Office		Others	Bajhang
222	Sita Devi Joshi	F	Chairperson	Hurhure CFUG		Others	Bajhang
223	Laxmi Rawal	F	Joint Secretary	Community Development Centre	9848610662	Others	Bajhang
224	Rajeev Chaudhary	M	Ranger	District Forest Office	9848638983	Indigenous	Bajhang
225	Binod Badu	M	Field Coordinator	Himansu Construction Pvt. Ltd.	9848897081	Others	Mahottari
226	Praksah Singh Thapa	M	AFO	R.I.C.	9858051877	Others	Mahottari
227	Baidya Nath Chaudhary	M		Ratauli Youth Club	9854025547	Indigenous	Mahottari
228	Akhilesh Kumar Jha	M		Ratauli Youth Club	9844055807	Madhesi	Mahottari
229	Bikash Kumar Shah	M		National Investigation Bureau	9855034233	Madhesi	Mahottari
230	Radhe Shyam Giri	M		Bardibas M. Office	9854031193	Others	Mahottari
231	Kumar Prasad Ghimire	M		FECOFUN	9844192921	Others	Mahottari
232	Chandreshwor Yadav	M		Area Forest Office, Bardibas	9804848559	Madhesi	Mahottari
233	Ambika Shrestha	F		Area Forest Office, Bardibas	9842212952	Indigenous	Mahottari
234	Shree Ram Shah	M		Mithila Terai Private Forest Association	9807898090	Madhesi	Mahottari
235	Sharadha Prasad Dhungana	M		UML, Mahottari	9844275518	Others	Mahottari
236	Phauda Singha Syangaba	M			9844068305	Indigenous	Mahottari
237	Dinesh Chaudhary	M		Federation of Private Forest Stakeholder	9844054599	Indigenous	Mahottari
238	Raj Karan Mahato	M		The Public Today Daily	9814812530	Madhesi	Mahottari
239	Chandreshwor Prasad Yadav	M		Area Police Office, Bardibas	9844037022	Madhesi	Mahottari
240	Raj Kishor Yadav	M			9854026833	Madhesi	Mahottari

241	Baijanath Mahato	M			9844035575	Madhesi	Mahottari
242	Bhakta Bdr Rajan Magar	M			9812060104	Indigenous	Mahottari
243	Ram Yadav	M			9844103466	Madhesi	Mahottari
244	Mani Ram Yadav	M		Sector Forest Office	9845572826	Madhesi	Mahottari
245	Santa Maya Shrestha	F		District Forest Office	9845028588	Indigenous	Mahottari
246	Amarnath Jha	M		District Forest Office	9819643200	Madhesi	Mahottari
247	Sunom Shrestha	M		KAFCOL	9841789766	Indigenous	Chitwan
248	Bharat Prasad Pumudh	M		District Forest Office	9855063749	Others	Chitwan
249	Bhoj Raj Devkota	M		NEFUG	9845070062	Others	Chitwan
250	Usha Poudel	F		Ban Prabidhik Samaj	9845327064	Others	Chitwan
251	Rajiv Neupane	M		SDBC-Society Nepal	9845055558	Others	Chitwan
252	Devi Devkota	F		HIMWANTI	9845080789	Others	Chitwan
253	Bishnu Aryal	F		HIMWANTI	9817240452	Others	Chitwan
254	Bishnu Rayamajhi	M		Latauli	9817266645	Others	Chitwan
255	Khil Prasad Regmi	M		Dharapani CFUG	9806849851	Others	Chitwan
256	Ganu Maskey	F		South Asia Institute of Advance Studies	9849684001	Indigenous	Chitwan
257	Hari Dhungana	M		South Asia Institute of Advance Studies	9851100669	Others	Chitwan
258	Poshendra Satyal	M		University of East Anglia		Others	Chitwan
259	Chandra Prasad Chaudari	M		Korak Area Forest Office, Chitwan	9847849972	Indigenous	Chitwan
260	Balbhadra Bhandari	M		Haripur Area Forest Office	9845044520	Others	Chitwan
261	Surbir Pokherel	M		FECOFUN	9855055477	Others	Chitwan
262	Bhim Prasad Bhatta	M		District Forest Office	9855063715	Others	Chitwan
263	Shyam Bahadur Rimal	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9845048706	Others	Chitwan
264	Padam Gurung	M		NEFIN		Indigenous	Chitwan

