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Annual Progress Report to the FCPF for Cambodia

for the period

1 January – 31 December 2020

United Nations Development
Programme

Approved by:

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Date 01-Jun-2021

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Date 20-May-2021

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, UNDP offers global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

The Participants Committee (PC) at its ninth meeting in June 2011 approved UNDP to serve as Delivery Partner under the Readiness Fund. The Transfer Agreement was signed between the World Bank, acting as the Trustee of the FCPF, and the UNDP on August 9, 2012.

To ensure a uniform set of safeguard standards, the Common Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards for Multiple Delivery Partners was also approved at the ninth FCPF PC meeting. The Common Approach is designed to provide the World Bank and the Multiple Delivery Partners with a common platform for risk management and quality assurance in the REDD+ Readiness Preparation process which is substantially equivalent to the World Bank's applicable policies and procedures on environmental and social safeguards, disclosure of information, and grievance and accountability mechanisms.

UNDP 2020 Annual Progress Report to the FCPF
as a Delivery Partner – Cambodia

Summary

Country:	Cambodia
Project Title:	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility REDD+ Readiness Project
Implementing Partners:	General Department of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection, Ministry of Environment
Responsible Parties:	Forestry and Fisheries Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Implementation Modality:	National Implementation Modality (NIM)

Project Timeline			
FCPF PC Resolution Approving R-PP	FCPFII: PC/22/2016/6	Transfer of Funds to Country Office	FCPFI: \$ 4,042,531 6 Feb 2014 FCPFII: \$ 5,400,000 13 Dec 2017
Preparatory Grant	-	Inception Phase	Phase I Launch: July 2014 PMU Staffed: Nov 2014 First Board Meeting: 7 Aug 2014 Phase II Launch: July 2017 PMU Staffed: July 2017 First Board Meeting: 16 Mar 2018
Project Appraisal Committee	Phase I: 26 August 2013 Phase II: 25 May 2017	Mid-term Review Terminal Evaluation	July 2016 November 2020
Project Signature	Phase I: 25 December 2013 Phase II: 29 September 2017	No-Cost Extension: New End Date:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Phase I: 31 December 2017 Phase II: 31 December 2021
Duration of Project	Phase I: 3 years Phase II: 4 years		

2020 Results

1. Achievements

This report highlights activities and results achieved by the Forest Carbon Partnership Facilities Phase II project (FCPF-II) carried out by the Cambodia REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat (RTS) from January to December 2020.

Building on the initiatives started in 2019, the project continues to make significant progress to enhance the requirements for results-based payment from reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and to advance Cambodia to move from REDD+ readiness to implementation stage. Key strategic documents that are being developed and finalized in 2020 including:

- i. The Action and Investment Plan of the National Redd+ Strategy (AIP-NRS);
- ii. The REDD+ Regulatory Framework (Nested System);
- iii. The options for Forest Reference Level (FRL) allocation;
- iv. REDD+ project registry/database;
- v. The updated (second) Forest Reference Level (FRL) and;
- vi. The Biennial Update Report (BUR) and the REDD+ Technical Annex (TA).

Other project implementation related activities that are supported and finalized by the project in 2019-2020 include subnational capacity building for REDD+ implementation, project terminal evaluation and resource mobilization.

The unexpected COVID-19 outbreak and related travel restrictions has led to the cancellation of missions to Cambodia and subsequently prevented some consultants from meeting the target delivery and require more time to complete the tasks. In addition, several stakeholders consultation planning workshops and meetings, joint training for MRV Technical Team with partners have been delayed or cancelled. To address the challenges, for project consultancies, no-cost contract extensions have been granted to allow adequate time to complete the tasks as well as to ensure stakeholders buy-in, comments and inputs. The planned in-person events have been modified by a series of online interviews, workshops, and meetings. However, It had an impact on the quality of the information received and, in the timespan, to execute the proposed activities.

a. Progress on how the project activities are being coordinated with other REDD+ related initiatives included those funded by others.

With the support from FCPF-II project, the RTS continues to lead and be responsible for the effective day-to-day management of REDD+ in Cambodia through the implementation of Redd+ Taskforce (RTF) decisions and agreed annual work plans, and by providing support to the operations of the Consultation Group (CG), the Gender Group (GG) and the four Technical Teams (TTs).

At the technical level, the four TTs, whose members are from seven sectorial Ministries, continue to lead and provide inputs on subject matter issues, and the CG and GG ensure broad stakeholders inputs.

