



Cambodia Readiness Fund REDD+ Country Participants Progress Report
July 2021 – June 2022

v. 2021



FCPF Readiness Fund:
 REDD+ Country Participant Annual Progress Report

About this document

This template is for use by Readiness Fund (RF) REDD+ Country Participants to report their annual progress on REDD+ readiness activities in general, and on FCPF-supported activities in particular. The data provided through these reports represents a central information source for measuring progress against the FCPF's expected results and performance indicators, as articulated within the FCPF Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework.

Report preparation

Reports cover progress through 30th June of each year.

When preparing the report, RF REDD+ Country Participants should draw upon the country M&E system for REDD+ (component 6 of the R-PP) and should consult members of the national REDD task force or equivalent body. Inputs from stakeholders including IPs and CSOs should be integrated, with any divergent views recorded as appropriate. Detailed, indicator-by-indicator definitions and reporting guidance are provided within the FCPF M&E Framework (<https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/monitoring-and-evaluation-0>).

Reporting schedule

Completed reports should be submitted to the FCPF's Facility Management Team (FMT) by **15th July** every year.

SECTION A: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. In brief, what were the main REDD+ readiness-related activities and achievements delivered within your country during the last year?
 - Activities - For example, strategy / policy drafting, stakeholder consultation events, capacity building / training, awareness raising initiatives
 - Achievements - For example, x number of individuals attended REDD+ consultations (sex disaggregated, if available), national REDD+ strategy was finalised, government formally adopted national REDD+ related policy/s, NFMS was established, partnership agreement with private sector association signed
 - Please be as specific as possible, e.g., name, date and number of participants in consultation events (sex disaggregated, if available), name of policy being drafted, institutions involved in policy drafting

This report highlights activities and results achieved by the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility REDD+ Readiness Project phase two (FCPF II) carried out by the Cambodia REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat (RTS) from July 2021 to June 2022.

Key Activities

Building on the initiatives that started in the first semester of 2021, the project continues to work on enhancement of 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 readiness phase to implementation phase. Key progress accomplished and being finalized during the reporting period includes:

- I. REDD+ Nested System: The development of detailed technical guidelines to support operationalization of the PRAKAS¹ on the implementation of the Guideline on Nested System for REDD+ implementation in Cambodia:

¹ PRAKAS is a Khmer word. PRAKAS means regulations issued by the Minister.

- i. A National Roadmap for Nesting has been prepared to guide Cambodia towards full operationalization of nested REDD+.
 - ii. The update and development of a manual to operate and manage the National REDD+ Project Database and web portal. The development of National REDD+ Project Database (Registry).
 - iii. A positive list presenting the standards that are eligible for use in REDD+ implementation in Cambodia.
 - iv. The draft Forest Reference Level (FRL) allocation methodology including a deforestation and forest degradation risk map.
- II. The development of the Jurisdictional Nested REDD+ Forest Reference Level (JNR-FRL)- Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) Version 4.0
 - III. The technical assessment of the updated (second) FRL
 - IV. FRL submitted to the UNFCCC in February 2022 has been completed. The Technical Assessment report is available online².
 - V. Development of Knowledge Products:
 - a. The preparation of the REDD+ 10 years achievements (retrospective) booklets including four video documentaries on REDD+.
 - b. A new knowledge product (booklet) on status of REDD+ nested system in Cambodia.
 - c. A case story on community flooded forest conservation and restoration activities under the FCPF project support - in the Tonle Sap Great Lake.
 - VI. Review and assessment of the National Protected Area Strategic Management Plan Action Plan (NPASMP).
 - VII. Subnational capacity building for REDD+ implementation through enhancing community fisheries flooded forest protection and restoration of flooded forest

Other project implementation related activities that are supported and finalized by the project during the reporting period include (1) the project Supplementary Terminal Evaluation covering project progress during 2021; (2) coordinating the implementation of the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) global initiative on Essential Life Support Areas (ELSAs) mapping activity; (3) securing additional funding to support the REDD+ Program from the UK and Germany Governments through UNDP's Climate Promise 2.0; (4) Cambodia's participation in the global Voluntary Carbon Market Integrity Initiative (VCMI) and (5) supporting the inception phase of the Scaling up Climate Ambition on Land Use and Agriculture through Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation Plans (SCALA).