265	Tulram Gurung	M		-	9845088265	Indigenous	Chitwan
266	Shanta Adhikari	F		Gorkhapatra	9845048312	Others	Chitwan
267	Chintamani Poudel	M		Shubhechchha Weekly	9845048957	Others	Chitwan
268	Krishna Hari Pandit	M		District Forest Office		Others	Chitwan
269	Chamikumari Ranamagar	F		Shree Chalebeti CFUG	9819212667	Indigenous	Chitwan
270	Gayan Bahadur Tamang	M		Nebuwater CFUG	9811884625	Indigenous	Chitwan
271	Datendra Kumar Gole	M		District Forest Office	9845208311	Indigenous	Chitwan
272	Rabin Bhattarai	M			9843168810	Others	Chitwan
273	Rolak Bahadur Thapa	M		Shikhar CFUG	9846124938	Others	Gorkha
274	Krishna Bahadur Pulami	M		Ghaledanda CFUG	9846124795	Indigenous	Gorkha
275	Moti Lal Thapa	M		Bhalu Khola CFUG	9846070268	Others	Gorkha
276	Padam Prasad Upadhaya	M			9846043801	Others	Gorkha
277	Sudarshan Joshi	M		National Investigation District Office	9846089296	Others	Gorkha
278	Ramchandra Thakur	M	Ranger	District Forest Office	9741096996	Madeshi	Gorkha
279	Ganesh Bahadur Karki	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9844174105	Others	Gorkha
280	Rom Bahadur Thapa	M		Shartari CFUG	9856030628	Others	Gorkha
281	Pampha Kunwar	F		Laxmi Mahila CFUG	9856593232	Others	Gorkha
282	Anandha Raj Adhikari	M		District Soil Conservation Office	9855063492	Others	Gorkha
283	Bishnu Shrestha	F		CHESS Gorkha	9846377855	Indigenous	Gorkha
284	Arun Adhikari	M		CARE Nepal,HP	9841268939	Others	Gorkha
285	Bhuraman Ghimire	M			9846106939	Others	Gorkha
286	Sitaram Shrestha	M		SSICDC Gorkha	9841683867	Indigenous	Gorkha
287	Jibnath Poudel	M	DFO	District Forest Office	9856050557	Others	Gorkha
288	Til Kumari Tamang	F		Samagra Bikash Kendra	9816153070	Indigenous	Gorkha

289	Dil Bahadur Purja Pun	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9841674457	Indigenous	Gorkha
290	Jivan Jyoti	M			9846253885	Others	Gorkha
291	Kaji Ram Roka	M			9856040622	Others	Gorkha
292	Dan Bahadur Thapa	M		Gorakhali Area Forest Office	9848460446	Others	Gorkha
293	Dhan Bahadur K.C.	M		Gorakhali Area Forest Office	9855064625	Others	Gorkha
294	Raju Babu Shrestha	M		Chamber Of Commerce, Gorkha	9846042720	Indigenous	Gorkha
295	Bhuwan	M			9846074938	Others	Gorkha
296	Purshotam Dhakal	M			9846027899	Others	Gorkha
297	Arjun Aryal	M				Others	Gorkha
298	Janardan Aryal	M		Federation of Private Forest Stakeholder	9841323748	Others	Gorkha
299	Kamal Prasad Lamichane	M		REDD+ Programme	9846271394	Others	Gorkha
300	Bikash Niraula	M			9851146692	Others	Gorkha
301	Dilman Gurung	M			9846431492	Indigenous	Gorkha
302	Premdhoj Thapamagar	M		NEFIN Gorkha	9846056052	Indigenous	Gorkha
303	Chandra Maya Gurung	F			9856040707	Indigenous	Gorkha
304	Krishna Prasad Dhakal	M			9856030326	Others	Gorkha
305	Ram Kumar Shrestha	M		Gorkha M. Office	9856040376	Indigenous	Gorkha
306	Hom Bahadur Balchaudi	M		District Forest Office	9846050298		Gorkha
307	Shankar Babu Dani	M			9856027578		Gorkha
308	Rabin Bhattarai	M			9843168810	Others	
309	Badri Sapkota	M	Chairperson	FECOFUN	9852026196	Others	Sankhuwasabha
310	Yadumani Niraula	M	Chairperson	SODEC	9842095487	Others	Sankhuwasabha
311	Rajendra Thapa	M	Chairperson	Environment Conservation and Research Centre	9742075075	Others	Sankhuwasabha
312	Kashinath Dahal	M	Member	FECOFUN	9842107830	Others	Sankhuwasabha