With regards to coordination with other programs, FCPF-II continues to coordinate with the current and pipeline REDD+ projects through RTS, particularly through the initiative to design and operate the

Regulatory Framework for REDD+ Projects “Nested System”, i.e., the PRAKAS and Guideline on the Rules for REDD+ nesting in Cambodia, in close collaboration and coordination with the Ministry of Environment (MoE), Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) and with multiple REDD+ Development Partners (DPs) including Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Wildlife Alliance (WA), Conservation International (CI), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Mitsui & Co., Ltd, USAID Greening Prey Lang, Japan Forest Agency (JFA), Korean Forest Agency (KFA), Wildlife Work Carbon (WWC). A technical working group of representatives from REDD+ projects was created to draft the relevant Prakas and guideline; revise the FRL; and to design the tool for FRL allocation at subnational scales.

In addition, FCPF-II project has been coordinating closely with the National Council for Sustainable Development (NCS), an inter-ministerial council to support sustainable development priorities and coordinate across ministries, to ensure REDD+ inclusion in the formulation of a Sub Decree on the Rules and Procedures for Participation in the Greenhouse Gas Mechanism in Cambodia. The project has also taken lead in providing technical support in the calculation of forest carbon emission reduction targets for NDC.

The FCPF-II project continues to coordinate closely with FAO, JICA and REDD+ Developments Partners for the development of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)-related work and capacity building (outcome 4). As a delivery partner of the FCPF-II project, UNDP continues to provide support to the RTF and RTS, as well as closely coordinate with NCS to facilitate inter-ministerial discussions and decisions to mainstream REDD+ policies and measures into line-ministries policies and planning. At the policy level, the ability of the RGC to enact policies as well as to draft the Environment and Natural Resources Code was expected to provide legal foundations for REDD+ safeguards. The REDD+ CG whose members are from non-governmental stakeholders such as the IPs, civil society, GG, academics and the private sector continue to have sufficient interest and capacities to engage in REDD+ discussions to address their concerns.

By pioneering the development of Regulatory Framework for REDD+ projects, UNDP and RTS have been invited to participate in a series of virtual meetings to share and discuss Cambodia’s experiences, challenges and lessons learned on the development and operationalization of a REDD+ nested system. Some of these meetings are the Forest Solutions Dialogue on cooperatives for forests; seminar on opportunities and challenges associated with carbon finance in forest land use (Japan's Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF-Japan) and FAO); the UNDP initiated Forest Solutions Dialogues in 2020.

In addition, with the coordination and technical support from FCPF-II, Ministry of Environment also signed a Letter of Agreement with Verra for the practical application of a test version of the JNR allocation tools (AT). This tool is used to establish quotas for Forest Reference Level in Cambodia to identify areas for improvement, obtain information and lessons learned to inform decision making on nesting process in Cambodia. The activity will also facilitate Cambodia’s potential participation in the JNR standard.

b. Important changes in the technical design or approach related to the project activities

There were no substantial changes to the technical design or approach related to project activities in 2020.

2. In Focus

In 2020, the National REDD+ Readiness Programme in Cambodia focused on finalizing the four pillars of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+ and preparing Cambodia to move from readiness to implementation.

A. Action & Investment Plan of the National REDD+ Strategy (AIP-NRS)

Action & Investment Plan (AIP): The final draft of the AIP for the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy (NRS) of Cambodia was completed and translated into Khmer language. Currently, the Khmer version of the AIP-NRS has been submitted for official endorsement by the Minister of Environment. The AIP sets up the programmatic framework of investments needed to achieve the REDD+ Strategic Objectives (SOs) identified in the NRS. The AIP presents the policies and measures, financial plan and monitoring and evaluation framework needed to implement REDD+. It also seeks to guide investments for effective implementation of various REDD+ actions across the country in a way that ensures social inclusion and gender equity. The AIP links existing policies and addresses gaps in an implementation framework that enhances coherence and coordination, especially between the RGC Ministries and their technical and financial partners.

REDD+ Regulatory Framework (Nested System): The final draft of REDD+ Regulatory Framework (PRAKAS and the Guidelines on the Rules for REDD+ Nesting) has been developed. The PRAKAS and Guidelines provide clear rules and procedures for coordinating multiple actors implementing REDD+ at different spatial scales, notably in terms of carbon accounting, safeguards monitoring and benefit-sharing. These guidelines are going to permit Cambodia to comply with emerging international requirements for REDD+, supplement government capacity to implement AIP-NRS. Moreover, the nesting process will support Cambodia to achieve its NDC and to set out a foundation for participation in future Paris Agreement's Article 6 transaction, as well as promote alignment, transparency and equity among REDD+ stakeholders in Cambodia. The final draft has been technically cleared by the RTF for submission to MoE/NCSD for endorsement.