The non-endorsement of the PRAKAS and the Guideline on REDD+ nesting regulation have delayed the operationalization of the early nesting stage, which was expected to start in 2021. This is because the endorsement of the Sub-decree on rules and procedures on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions on REDD+ is a prerequisite for the endorsement of nested regulation and for participation of the Royal Government of Cambodia in GHG Emission Reduction Mechanism. To address the drawbacks, the project has secured a letter of agreement from the Head of REDD+ Taskforce (RTF) dated 28 June 2021 to allow for the project to continue to work on the detailed operational guidelines to ensure that all the technical requirements for the early-stage nesting implementation are prepared and in place once the nested regulation will be endorsed by the Ministry of Environment (MoE).

Key Achievements

During June 2021 to June 2022, key highlighted results and outputs achieved during the reporting period include:

Detail guidelines for operation of REDD+ Nested System: Following the acceptance of the [nested guideline](#) by the Ministry of Environment on May 12th, 2021, to support the operationalization of the PRAKAS and the Guideline on REDD+ nested System for REDD+ implementation in Cambodia, several detailed technical guidance's are also being developed and finalized including:

² https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/tar2021_KHM.pdf

- [Nesting Roadmap](#): The completion of the Nesting Roadmap outlining steps and activities needed to operationalize nested system.
- [Positive List](#): The finalization and technical endorsement of a Positive List presenting the standards that are eligible for use in REDD+ implementation in Cambodia by the REDD+ Taskforce.
- Safeguards in a Nested System: The analysis of information gaps concerning safeguards monitoring at the project and national level to for the National REDD+ Safeguards Information System under UNFCCC was conducted including identifying what and measures to meet the gaps and requirements for subnational REDD+ nested project in Cambodia, which was also completed. [The information gaps and mitigation measures](#) will form part of an additional safeguard's information needs for nesting REDD+ projects under the national programme.
- Project Registry: The development of a National REDD+ Project Database (Registry) including the design of the project registration form and procedures has been completed and can be accessed via Cambodia REDD+ website: <https://cambodia-redd.org/policies-and-strategies/redd-project-database.html>). The database is ready for operationalization once the PRAKAS and Guideline are formally endorsed. The National REDD+ Programme Website was also upgraded to ensure it can support the operationalization of the Registry. Currently, the manual for operating and management of the National REDD+ Project Database and web portal is being developed.
- Allocation Tool (AT): The final draft of the FRL allocation methodology including a deforestation risk map to use as a tool to allocate FRL at different spatial scales has been developed. The training on FRL Allocation was conducted online in 3 sessions on 8th, 15th, and 29th July 2021. A total 13 participants attended these 3 training sessions. They were from the General Directorate of Environmental Education and Information (GDEKI), General Directorate of Natural Protected Area (GDNPA), Forestry Administration (FA), Fisheries Administration (FiA), General Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (GDA-MAFF), WCS, CI, JICA, FAO and WA. The training gathered (i) technical feedback to improve methodology and tool; (ii) tested the proposed improvement methodology and tool, and (iii) documented the improvement process to enhance transparency and robustness of the updated Risk Map Methodology and Tool. The project is currently working with Verra to test the allocation tools that was developed by RTS with the support from FCPF-II. Following the pilot study and recommendations from the study, if needed the FRL will be updated/improved accordingly.

Jurisdictional Nested REDD+ Forest Reference Level (JNR-FRL)- VCS: Cambodia was selected by Verra as the first pilot country for its JNR framework or platform which will enable the country to access Voluntary Carbon Standard (VCS) credits for both subnational REDD+ projects and government-led jurisdictional REDD+ programmes. To this end a [first draft \(or version 1\) of the JNR - FREL Description Template for JNR Scenario 1](#) (VCS Version 4.0) was completed and is currently under review by MoE before soliciting public consultation and feedback.

Second Forest Reference Level Technical Assessment: The second updated FRL which was approved and submitted by MoE to UNFCCC in May 2021 was successfully assessed and the [technical assessment report](#) was officially released by the independent Assessment Team (AT) of the UNFCCC on 11 March 2022. The updated FRL is formally accepted and accessible in the UNFCCC web-portal [here](#). This shows substantial progress compared to most countries in the Asia and Pacific region. Key improvements in the second FRL were the use of more plot data (e.g., from the REDD+ projects), improved methods to produce activity data, such as sample-based change estimates, and updated allometric equations, and Emission Factor (EF) calculations with a narrower range of uncertainty.