313	Laxmi Chapagain	F	Secretary	HIMAWANTI	9842062889	Others	Sankhuwasabha
314	Kaushalya Khanal	F	Member	CFUG	9840012322	Others	Sankhuwasabha
315	Sita Sodari	F	Member	CFUG		Others	Sankhuwasabha
316	Radha Gurung	F	Treasurer	FECOFUN	9842023665	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha
317	Sita Rai	F	Program Officer	MFSC/RRN	029-575214	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha
318	Sunil Kumar Karna	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9845029541	Madhesi	Sankhuwasabha
319	Hemanta Parajuli	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9852025774	Others	Sankhuwasabha
320	Ganesh Gurung	M	Forester	District Forest Office	9841769194	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha
321	Bharat Rai	M	Advisor	NEFIN	9742061333	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha
322	Chhindum Bhote	M	Chairperson	COFSUN	9852051990	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha
323	Kopila Tamang	F	Treasurer	FECOFUB	9842216536	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha
324	Chhiring Bhote	M	Member	COFSUN	9742084433	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha
325	Surya Bahadur Tamang	M			9842108054	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha
326	Nirmala Karki	F	Member	NGO Federation	9862137376	Others	Sankhuwasabha
327	Saroj Bajracharya	M	G. Secretary	SCCI	9852023719	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha
328	Bipin Tamang	M	Secretary	NEFIN	9852051837	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha
329	Mo. Nizam Akhtar	M	AFO	Pangma Area Forest Office	9855022687	Madhesi	Sankhuwasabha
330	Dibyaraj Shrestha	M	Treasurer	Dhungedhara Thulopakha CFUG	9842114613	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha

331	Manjit Bista	M	Ranger	Makalu Barun NP	9840062726	Others	Sankhuwasabha
332	Saroj Khanal	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9852026714	Others	Sankhuwasabha
333	Oongu Bhote	F	Member	HIMAWANTI	29560157	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha
334	Khil Prasad Sharma	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9852027757	Others	Sankhuwasabha
335	Dipendra Shakya	M	Reporter	Kantipur Daily	9852023906	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha
336	Indra Giri	M	Chairperson	FNJ	9852023872	Others	Sankhuwasabha
337	Binod Subba Gurung	M	Secretary	NGO Federation	98420329	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha
338	Bal Bahadur Rai	M	Office Assistance	District Forest Office	982475347	Indigenous	Sankhuwasabha

1.3 Regional consultations

S.N.	Name	Gender	Designation	Organization	Phone No.	Ethnicity	Region
1	Bharat Prasad Koirala	M		Federation of Private Forest Stakeholder	9842243193	Others	Biratnagar
2	Lalit Kumar Chaudhary	M		NEFIN	9842046759	Indigenous	Biratnagar
3	Netra Kumari Majhi	F		DFO, Morang	9800902270	Indigenous	Biratnagar
4	Renu Kumari Mandal	F		DFO, Morang	9816341441	Madhesi	Biratnagar
5	Rajan Parajuli	M		DFO, Morang	9842249732	Others	Biratnagar
6	Raj Kumar Rai	M		DFO, Morang	9819742536	Indigenous	Biratnagar
7	Jamin Mandal	M		New Nepal	9860000186	Madhesi	Biratnagar
8	Krishna Luitel	M		FECOFUN, Morang	9852055519	Others	Biratnagar
9	Renuka Dahal	F		FECOFUN, Morang	9842438461	Others	Biratnagar
10	Judhha Prakash Rai	M		FECOFUN	9842223932	Indigenous	Biratnagar
11	Raj Kishor Mandal	M		DSCO, Morang	9842635267	Madhesi	Biratnagar
12	Rajendra Subedi	M		DSCO, Morang	9851026919	Others	Biratnagar
13	Kishor Baral	M		Eastern Regional Forest Training Centre	9842259742	Others	Biratnagar