Options to Allocate Forest Reference Level (FRL): As part of the operationalization of the PRAKAS and Guidelines, with the support from the project, RGC has been working to develop the Deforestation Risk Map Tool that will be used as a basis to allocate a (deforestation-based) FRL at different spatial scales, including jurisdictional and project scales to (a) increase equity by promoting higher rewards to areas of higher deforestation threat; (b) promote alignment in how projects and the government measure GHG units; and (c) promote and benefit actions to reduce deforestation in the future, by driving new projects to areas of higher risk of forest loss. The final draft of the tool has been completed and ready for endorsement.

REDD+ Project Database: In addition, to support the implementation of PRAKAS and Guideline above, the project also supports RGC to develop the REDD+ Project Database (electronic infrastructure) that will transparently record information on all officially recognized REDD+ projects and programs in Cambodia. The REDD+ Project Database will centrally record REDD+ project (and program), facilitate the REDD+ project/program registration process, make publicly available REDD+ project/program information, provide ongoing monitoring and summaries of REDD+ projects information that will be hosted on the website of the REDD+ Task Force Secretariat (www.cambodia-redd.org). The REDD+ Project Database (website, forms and database) has been completed and tested. The training manual has been prepared and training to counterpart provided.

Second Forest Reference Level (FRL): Building on the first National Forest Reference Level (FRL) (for the 2006-2014 reference period) submitted to UNFCCC in 2017, RGC has been updating the FRL. The second FRL aims to increase transparency, consistency, coherence, and accuracy, incorporate newly available information and methodologies, and construct the FRL to facilitate the upcoming nesting process. Currently, the final draft of the second FRL document has been finalized, following the Modalities and

Submission Guidelines described by the UNFCCC. The updated elements include the Reference Period 2010-2018. For the activity data, a stratify area estimator approach has been used to estimate AD, while for the emission factor, the calculation and protocols have been updated, new data integrated and uncertainty analysis included in the report. The final draft of an updated FRL has been completed, technically cleared by the Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Technical Team, endorsed by MoE/NCSD and will be submitted to UNFCCC by 08 January 2021.

Land Use Financial Mapping in Cambodia: With technical support and cooperation from UNDP and the European Forest Institute (EFI), RTS has commissioned a study on Land Use Finance mapping in Cambodia. The study analysed the current landscape of financial flows relevant to land-use in Cambodia, encompassing AIP-NRS objectives as well as providing additional insight on other sectors relevant to drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in the country. The study is completed with findings, conclusion and recommendations presented to REDD+ Secretariat, key government institutions and DPs in the National Consultation Workshop in November 2020. The final version of the report will be printed for distribution.

Capacity building for REDD+ implementation at subnational level: Improving subnational capacity for REDD+ implementation has taken a multi-pronged approach and includes awareness-raising, knowledge generation and mainstreaming safeguards implementation with stakeholders. With support from FCPF, the RTS in partnership with the three government forestry institutions have successfully implemented REDD+ demonstration activities at subnational level. The key outputs completed to date including:

- **General Directorate of Administration, Nature Protection and Conservation (GDANCP/MoE)** focused on sustainable management of the Phnom Kulen National Park through zoning, reforestation and strengthening laws enforcement in Siem Reap. To date, the final draft of the zoning has been finalized and validated with stakeholders. The zoning report has been prepared. Sub-Decree for zoning has been prepared for approval by MoE and RGC. Capacity building to Park Rangers to enhance law enforcement has also progressed well through regular field patrolling activity. As part of the support to facilitate forest conservation, restoration and maintenance, 20 ha of degraded forest land in the parks have been planted with native species with participation from the local community, Provincial, District and Commune Authorities, Parks staff and Provincial Department of Environment.
- **Forestry Administration (FA/MAFF)** focus on strengthening the implementation of partnership/community forestry in Samroang commune, Pursat province through testing community woodlot establishment to provide sustainable wood biomass supply for charcoal production for income generation, scaling up innovative bioenergy efficient technology and strengthening law enforcement. To date, all the key planned activities and outputs have been successfully completed including 20 ha of community woodlot with fast-growing trees established (30,000-40,000 tree planted). A community woodlot management plan has also been developed to ensure long term management and maintenance of the woodlot. Twenty biodigesters have been supported and operationalized. Twenty poor 1 & poor 2¹ families of which 9 families of indigenous People benefitted from the support. In addition, two women savings groups have also been established to provide access to credit support and thereby enable them to benefit and actively participate in project implementation.
- **Fishery Administration (FiA/MAFF):** focused on restoring 40 ha of the degraded flooded forest as part of its effort to strengthen flooded forest conservation in Sarsasdam commune, Siem Reap Province