Knowledge Products on Nesting and REDD+: As part of the project documentation and closure, the development of booklet "[REDD+ in Cambodia](#)" was completed. The booklet presented 'institutional memory' on the development of REDD+ in Cambodia. It included a section on the development of nested REDD+ over the period 2019-2021. In addition, a new knowledge product on the nested system was also developed and finalized. It tells the story of Cambodia's pioneering work on nesting. Both knowledge products chronicled experiences that should be of interest to other developing countries that, like Cambodia, are seeking to strike a complex balance between development and climate priorities through nesting. In addition, four videos on REDD+ related development in Cambodia, with Khmer and English subtitled, were also developed and will be uploaded to the REDD+ Cambodia website and social media outlets (<http://www.cambodia-redd.org>). A storytelling product that recounts the results of conservation and restoration activities under the FCPF-II project support in the Tonle Sap Great Lake is under development.

Capacity building for REDD+ implementation at subnational level: As part of capacity building for REDD+ implementation at subnational level, the project continues to partner with the FiA) to implement REDD+ demonstration activities to

strengthen Sasarsdam Community Fisheries. The support includes awareness-raising, knowledge generation, flooded forest seedlings production and reforestation, alternative wood biomass cooking energy efficiency (biogas) and mainstreaming safeguards implementation with stakeholders. As a result, during this reporting period, an additional 100,000 native species of flooded forest seedlings were produced; additional 20 ha degraded flooded forest conservation area successfully restored; and additional 21 biogas digesters supported and operationalized as part of continued effort to build local community awareness to address forest fire resulting from wood biomass collection from a flooded forest conservation area in Tonle Sap Lake.

Climate Promise: Cambodia is part of UNDP's Climate Promise 2.0, focusing on achieving and increasing the ambition of REDD+-related targets in the NDC. The activities are selected in consultation with the updated NDC, the Action Investment Plan (AIP) for NRS, Long-Term Strategy, and the Technical Assessment Report of the Second Forest Reference Level. The country is directing this financing towards supporting the work associated with REDD+. Institutionalization and strengthening of the REDD+ Secretariat in the Ministry of Environment, develop a new monitoring method on deforestation and forest degradation, continued support to MoE on REDD+ financing mechanism. Such activities have been aligned mainly to finalize and strengthen activities related to monitoring and the implementation of the nested framework; assess the extent to which carbon markets can contribute to meeting climate targets; establish the steps required to meet its NDC; and ensure the institutional arrangements to implement the forest component in the NDC through Cambodia's Investment Plan for REDD+. This additional financing comes from the German and UK Governments, which will be critical to contribute to a smooth transition from REDD+ readiness to the implementation stage. The additional financing from the UK Government was approved in June 2022.

Integration of NFMS database with Cambodia Environment Management Information System (CEMIS): As a part of Government's commitment to digital transformation, the CEMIS has been under development and is expected to be a central repository for geospatial information related to the environment. The CEMIS is supported through the Cambodia Sustainable Landscape and Ecotourism Project (CSLEP) (2019-2025). UNDP is providing technical lead of the CEMIS and Informational System and Decision Support (ISDS) component. FCPF II has been working to support migration of NFMS into CEMIS/ISDS that will ensure integration of a wide range of environmental and land cover databases into the system and create sustainability. The provision of better monitoring of forest change will benefit various stakeholders.

Essential Life Support Areas (ELSAs) mapping: ELSA is a UNDP-led global initiative and Cambodia has been selected as one of the pilot countries to test the ELSA activities. The activities have been supported through FCPF-II project human resources. Essential Life Support Areas ELSAs mapping activity was introduced through stakeholder consultations and regular communication with key contacts. The first stakeholder virtual consultations were held in June 2021 where participants agreed on top-ten policy commitments from the government policy documents related to nature, climate, and sustainable development. Following this workshop, the data collection process was continued from June to September 2021 based on the suitability to address the ten selected policy commitments. Both national and global data layers had been selected in consultation with core science team, composed of representatives from Cambodia, UNDP, other international partners. These included data on administrative boundaries, roads, water, forest/land cover, protected areas, and ecotourism. The second consultation was conducted October-November 2021 to create a new ELSA map in consultation with all stakeholders. During the second consultation, participants reviewed the project vision and the findings from the first consultation workshop and subsequent data collection process; and co-created a new ELSA map for Cambodia based on the concept of systematic conservation planning using ELSA Webtool. The core science team further refined the initial draft map created at the second consultation. A new ELSA map showing areas suitable for protection, restoration and management is expected to be released in July 2022. The ELSA map of Cambodia will add a new monitoring layer for NFMS and MRV supported by FCPF II. While the ELSA web-tool will add values to enhance NFMS and MRV platforms. Using new ELSA web-tool, Cambodia will be benefited through creating new ELSA data layers (showing areas for protection, restoration and management) at a regular interval (annually) in future.