14	Ranganath Chapagain	M		Federation of Private Forest Stakeholder	9842033289	Others	Biratnagar
15	Rebati Raman Dahal	F		Federation of Private Forest Stakeholder	9842075503	Others	Biratnagar
16	Raj Kumar Rai	M		Latijhoda CFs	9852057566	Indigenous	Biratnagar
17	Birendra Khadka	M		Latijhoda Scientific Forest Management	9852027584	Others	Biratnagar
18	Shree Mohan Lal Karna	M		DFO, Morang	9862004969	Madhesi	Biratnagar
19	Govinda Shrestha	M		Eastern Regional Forest Training Centre	9842024265	Indigenous	Biratnagar
20	Ganesh Chaudhary	M		DFO, Morang	9848067946	Indigenous	Biratnagar
21	Chandra Bahadur Rana Magar	M		DFO, Morang	9807067305	Indigenous	Biratnagar
22	Milan Kumar Rai	M		NEFIN	9851045145	Indigenous	Biratnagar
23	Ram Lakhan Thakur	M		DFO, Morang	9842088972	Madhesi	Biratnagar
24	Aagni Paudel	M		FECOFUN, Morang	9852054263	Others	Biratnagar
25	Ram Babu Shah	M		Eastern Regional Forest Directorate	9845135924	Madhesi	Biratnagar
26	Laxmi Prasad Nepal	M		Eastern Regional Forest Training Centre	9842055885	Others	Biratnagar
27	Leknath Dahal	M		DFO, Morang	9842048162	Others	Biratnagar
28	Anesh Sardar	M		DFO, Morang		Madhesi	Biratnagar
29	Gyanendra	M		Eastern Regional Forest Training Centre	9842823942		Biratnagar
30	Parshuram Mandal	M		DFO, Morang	9842043625	Madhesi	Biratnagar
31	Sabita Shrestha	F		DFO, Morang	9860410719	Indigenous	Biratnagar
32	Rabin Bhattarai	M			9843168810	Others	Biratnagar
33	Devi Prasad Dahal	M		FECOFUN	9745065297	Others	Hetauda
34	Sadhuram Chaulagain	M		FECOFUN	9745044336	Others	Hetauda
35	Padma Devi Acharya	F		FECOFUN	9845126006	Others	Hetauda
36	Chandramaya Lama	F		HIMWANTI	9845589313	Indigenous	Hetauda
37	Uma Devi Bhusal	F		Simadmai WCFs	9845459701	Others	Hetauda
38	Rupa Dhungana	F		Sundar CFUG	9845125539	Others	Hetauda
39	Mohan Khadka	M	AFO	Chatiwan Area Forest Office	9847495612	Others	Hetauda

40	Suka Dev Prasad Sinha	M	AFO	Bhimphedi Area Forest Office	9742014738	Madhesi	Hetauda
41	Chandeshwor Sharma	M		Markhu Area Forest Office	9854025605	Others	Hetauda
42	Raj Kishor Pandit	M		District Plant Resource Office	9845148141	Others	Hetauda
43	Pramod Aryal	M	Journalist	Samridha Samaj Daily Newspaper	9845300332	Others	Hetauda
44	Srijana Nepal	F		Sajhakura Daily	9845071065	Others	Hetauda
45	Bishnu Prasad Khatiwada	M		Basamadi Area Forest Office	9845123123	Others	Hetauda
46	Yagya Prasad Kadel	M		NTPF Network	9845388707	Others	Hetauda
47	Ram Lakshyan Yadav	M		Institute of Forestry, Hetauda	9845106081	Madhesi	Hetauda
48	Shiva Bahadur Bhandari	M		NEFUG	9845296368	Others	Hetauda
49	Pushpa Raj Parajuli	M	Chairperson	Federation of Private Forest Stakeholder	9845022649	Others	Hetauda
50	Rajendra Pandey	M		Federation of Private Forest Stakeholder	9845303515	Others	Hetauda
51	Prabin Bindari	M	AFO	Hetauda Area Forest Office	9845022799	Others	Hetauda
52	Menuka Bomjan	F			9802903636	Indigenous	Hetauda
53	Rajendra Neupane	M	DFO	District Forest Office, Makwanpur	9855067993	Others	Hetauda
54	Mukunda Prasad Adhikari	M		Rani CFs	9845539989	Others	Hetauda
55	Bishal Bhattarai	M		DFO, Makwanpur	9845030603	Others	Hetauda
56	Chitra Kumari Gurung	F				Indigenous	Hetauda
57	Bam Dev Dhakal	M		District Soil conservation Office	9845673499	Others	Hetauda
58	Narendra Sapkota	M	journalist	Reporter Federation, Makwanpur	9855071831	Others	Hetauda
59	Krishna Prasad Dahal	M			9845037558	Others	Hetauda
60	Kedar Prasad Gautam	M		Chuchekhola CFUGS	9855069925	Others	Hetauda
61	Sushil Yadav	M		Manahari Area Forest Office	9812487131	Madeshi	Hetauda
62	Manvi Baniya	F	Journalist	Team TV	9845867754	Others	Hetauda
63	Pabitra Bishwo Karma	F		Dalit Mahila Sangh	9845206806	Dalit	Hetauda
64	Bharat Bhandari	M		Sector Forest Office, Manahari	9845057361	Others	Hetauda
65	Bhimsen Paudel	M		Rani CFUG	9855069419	Others	Hetauda