¹ Poor 1 and Poor 2 are poverty levels designated by the Ministry of Planning with Poor 1 for the poorest families.

and supporting 25 innovative bioenergy efficient technology to combat forest fire resulting from wood biomass collection from a flooded forest conservation area in Tonle Sap lake. By the end of 2020, awareness-raising and capacity-building events were conducted to build awareness on the importance of flooded forest, the impact of forest fire and land encroachment. Approximately 60,000 native species of flooded forest seedlings were produced and 40 ha of degraded flooded forest conservation area have been successfully restored. Local fishery community particularly women-headed and poor household families actively participated and benefitted from these activities. Additionally, 25 biodigesters have also been supported and operationalized.

BUR and REDD+ Technical Annex: With the technical and financial support from UNDP/FCPF and UNEP, the RGC has developed and submitted its first Biennial Update Report (BUR) to the UNFCCC in August 2020. Also with financial support from FCPF and Technical support from UNDP and FAO, the BUR REDD+ Technical Annex (TA) compared GHG emissions and removals for the forest and land use sector for the reporting periods (2015-2016 and 2017-2018) with estimates of the reference period (2006-2014). REDD+ TA analysis showed encouraging results, with GHG ERs assessed with high confidence for the 2017-2018 period (i.e. 4,8 MtCO₂e/year) has also been developed and submitted to UNFCCC in September 2020.

FCPF-II Project Terminal Evaluation (TE): In anticipation of the FCPF-II Project finishing by end 2020, FCPF/UNDP has commissioned and completed the project TE in November 2020. The final TE report has been uploaded and can be accessed via (www.cambodia-redd.org). The assessment was virtually conducted by an independent international consultant to assess both performance and evidence of achievements. It concluded that the project has made significant progress towards FCPF-II project outputs and results as well as towards the FCPF Assessment framework. The progress made with the implemented R-PP is encouraging and has built an important foundation to transition from REDD+ readiness to implementation and results-based payments. This evaluation will be supplemented by an evaluation for activities planned and implemented in 2021.

Resource Mobilization: The success of REDD+ will require access to sustainable finance. The NRS-AIP is an important milestone, which provides a clear platform for financial resource mobilization. Finalization (specifically for the financial mechanism) and endorsement of this document has been considered a high priority to build confidence among potential funding providers. UNDP/FCPF has been taking a leading role to develop a GCF-SAP project concept note on Moving Towards REDD+ Implementation through Private Sector Engagement in REDD+ Actions. Currently, with the support from FCPF, a standard project funding proposal are being prepared and plan to be finalized in June 2021 for submission to GCF.

3. Risks, Issues and Responses

Despite improved institutional and technical capacities in the field of forest policy, forest monitoring, forest management and social and environmental safeguards, governance challenges to address drivers of deforestation still persist in Cambodia, and technical guidance, as well as financial support, are still needed to move from technical data analysis and policy design to effective REDD+ action on the ground. In this regard, several lessons can be learnt from a decade of REDD+ Readiness Programme in Cambodia.

- **National ownership.** Cambodia's National REDD+ Programme has been supported by various partners over the years, notably by the UN-REDD Programme and the FCPF project implemented by UNDP and FAO. While these support have been critical to design the institutional arrangements for REDD+ and to support the regular boards of the RTF and Consultative Group (CG), it is clear that national ownership remains limited after a decade of REDD+ readiness efforts, to the point that operations of

the RTF, RTS and REDD+ CG are jeopardized, putting the sustainability, REDD+ investment opportunities and environmental integrity of Cambodia's REDD+ Programme at risk.