Project closure: The 2021 Supplementary Terminal Evaluation of the FCPF II Project is completed and presented to RTS. This evaluation reaffirmed the outstanding contribution of UNDP through the FCPF in the progress achieved by Cambodia's REDD+ Program and identified the delay in the endorsement of PRAKAS as the main issue in achieving the remaining objectives of the Program.

2. What were the main REDD+ readiness-related challenges and/or problems during the last year?

- For example, lack of engagement from key stakeholders, political barriers, limited funding

- **Endorsement of the PRAKAS and Guideline for REDD+ Nesting:** The main challenge for the activities reported in the 2021-2022 period, and for the future of nested REDD+ in Cambodia, was the delay in approval of the PRAKAS. Cambodia has been recognizing as one of the pioneer countries in development of REDD+ Nested System for REDD+ implementation to unlock resource mobilization from diverse sources, including private sector finance. Unexpected delay in the endorsement process has undermined and negatively impacted the effort to attract and enhance private sector interest in REDD+. Despite these challenges, the RTS, with support of UNDP/FCPF, has continued to prepare and develop detailed guidance's /guidelines to cover all the technical ground required to operationalize the PRAKAS and related guidelines. More explicit strategies to promote high-level political support from MoE have been undergoing, such as continued advocacy of UNDP through high-level meetings with MOE to advance decision on nested guideline as well as communication through UK embassy to strengthen political will on issues related to avoiding forest and enhance forest protection and conservation have been conducted. With the coordination support from UNDP Forest & Climate Team, Cambodia has been selected to engage with VCMI where nested systems have been promoted as one of the approaches to ensure environmental integrity. Finally, with the coordination support from UNDP policy unit, work is underway to provide a comprehensive overview of the progress made at COP26 on the international carbon markets and on the potential for nested REDD+ in Cambodia. This work has been focused on capacity building to senior management and technical staff of the MoE representatives from the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF), members of the Climate Change-Technical Working Group (CC-TWG).
- **Sustainability of the National REDD+ Programme:** Cambodia has been successful in securing funding for REDD+ readiness, which resulted in building Cambodia REDD+ Program foundation thus far to meet all the requirements and be eligible for results-based payment from UNFCCC Green Climate Fund (GCF). However, with current FCPF support project ending, it may jeopardize the continuation of national REDD+ program. The following actions are being taken to address the challenges:
 - The development and finalization of a USD10-million GCF Simplified Approval Process (SAP) Project funding proposal. Currently, the draft is under final internal before submission to GCF.
 - In the meantime, additional UNDP funding is or will be secured through: Climate Promise 2.0 (USD120,000 by German Fund) and an additional USD200,000 from UK's Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA). These will continue to support key and emerging issues related to NDC implementation. In particular, the DEFRA funding is intended for the FOLU Sector and implementation of REDD+ activities.
 - In addition, progress is underway to discuss and agree on an exit strategy with RTS and MoE to ensure continuous functions of the RTS without which, may jeopardize the continuation of the national REDD+ program. Currently, the proposed action to refine and institutionalize the proposed reformed REDD+ institutional arrangements through a new institutional structure within MoE organogram has obtained support from the MoE and Chair of RTF. With the support from FCPF project team, RTS is working to define mandates of the institutions responsible for REDD+ implementation at national and subnational levels, as well as coordination, monitoring, and reporting lines across institutions at various levels that will discuss and finalize with MoE, RTF/RTS.
- **Emerging of carbon markets:** Carbon markets are proving to be a concrete and sustainable financing source for implementing the NDC's forest commitments and REDD+ programs through high integrity activities. In this context, under the VCMI, UNDP and the technical support of Climate Focus is supporting the country's efforts to enhance access to carbon finance. This support, tailored to the needs of Cambodia, is directed to strengthen the country's capacities and define a framework that will enable it to advance based on its needs, priorities, and shared advantages in terms of its experiences with voluntary carbon projects, its nesting system and progress in its REDD+ program. Cambodia can take advantage of this support to define a comprehensive strategy that ensure it to participate in both voluntary and compliance international carbon markets.