66	Padam Bahadur Titung	M			9845239309	Indigenous	Hetauda
67	Balram Acharya	M		Chamber of Commerce, Pokhara	9856037934	Others	Pokhara
68	Sasichandra Pokhrel	M		DDC, Kaski	9846093233	Others	Pokhara
69	Durga Bahadur Sunar	M			9856021594	Dalit	Pokhara
70	Bhim Prasad Kandel	M		District Forest Office	9846384037	Others	Pokhara
71	Neeru Thapa	F		NTNC	9856036573	Others	Pokhara
72	Krishna Kumari Nepal	M		HIMWANTI	9846739141	Others	Pokhara
73	Randhir Kumar Singh	M		EBA project	9851102371	Madhesi	Pokhara
74	Subhechechha Sharma	F		WWF Nepal, Hariyo Ban Program	9841539084	Others	Pokhara
75	Sanjay Tiwari	M	AFO	Panchase Forest Conservation Program	9845027796	Others	Pokhara
76	Prabhat Sapkota	M	DFO	DFO, Kaski	9846049112	Others	Pokhara
77	Bishnu Prasad Pokhrel	M		District soil Conservation Office	9846086231	Others	Pokhara
78	Bishnu Prasad Devkota	M	Lecturer	Institute of Forestry, Pokhara	9841569133	Others	Pokhara
79	Suman Bhattarai	M	Lecturer	Institute of Forestry, Pokhara	9855061206	Others	Pokhara
80	Shiva Sharma	M	journalist	Kantipur Daily	9846040566	Others	Pokhara
81	Bhim Ghimire	M	Journalist	Kantipur Daily	9851040904	Others	Pokhara
82	Khadananda Sharma	M	Act. RD	Regional Forestry Directorate	9749001181	Others	Pokhara
83	Nanikaji K.C.	M		District Forest Office	9846034670	Others	Pokhara
84	Padam Raj Nepal	M	DFO	District Forest Office, Parbat	9857630390	Others	Pokhara
85	Madhav Prasad Baral	M	AFO	District Forest Office	9856032509	Others	Pokhara
86	Santosh Pokhrel	M	Journalist	Nagarik Daily	9856034500	Others	Pokhara
87	Krishnamani Baral	M	Journalist	Annapurna Post	9856042022	Others	Pokhara
88	Ajeet Kumar Karna	M	DFO	DFO, Syangza	9802030022	Madhesi	Pokhara
89	Ram Prasad Sharma	M		Institute of Forestry, Pokhara	9846440751	Others	Pokhara
90	Khagendra Poudel	M			9856023003	Others	Pokhara
91	Sagar Timelsina	M			9856031770	Others	Pokhara
92	Pradip Poudel	M			9846027777	Others	Pokhara
93	Krishna Prasad Baral	M			9846050354	Others	Pokhara
94	Kamal Prasad Pun	M	AFO	DFO Kaski	9846034190	Indigenous	Pokhara