- **National Determined Contribution (NDC).** The updated version of the NDC has integrated an ambitious target for the forest sector: “Reduce by half the historic emissions on the forest sector”. For the RGC, REDD+ becomes a key cross-sectorial policy, which guides the implementation of different short medium and long term outcomes related to forest conservation, biodiversity and sustainable social inclusion. The correct implementation and monitoring of REDD+ activities and the coordination with other sectors like agriculture, infrastructure and energy are indispensable to achieve the NDC target proposed in 2020 as part of the Paris Agreement. In addition, the implementation of REDD+, including the nesting system supported by FCPF, is essential to drive the country towards their NDC ambition.
- **Political and financial commitment.** Political support is essential to improve environmental governance. There has been a positive response to the jurisdictional changes in 2016 that resulted in the transfer of all Protected Areas and Biodiversity Conservation Corridors from MAFF to MoE. But such reforms require expedient implementation of relevant administrative, legal and regulatory instruments and hence political and financial commitment to come into effect.
- **Broad-based stakeholder engagement.** Experience shows that REDD+ policies are more likely to achieve REDD+ objectives if all stakeholders (i.e. government agencies, development partners, civil society organizations, indigenous people, local communities, private sector, universities and research institutions, etc.) are involved from the onset. In that regard, multi-stakeholders dialogue needs to be operated at *all levels of governance* to improve the chance of finding sustainable and lasting solutions for land management. Specific attention needs to be paid to local context, in order to address sources of inequity. In that regard, the NFMS and Safeguards Information System (SIS) tools can help to address participation and transparency to prevent the differences in the capacities, resources and powers of various stakeholders.
- **Cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms.** It is clear that coordination at national level through the RTF needs to be improved to address potential sectoral policy conflicts. Also, policy conflicts still happen at the local level as coordination is much more complex and under-resourced. Therefore, cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms need to be operationalized at *all levels of governance* to address differences in goals and interests. Similarly, REDD+ policies and measures need to be mainstreamed *across all sectors at levels* for REDD+ to be effective.
- **Integrated land use management.** The RGC acknowledges the *importance of tackling non-forestry drivers* to halt forest loss. Beyond capacities for forest monitoring, forest law enforcement and sustainable forest management, there is an urgent need for better *land-tenure* and *land use planning* processes, more *sustainable agricultural* models and *renewable sources of energy* to support the needs of a growing population and contribute to sustainable rural development.
 - **Land use planning & Land tenure.** Over the past decade of REDD+ Readiness Programme in Cambodia, there has been constant feedback that land tenure security and land governance are closely intertwined with rights of indigenous peoples and local communities. REDD+ initiatives at national and local levels have resulted in some progress on tenure, but this is far from enough to ensure the proper functioning of REDD+. Major obstacles are business-as-usual interests favouring forest conversion, as well as the exclusion of forest-dependent communities (notably

indigenous peoples) from land-use decision-making. Therefore, support is needed for integrated land use planning at all levels. There is an urgent need to develop coherent and integrated land use plans according to the potentialities of the resources and perspectives of their valorization, with a view of securing land tenure and promoting conservation agriculture to reduce pressures on forest lands.

- **Forest Sector.** Support is needed for forest law enforcement to address unauthorized logging and encroachment, by investing in human and material resources and raising awareness of local communities and authorities on forest laws. Public-Private Partnerships are needed for reforestation, forest restoration and sustainable forest management under government and community management to better consider timber and fuelwood demand.
- **Agriculture Sector.** Expansion in agriculture area is a main historical driver of deforestation in Cambodia and remains a threat to forest cover. Public and private sectors need support to implement sustainable supply chains from agro-industrial plantations. Considering the historical importance of Economic Land Concessions (ELC) on deforestation in Cambodia, there is a need to allocate some existing ELCs to communities and indigenous people in order to create new forest areas and contribute to livelihood improvements and community development.
- **Energy sector.** Firewood is closely associated with forest degradation and alternative sources of energy are needed to avoid future degradation (and deforestation). Importantly, timber and wood-based energy production and supply sourced from community-based forest management areas and private plantations need to be enhanced under more sustainable production systems.

4. Progress in addressing key capacity issues of the Programme Management Unit (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this project

FCPF-II continues to work closely with a Project Executive Board (PEB) to oversee project activities, performance and results. The Project Management Unit (PMU) under the leadership of the government appointed National Project Director (NPD), National Project Manager (NPM) and staff at the RTS provide financial, procurement and administrative related support to the project. UNDP project support staff and Programme Associate continue to provide assurance and capacity building as per the project management agreement.

To position Cambodia for REDD+ implementation, the Third Project Executive Board (PEB) meeting approved the key priority plan to the design a “Nested System” for REDD+ implementation and a draft Prakas to regulate REDD+ implementation in Cambodia. This included the proposed methodology and approach for updating the Forest Reference Level (FRL) and options for spatial modelling of deforestation risk and FRL allocation at multiple spatial scales as well as proposed institutional arrangement for REDD+ implementation and REDD+ financial framework.