- **Establishment of an operational Safeguards Information System (SIS):** A vital factor in attracting REDD+ finance is building enough confidence among the investors, both private and public sectors, through the SIS, including, for example, robust monitoring of indigenous people’s rights. To ensure that safeguard reporting in the nested REDD+ system conforms to the Cancun safeguards, PRAKAS Guidelines and the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), a SIS Gaps Analysis of Cambodia’s safeguard policies, laws, and practices, including in the ongoing REDD+ projects are completed. Although it may go beyond the current FCPF project, an operational SIS for nested REDD+ (including testing and subsequent modification), with particular attention on issues around indigenous peoples’ rights, resettlement, and tenure, as well as clarity in data collection, analysis and preparation of reports should be developed.

3. What are the main REDD+ readiness-related activities that you hope to deliver, and achievements anticipated during the next year?

- For example, hold x consultation events, submission of R-Package to the PC, finalisation of SIS, commission research into REDD+ strategy options

The project will be operationally close on 31 December 2022. However, the national REDD+ programme will continue with the additional new funding support of UK DEFRA and German Government through UNDP Climate Promise and the UK DEFRA until end of 2023.

The following actions are anticipated deliverable or achievements in 2022-2023 to continue support operationalizing national REDD+ implementation in Cambodia:

- Strengthening MRV system for REDD+ through enhancement of deforestation methods and develop new methods for forest degradation estimate
- Institutionalize REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat for better management and coordination of REDD+ activities under the National REDD+ Programme
- Advancing in the operationalized of its Nesting System.
- Strengthening and alignment of REDD+ activities (NRS-Action Investment Plan) in-line with NDC and Long-term Strategy.
- Enhancement and refinement of REDD+ Safeguard for better alignment across jurisdictional level.
- Develop a detail Carbon Market Readiness Workplan for Cambodia.
- Conduct activities related to awareness raising on REDD+ and Climate Change.
- Scoping on market networking and engagement.

SECTION B: READINESS PROGRESS

4. Please provide your own assessment of national progress against all REDD+ readiness sub-components: (Indicator OV.1.B: Number of FCPF supported countries that have in place a National REDD+ Strategy, FREL/FRL, NFMS and SIS; Output 1.3 indicators)

Progress rating key:

5	Completed	The sub-component has been completed
4	Significant progress	Significant progress
3	Progressing well, further development required	Progressing well, further development required

2	Further development required	Further development required
1	Not yet demonstrating progress	Not yet demonstrating progress
0	N/A	The sub-component is not applicable to our process

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
R-PP Component 1: Readiness Organisation and Consultation		
Sub-component 1a: National REDD+ Management Arrangements	5 Completed	x
	4 Significant progress	
	3 Progressing well, further development required	
	2 Further development required	
	1 Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0 N/A	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Action and Investment Plan for the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy (AIP-NRS) has been formally endorsed by MoE in May 2021. The AIP-NRS recommended the necessary institutional arrangement for REDD+ to be operational. With the support from the project and climate promise, work has been initiated to refine and institutionalize a new institutional arrangement within MoE, organogram with the aim to create stronger mandates of the institutions responsible for REDD+ implementation at national and subnational levels, as well as coordination, monitoring, and reporting lines across institutions at various levels. - The financing of the UNDP Climate Promise 2.0 will evaluate a restructure of the MoE that ensures the full institutionalization of REDD+ in its management. Establishing a permanent REDD+ Unit within its organization chart. - RTF/RTS with the technical support of the FCPF-II Project Management Unit (PMU), also hosted and shared Cambodia REDD+ progress and experiences with the Indonesian REDD+ Delegation on 10 May 2022 and Nepal REDD+ delegation on 27 June 2022 during their visit to RTS/MoE office in Cambodia - RTF and National Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Team with the coordination support from FCPF project team has also taken the lead in providing technical support to estimate the potential of forest carbon emission reduction of the activities of Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). A new set of REDD+ related indicators for tracking NDC and to support Cambodia Climate Change Alliance, Phase 3 (CCCA3) project in preparation of the annual report for NDC tracking has been developed. The REDD+ indicators list has been reviewed by the MoE for official endorsement. 		