95	Yam Badhur Rumba	M	AFO	DFO Kaski	9867611496	Indigenous	Pokhara
96	Radha Krishna Das	M	AFO	DFO Kaski	9851198115	Madeshi	Pokhara
97	Hari Bastola	M			9856028822	Others	Pokhara
98	Nirmal Man Singh Bhandari	M		Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan Office	9846051336	Others	Pokhara
99	Khem Bahadur Baniya	M		DFO Kaski	9846048057	Others	Pokhara
100	Ishwor Puri	M		DFO Kaski	9846720951	Others	Pokhara
101	Kesh Narayan Sharma	M		DSCO, Kaski	9846121382	Others	Pokhara
102	Dr. Akhileshwor Lal Karna	M	Regional Director	Regional Forestry Directorate	9843131598	Madhesi	Pokhara
103	Kuldip Poudel	M		MSFP/ENPRED Nepal	9855064907	Others	Pokhara
104	Rajdev Prasad Yadav	M	RD	MWRFD	9855021102	Madhesi	Nepalgunj
105	Pushparaj Bartaula	M	DFO	DFO, Banke	9858021844	Others	Nepalgunj
106	Ramchandra Kandel	M	Chief Warden	Bardiya National Park	9802500021	Others	Nepalgunj
107	Ganesh Panta	M	Chief Warden	Banke National Park	9841034694	Others	Nepalgunj
108	Sharad kumar Poudel	M	Executive Officer	DDC	9858021361	Others	Nepalgunj
109	Jiwan Prasad Dulal	M	Assistant CDO	District Administration Office	9841265657	Others	Nepalgunj
110	Badaruddhin Khan	M	AFO	DFO, Banke	98418026170	Madhesi	Nepalgunj
111	Suresh Kumar Sharma	M	AFO	DFO, Bardiya	9848064812	Others	Nepalgunj
112	Basanti Adhikari	F	Chairperson	HIMAWANTI, Banke	9858024398	Others	Nepalgunj
113	Bhim Kumari Bista	F	General Secretary	FECOFUN, Banke	9848112559	Others	Nepalgunj
114	Ganesh bahadur Khadka	M	AFO	DFO, Banke	9858023381	Others	Nepalgunj
115	Jaya Ram Khatri	M	Chairperson	Gausala Agriculture Co-operative Limited	9848259863	Others	Nepalgunj
116	Krishna Bahadur B.K.	M	Chairperson	Dalit Sewa Sangh, Banke	9858028325	Dalit	Nepalgunj
117	Mohammad Aarif Ansari	M	Journalist	Bheri FM	9848023997	Others	Nepalgunj
118	Manbir Nepali	M	Team Leader	Sahakarmi Samaj	9848029341	Dalit	Nepalgunj
119	Hasmullaha Khan	M	Bali Bigya Adhikrit	District Acriculture Development Office	9847061998	Madhesi	Nepalgunj
120	Shyam bahadur Bhandari	M	Field Officer	Care Nepal	98411623381	Others	Nepalgunj
121	Durga KC	M	Deputy Director	Heifer International Nepal	9801182945	Others	Nepalgunj

122	Purna Prasad Nyaupane	M	Program officer	Heifer International Nepal	9801182919	Others	Nepalgunj
123	Arjun Neupane	M	ASO	District Plant Resource Office	9848022410	Others	Nepalgunj
124	Surendra Yadav	M	Chief	District Plant Resource Office	9841034694	Others	Nepalgunj
125	Prem Bishwakarma	M	Journalist	Krishnasar FM	9848270507	Dalit	Nepalgunj
126	Aakash Devkota	M	Journalist	Lokpriya Sandesh	9858024399	Others	Nepalgunj
127	Thakur Singh Tharu	M	Journalist	Kantipur Daily	9848073974	Indigenous	Nepalgunj
128	Dil bahadur Pariyar	M	Chairperson	Utpidit Samudayik Bikash Kendra, Banke	9858023604	Dalit	Nepalgunj
129	Arjun Oli	M	Journalist	Nagarik Daily	9858029030	Others	Nepalgunj
130	Tilak Gaunle	M	Journalist	Sagarmatha Television	9858029420	Others	Nepalgunj
131	Dharmaraj Shah	M	First Vice-Chairperson	Nepal Forest Products Industries Organization, Banke	9858030869		Nepalgunj
132	Krishna Adhikari	M	Journalist	Nepal Television	9858023161	Others	Nepalgunj
133	Ram Narayan Tharu	M	Office Assistant	DFO, Banke	9728157831	Indigenous	Nepalgunj
134	Soni Tharu	F	Office Assistant	DFO, Banke	9816594374	Indigenous	Nepalgunj
135	Jit Bahadur Waiba	M	Junior staff	Bardiya National Park		Indigenous	Nepalgunj
136	Raju Raj Chaudhary	M	Junior staff	Banke National Park	9848087387	Indigenous	Nepalgunj
137	Devi Bahadur Karki	M	Junior staff	MWRFD	9841372650	Others	Nepalgunj
138	Karna Bahadur Gurung	M	Junior staff	DFO, Banke		Indigenous	Nepalgunj
139	Balaram Adhikari	M	RD	FWDRFD	981328878	Others	Dhangadhi
140	Pashupati Nath Koirala	M	DFO	DFO, Kanchanpur	9851161324	Others	Dhangadhi
141	Devesh Mani Tripathi	M	Manager	Terai Arc Landscape (TAL)		Madhesi	Dhangadhi
142	Bed Kumar Dhakal	M	Chief Warden	Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve	9851161563	Others	Dhangadhi
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1.6 Final Validation Workshop

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