Annual work plans and budgets (AWPB) were used as a basis for monitoring and evaluating project implementation progress with the government and other stakeholders during PEB, RTF and RTS meetings. Overall project implementation progress is satisfactory, including financial delivery. Meetings of the PEB, RTF and RTS have been conducted to review progress, discuss and advice on the solution to overcome implementation challenges. Project risks and issues log has been reviewed and updated every quarter and uploaded in the UNDP ATLAS system. Periodic field visits have also been conducted, jointly with RTF, RTS, TTs, CG and UNDP Project staff.

As per UNDP requirements, the 2020 project annual audit was also undertaken by an independent agency. The recommendations of the spot check and audit concluded that the implementation, technical, financial and procurement related to the FCPF project have been implemented and prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the basis of preparation and accounting policies. There were no major issues identified.

As part of the technical capacity building, the MRV and Safeguards Technical Teams under the guidance of REDD+ Taskforce continued to take leading roles in all aspects of MRV and safeguards related issues. They received technical and coordination support from UNDP/FCPF advisers, an external pool of local and international experts, regional experts or regional institutions as and when the need is identified.

5. Progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the project. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach? Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?

In 2020, FCPF-II project supported Cambodia to complete its REDD+ readiness and start the transition to implementation in 2021. Under this REDD+ mechanism, a Safeguards Information System was developed in 2019 with a robust Social and Environmental Management Framework (ESMF) to mitigate the potential impact of REDD+ projects on biodiversity, women, indigenous peoples, and resettlement. This ESMF was successfully tested through the implementation at the 3 pilot REDD+ sites, resulting in the development of a Protected Area Management Zoning in Phnom Kulen National Park, the restoration 20 ha of degraded forest land in the park and the replanting of 40,000 flooded forest native species to contribute to improved biodiversity, 20 ha of woodlot establishment, 45 biodigesters support, awareness-raising and law enforcement activities contributed to improve social impact and benefit from the project particularly women and indigenous community. In addition, the ESMF assessment helps to build community awareness, with a highlight on the importance of women and IPs taking a leading role in reforestation, forest conservation and biodigester activities. As an immediate result, as part of REDD+ safeguard implementation, 41 women (73%) out of 56 community members were involved and benefited from the production and maintenance of a community nursery, 45 poor 1 and 2² community forestry and community fisheries members (9 indigenous families) were for the first time benefit from the biodigester support. In addition, two specific women saving groups with 30 members from poor and indigenous women were also established to enable their access to micro credit from the groups to enable their participation in forest management activities and to meet their immediate need and gap for their livelihoods development activities. As reported by the group, the capital saving funds of the group has been increased resulting from an interest rate earned as well as the saving input by the group members in the capital saving funds.

Under the REDD+ Regulatory Framework mechanism, all REDD+ projects are required to align their activities with the national REDD+ safeguards established in line with UNFCCC. As part of the project's registration process and verification by an independent party, it will be required to prepare and submit project implementation plans that include monitoring and a completed national REDD+ safeguards implementation reporting template to the RTS.

² Poor 1 and Poor 2 are poverty levels designated by the Ministry of Planning with Poor 1 for the poorest families.

6. Progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, and disclosure of information and the Feedback Grievance and Redress Mechanism, related to this project

The National REDD+ Programme established a clear and structured system of stakeholder consultation, participation, as well as disclosure of information that includes the RTF, RTS, 4 TTs (safeguards, benefit sharing, demonstration and MRV/FRL), CG and GG. Effective participation of stakeholders in the REDD+ readiness remains strong and consistent through the active participation of the CG. The capacity building of these institutions and stakeholders engagement for REDD+ implementation has progressed well and continued to be strengthened through their day to day engagement in meetings, workshops, south-south exchanges and knowledge sharing events in accordance with their TOR as relevance. In preparation to transition to REDD+ implementation post-FCPF, the CG recommended that funding should be provided to ensure it can continue to coordinate feedback on NRS implementation including safeguards.

For the 3 subnational REDD+ capacity building pilots mentioned in item 2 above, the project engaged with forestry institutions for awareness-raising, knowledge generation and mainstreaming safeguards implementation. In addition, building on the work of the Community-based REDD+ (CBR+) in close coordination with the UNDP Small Grants Programme', in 2020, 8 projects covering 4 Community Protected Areas (CPAs) and 4 Community Fisheries have been supported and continued to strengthen local community participation in forest protection and livelihood enhancement.