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)		Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
Sub-component 1b: Consultation, Participation and Outreach	5	Completed	x
	4	Significant progress	
	3	Progressing well, further development required	
	2	Further development required	
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0	N/A	
R-PP Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation			
Sub-component 2: REDD+ Strategy	5	Completed	x
	4	Significant progress	
	3	Progressing well, further development required	
	2	Further development required	
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0	N/A	
Sub-component 2a:	5	Completed	x

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)		Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance		Significant progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cambodia land use/cover change was updated every two years. The 2020 land use/cover change assessment was completed. - The final draft FRL allocation methodology including a deforestation and forest degradation risk map, has been developed. The training on FRL Allocation was conducted online in 3 sessions on 8th, 15th, and 29th July 2021 to REDD+ government officials and development partners. The training gathered (i) technical feedback to improve methodology and tool; (ii) tested the proposed improvement methodology and tool, and (iii) documented the improvement process to enhance transparency and robustness of the updated Risk Map Methodology and Tool. The project is currently working with Verra to test the allocation tools that was developed by RTS with the support from FCPF-II. Following the pilot study and recommendations from the study, if needed the FRL will be updated/improved accordingly.
	3	Progressing well, further development required	
	2	Further development required	
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0	N/A	
Sub-component 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options	5	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Under FCPF support, Cambodia have completed all Warsaw Framework elements to meet requirements for results-based payment and has its AIP-NRS officially endorsed by the MoE on 12 May 2021. In addition, Cambodia has also finalized its REDD+ Regulatory Framework (REDD+ nested system) and associated technical guidelines for nested operations - The UNDP Climate Promise 2.0 will make it possible to consolidate progress in the institutionalization of REDD+, guarantee coordination between the stallholders related to FOLU sector in the NDC/LTS and recommend suitable options to address potential new gaps and requirements, as well as development of capacities for the operation of the nesting system. - Coordination meetings with DPs including USAID and JICA/INRM project were conducted to identify areas of support needed to further strengthen the support needed for National REDD+ Programme and continue support activities after the closing of FCPF-II as well as to facilitate the implementation of the Action and Investment Plan (AIP) of National REDD+ Strategy (NRS).
	4	Significant progress	
	3	Progressing well, further development required	
	2	Further development required	
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress	
0	N/A		
	5	Completed	x

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)		Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)	
Sub-component 2c: Implementation Framework	4	Significant progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Under the FCPF support, Cambodia have completed the development of nested guideline and was acceptance by the Ministry of Environment on May 12th, 2021. In addition, all the technical requirement to support the operationalization of nested system in Cambodia including, nesting roadmap, positive list, Safeguards in a Nested System, National REDD+ Project Database (Registry) and the FRL allocation tool which will be crucial to set clear rules that will guide how various actors operate and report to the government were also completed. - Further refinement and support to operationalize REDD+ nested system will continue to be supported through the remaining of FCPF II (till end December 2022) and through Climate Promise and DEFRA/UK funding support. 	
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Resolution Sub-component 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts	5	Completed	<p>As part of the PRAKAS and guideline on REDD+ nesting/GHG in the Kingdom of Cambodia, all REDD+ project Proponent and REDD+ Project Partners must meet the eligible conditions, i.e., <i>"have organizational policies and procedures that demonstrate social and environmental safeguards are sufficiently taken into account and are consistent with the national REDD+ safeguards"</i>. Under the REDD+ Regulatory Framework mechanism, all REDD+ projects are required to align their activities with the national REDD+ safeguards established in line with the UNFCCC. As part of the project registration 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. In this connection, two main key activities in relation to safeguards monitoring in 2021 were:</p> <p>First, a "positive list" of standards or certifications that have been assessed as consistent with the UNFCCC safeguards principles and process has been developed and will, therefore, be approved for use by the REDD+ Projects to meet the safeguard provisions specified in the nested guidelines.</p> <p>The second activity was a <i>gaps analysis</i>, to identify what information, both at the project and national level, are missing in the current Climate Community</p>	
	4	Significant progress		x
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)		Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
	0	N/A	and Biodiversity (CCB) safeguard required under the VCS and under the Joint Credit Mechanism (JCM) in order to meet the UNFCCC (Cancun) safeguards, and what are needed to meet the gaps. Currently both a positive list and safeguards monitoring assessment have been developed.
R-PP Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels			
Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	5	Completed	X
	4	Significant progress	
	3	Progressing well, further development required	
	2	Further development required	
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0	N/A	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The second updated FRL which was approved and submitted by MoE to UNFCCC in May 2021 was successfully assessed and the technical assessment report was officially released by the independent Assessment Team (AT) of the UNFCCC on 11 March 2022. The updated FRL is formally accepted and accessible in the UNFCCC web-portal here. - First draft (or version 1) of the JNR - FREL Description Template for JNR Scenario 1 (VCS Version 4.0) was completed and is currently under review by MoE before soliciting public consultation and feedback. 			
R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards			
Sub-component 4a: National Forest Monitoring System	5	Completed	X
	4	Significant progress	
	3	Progressing well, further development required	
	2	Further development required	
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As a part of Government's commitment to digital transformation, the CEMIS has been under development and is expected to be a central repository for geospatial information related to the environment. UNDP is providing technical lead of the CEMIS and Informational System and Decision Support (ISDS) component. Migration of NFMS into CEMIS/ISDS will ensure integration of a wide range of environmental and land cover databases into the system and create sustainability. The provision of better monitoring of forest change will benefit various stakeholders. Currently the draft version of beta version of CEMIS has been developed for stakeholders review and comment - Essential Life Support Areas (ELSAs) mapping is a UNDP-led global initiative and Cambodia has been selected as one of the pilot countries to test the ELSA activities. The activities have been supported through FCPF-II project human resources. A new ELSA map showing areas suitable for protection, restoration and management is expected to release in end 2022. The ELSA map of Cambodia will add a new 			