Public disclosure and access to information is provided through workshops, meetings, trainings, print and online publications and the dissemination of reports and REDD+ material via a website (<http://www.cambodia-redd.org>). The website contains all information about national REDD+ framework, institutional setup, implementation progress, outputs from the implementation of the different development support mechanisms as well as current highlights. Reports, studies and progress made in connection with the REDD+ process such as consultation reports are published on the REDD+ website.

7. In Numbers

	Year 1 (2014)	Year 2 (2015)	Year 3 (2016)	Year 4 (2017)	Year 5 (2018)	Year 6 (2019)	Year 7 (2020)
Number of institutions represented in the Task force	7 Ministries	7 Ministries	7 Ministries	7 Ministries	7 Ministries	7 Ministries	7 Ministries
Ratio of men/women in the Task Force	7/0	7/0	7/0	7/0	13/2	13/2	13/2
Number of civil society organizations actively engaged in different aspects of the programme (Consultation Group)	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Ratio of men/women in CG	16/2	17/2	17/2	17/1	23/2	23/2	23/2
Number of people actively engaged in advising on the development of the national strategy	16 persons (11 technical experts, 2 NGOs, 3	16 persons (11 technical experts, 2 NGOs, 3 senior	16 persons (11 technical experts, 2 NGOs, 3 senior	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/V

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	senior government staff)	government staff)	government staff)				
Number of people trained on REDD+ and climate change (men/women ratio)/ Number of people trained on the four Warsaw Framework elements (men/women ratio)	434 (259/45)	1,973 (1,678/295)	1,636 (1,292/344)	1,612 (1,162/450)	1,582 (319 women)	1,260 (376 women)	N/V
Number of national consultation workshops held	4	4	1	2	2	3	1
Number of sub national consultation / awareness raising workshops	N/A	4	0	22	9	6	N/A
Number of information notes produced	5 working papers (joint with UN-REDD)	N/A	N/A	14	9	18	N/A

8. Financial Delivery

The table below provides up-to-date cumulative financial progress of the FCPF-II implementation on planned, committed and disbursed funds, at the end of the reporting period and including all cumulative yearly disbursements.

Table 1: Contribution Overview [Project started: 01 June 2017 – Project end: 31 December 2020]

Donor Name	Contributions		Actual Expense	Balance	Delivery %
	Committed	Received			
UNDP (04000 - TRAC)	12,609	12,609	12,609	-	100%
Program Cost Sharing (12100 – FCPF-II)	5,402,312	5,402,312	5,090,866	311,446	94%
Total	5,414,921	5,414,921	5,103,475	311,446	94%

Table 2: Cumulative Expenditure by Activities [01 January 2020 – 31 Dec 2020]

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS					
OUTPUTS-Descriptions	Amount Transferred by UNDP	2020 Cumulative Expenditure			
		Commitments	Disbursements	Total Expenditure	Delivery
		(B)	(C)	(D) = B + C	(%)
OUTPUT 1: Establishment of national management of REDD+ Readiness Process	276,413	-	276,376	276,376	100 %
OUTPUT 2: Development of National REDD+ Strategy	341,049	-	340,958	340,958	100 %
OUTPUT 3 - Improved capacity to manage REDD+ at subnational levels	189,153	-	189,143	189,143	100 %
OUTPUT 4: Monitoring system designed for REDD+ with capacity for implementation	277,681	-	277,818	277,818	100 %
Subtotal US\$	1,084,296	-	1,084,296	1,084,296	100 %
Remarks: TRAC =	-	-	-	-	-
Programme CS =	1,084,296	-	1,084,296	1,084,296	100 %
Total=	1,084,296	-	1,084,296	1,084,296	100 %

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Table 3: Cumulative Expenditure by Activities [Project started: 01 June 2017 – Project end: 31 December 2020]

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS					
OUTPUTS-Descriptions	Amount Transferred by UNDP	Cumulative Expenditure 2017-2020			
		Commitments (B)	Disbursements (C)	Total Expenditure	Delivery (%)
				(D) = B + C	
OUTPUT 1: Establishment of national management of REDD+ Readiness Process	1,704,578		12,609	12,609	95%
OUTPUT 2: Development of National REDD+ Strategy	1,467,929		5,402,312	5,402,312	99%
OUTPUT 3 - Improved capacity to manage REDD+ at subnational levels	455,157		5,414,921	5,414,921	83%
OUTPUT 4: Monitoring system designed for REDD+ with capacity for implementation	1,787,257		12,609	12,609	93%
Subtotal US\$	5,414,921		5,402,312	5,402,312	94%
Remarks: TRAC =	12,609		12,609	12,609	100%
Programme CS =	5,402,312		5,090,866	5,090,866	94%
Total=	5,414,921		5,103,475	5,103,475	94%