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)		Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
	0	N/A	monitoring layer for NFMS and MRV and the ELSA web-tool will add values to enhance NFMS and MRV platforms, creating new ELSA data layers (showing areas for protection, restoration, and management) at a regular interval (annually) in future.
Sub-component 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	5	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Under the FCPF I and FCPF II support, along with NFMS, an Environmental and social management framework (ESMF) for NRS/AIP, a Safeguards Information System (SIS) has been developed. Cambodia have also submitted its first Summary of Information (Sol) to UNFCCC in 2020. The safeguards have been under further development to align safeguards across different jurisdictional levels. The preliminary analysis and reporting protocols have been developed. Further improvement to make the entire system transparent will be continued through Climate Promise and DEFRA funding. - As report in the sub-component section above, with technical support from UNDP, Ministry of Environment is currently working to final CEMIS/ISDS and ELSA where all environmental related data will be stored and shared through this CEMIS system with multi- stakeholders. The CEMIS will also allow opportunity to incorporate monitoring and evaluation framework and tracking.
	4	Significant progress	
	3	Progressing well, further development required	
	2	Further development required	
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0	N/A	

SECTION C: NON-CARBON BENEFITS

5. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods (e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at livelihoods; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates livelihoods)?

(Indicator 3.2.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods)

Yes		(delete as appropriate)
-----	--	-------------------------

If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach:

The National REDD+ Strategy (NRS) have outlined 3 strategic objectives (SO) to address the various direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation: SO1: Improve management and monitoring of forest resources and forest land use; SO2: Strengthen implementation of sustainable forest management and SO3: Mainstream approaches to reduce deforestation, build capacity and engage stakeholders.

The SO2 targets particularly the main direct drivers of deforestation and forest degradation by promoting better forest management practices and support to sustainable livelihoods, as well as by enabling more sustainable private sector investment with the aim to enhance sustainable local livelihoods through communities' empowerment. Under SO2, the AIP-NRS incorporates several strategies/actions that aim to address and enhance livelihoods of local forest dependence community. Broadly, the AIP-NRS will strengthen implementation of sustainable forest resources management by strengthening and scaling up community-based forest management initiatives, identifying and implementing alternative and sustainable development programmes for local communities most dependent on forest resources, expand afforestation, reforestation and restoration activities, engage and encourage the private sector to implement alternative and sustainable supply chains from agro-industrial plantations, and to reduce emissions, enhancing timber supply and wood-based energy sourced from community-based forest management areas and private plantations to reduce pressure on forest areas and promoting effective, equitable, sustainable management and use of forests, forest lands and non-timber forest products with a view to increase employment and business opportunities for local community. Special attention will be given to promote participation of vulnerable communities, women, youth, indigenous peoples, and those most dependent for livelihoods on forest resources will receive due attention in planning and implementation. <http://www.cambodia-redd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/REDD-Action-Investment-Plan-Final-version-April-2020.pdf> : "Action and Investment Plan for the implementation of National REDD+ Strategy of Cambodia" outlines strategies that will contribute to sustain and enhance livelihoods of local community.

6. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity (e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at biodiversity conservation; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates biodiversity conservation)?