9. Picture and caption



Kick Start National Workshop
Designing a “Nested System” for REDD+ Project implementation in Cambodia
Phnom Penh, 29 January 2020

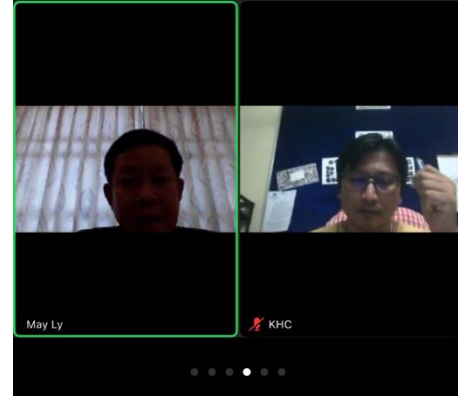
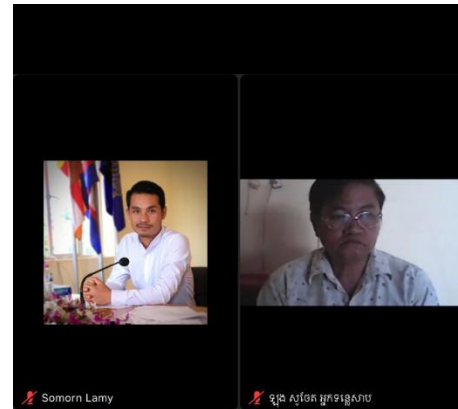
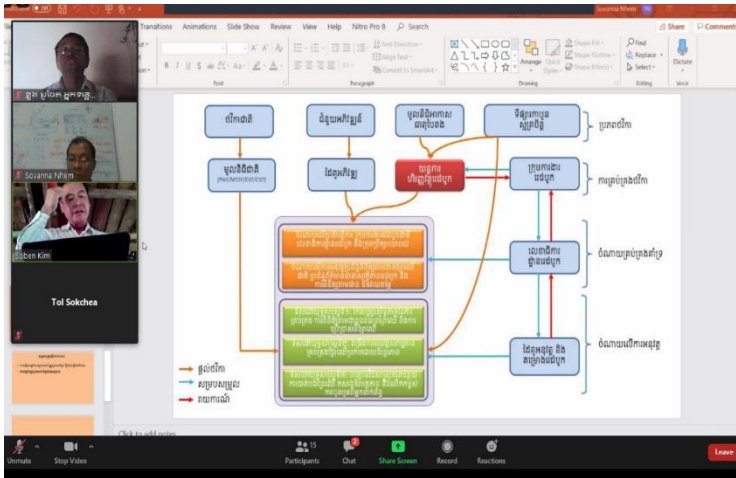


3rd Project Executive Board Meeting, FCPF-II
30 January 2020

UNDP 2020 Annual Progress Report to the FCPF as a Delivery Partner – Cambodia



25th Consultation Group Meeting
Siem Reap Province, February 27, 2020



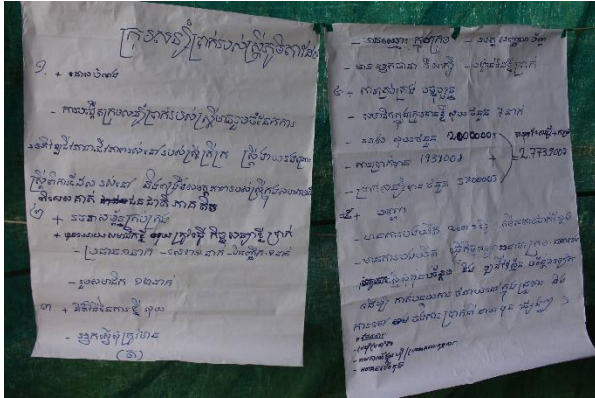
Consultation Group online meeting
to review the final draft of AIP-NRS
before submission for endorsement
by MoE
12 June 2020



Protection and Rehabilitation of Degraded Forest and Biodiversity
Phnom Kulen National Park and Tonle Sap Flooded Forest Conservation, Seim Reap



Bioenergy/biodigester – new ways to reduce demands on wood biomass
Samroang commune Pursat province and Sarsarsdam commune Siem Reap Provinces



Exploring sustainable financial support for Community Forestry Patrolling Activities through the Establishment of Women Saving Group, Samroang Commune, Pursat Province