(Indicator 3.3.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity)

Yes		(delete as appropriate)
-----	--	-------------------------

If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach

SO1 of the NRS focus particularly on addressing the main underlying drivers of deforestation and forest degradation through better land use planning and natural resources management, and enhanced capacity for forest and land monitoring and enforcement of regulations with the aim to conserve the remaining natural forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks. Under SO1, the AIP-NRS, incorporates elements that address biodiversity conservation. Broadly, the AIP-NRS will strengthen governance and management of forest resources by enhancing capacity, prioritizing forest conservation areas such as protected areas and flooded and mangrove conservation areas; establish a robust national forest monitoring system and intensifying law enforcement capacity and implementation; and promote the development of a national energy policy. Forest conservation areas located in high forest cover and high deforestation provinces and key landscapes will be prioritized for developing management plans. The strategy plans to enhance co-benefits and promote livelihoods and stakeholder engagement by strengthening tenure security through forest land classification, zoning, demarcation, and registration, while at the same time identifying important forest areas and ensuring that these are managed both for biodiversity conservation and forest management, community-based natural resource management and integrate and enhance contribution for forest resources to livelihoods.

SECTION D: FINANCE

(Please complete in US\$ ONLY)

7. Please detail the amount of **all** finance received in support of development and delivery of your national REDD+ readiness process **since the date that your R-PP was signed**. Figures should only include **secured finance** (i.e. fully committed) – ex ante, (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions should not be included:
 (Indicator 1.B: Amount of finance received to support the REDD+ Readiness process (disaggregated by public, private, grants, loans))

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g. FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Date committed (MM/YY)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
---------------	---	------------------------	--	---

EXAMPLES:

\$500,000	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant	10/2013	Public/ Private	Grant/ Loan / Other
\$250,000	Ministry of Forestry	01/2014	Public/ Private	Grant/ Loan / Other

\$ 5,400,000	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant - Phase II	07/2017	Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$ 429,847	FCPF additional fund	01/2021	Public	Grant
\$120,000	Climate Promise 2 (BMZ-Germany)	07/2022	Public	Grant
\$200,000	Climate Promise 2 (DEFRA-UK)	07/2022	Public	Grant
\$20,000 (TBC)	Wildlife Alliance (Cambodia)	09/2022	Public	Grant
\$300,000	SCALA (UNDP-FAO Global Programme (2021-2025))	08/2022	Public	Grant

8. Please detail any ex-ante (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions that you hope to secure in support of your national REDD+ readiness process:

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g., FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
\$ 10 million	GCF	Public	Grant
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other

9. To help build an understanding of the FCPF strengths, weaknesses and contributions to REDD+, please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:
 (Indicator 4.B: Participant Countries' assessment of FCPF's role within and contribution to national REDD+ processes)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree
The FCPF's support has had a central influence on the development our national REDD+ systems and processes					x
The FCPF's support has improved the quality of our national REDD+ systems and processes					x
The FCPF's support has improved national capacities to develop and deliver REDD+ projects					x
The FCPF's support has helped to ensure substantive involvement of multiple stakeholders (including women, IPs, CSOs and local communities in our national REDD+ systems and processes					x

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

10. To help assess the usefulness and application of FCPF knowledge products (publications, seminars, learning events, web resources), please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:
 (Indicator 4.3.a: Extent to which FCPF learning, evidence and knowledge products are used by Participant countries)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree
We regularly access FCPF knowledge products to obtain REDD+ related information				x	
FCPF knowledge products are relevant to our REDD+ related information requirements				x	x
FCPF knowledge products are sufficient to address all of our REDD+ related information requirements				x	
The FCPF website is a useful resource for accessing FCPF and REDD+ related information					x

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

SECTION F: FINAL COMMENTS

11. If appropriate, please provide any further comments or clarifications relating to your work on REDD+ Readiness during the last year:

As described above, while waiting for the official endorsement by the RGC on the National Regulatory Framework for REDD+ projects or Nested System, RTS/RTF with the coordination support from UNDP currently is working to facilitate the Government particularly the MoE to participate in diverse initiative related to Carbon Market. At the side events of the Glasgow CoP26, Cambodia side events presented its achievements in tropical forest protection and conservation includes REDD+ nesting, mitigation actions under the Paris Agreement, shared work progress on preparation of the national long-term strategy (LT-LEDS) on various economic sectors including FOLU, progress made to achieve NDC commitments and future plan in FOLU/REDD+ related activities. Cambodia also submitted the national report of Long-term Strategy for Carbon Neutrality (LTS4CN) to the UNFCCC in December 2021.

Going beyond the FCPF support, RTS has secured additional funding of around USD320,000 to continue supporting a priority list of REDD+ related activities. The list includes activities related to strengthening the readiness activities, enhancing country capacities in various aspects of carbon markets, alignment of REDD+ activities to support achievement of NDC and LTS4CN commitments. UNDP-led Climate Promise 2.0 will fund those activities and work together with the Royal Government of Cambodia through RTS.

