Bhutan’s REDD+ Readiness Package & Multi-Stakeholder Self Assessment

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Country Overview - Forest Management

- 71% of land under forest cover & policy to maintain 60% at all times
- 51% of land under Protected Area
- 5% of forest under production management (21 FMUs)
- 2% of forest under community forest (800CFs)
- Local forest management areas
After nearly 14 years, REDD+ architect is ready for implementation. But we need fund?
Component 1: Readiness organization and consultation

Sub-component 1a: Institutional arrangement for REDD+ implementation

- Cabinet
  - MOAF
  - REDD+ Task Force

Collaborating agencies
- UWICER
- SPAL
- Others

National Level REDD+ Implementation
- WMD/REDD+ Secretariat
- REDD+ Strategy/safeguard WMD
- NFMS/FRE/MRV FRMD

Local Level REDD+ Implementation
- Field Forest Offices
- Local Governments
- CSO/NGOs
- Corporations

TWG on NFMS and RELs/RLs
TWG on Safeguards, Governance & Distributions
TWG on Strategy options
Sub-Comp. 1b: Consultation, participation & outreach

- Consultative and participatory approach.

- A total of 178 events conducted from 2015 to 2021 involving 12528 individuals, 4380 (female, 35%) and 8,148 (male, 65%)

- ALL REDD+ knowledge products/reports are published online in REDD+ and the Department website
Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation

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

**Drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Bhutan**

Waterfall Management Division
Department of Forest and Park Services
Ministry of Agriculture and Forests
Bhutan
March 2017

Sub-Comp. 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options

Sub-Comp. 2d: Social and Environmental impacts
Major Drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation

- **Underlying Causes**
  - Governance challenges
  - Law enforcement
  - Economic pressures
  - Social poverty
  - Demographics

- **Direct Drivers**
  - Agriculture
  - Roads
  - Hydroelectric Projects, Power lines
  - Land Allotment, Mining
  - Timber Harvesting
  - Firewood collection
  - Forest fires
  - Livestock Grazing

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Sub-Comp 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance
Sub-Comp. 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options
National REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan

**National REDD+ Strategy Vision**

A perpetually carbon neutral, climate change resilient and prosperous society

**Guiding Principles**

1. Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan
2. Gross National Happiness
3. Low emission, climate change resilience and sustainable development

**Objective**

1. Reducing emissions and enhancing carbon stock
2. Enhancing livelihoods
3. Protecting Ecosystem Services
4. Biodiversity Conservation
5. Improving forest governance
6. Participation and empowerment
## Linking drivers/barriers and REDD+ activities (strategy options and PAMs)

**VISION**

A perpetually carbon neutral, climate change resilient and prosperous society

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Options</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Strengthened Forest Management Practices</td>
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<td>2. Climate Smart Primary Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Land Use Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improved Livelihoods</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Enabling policies & measures**

| PAM 1: Developing institutional and sectoral capacity building to achieve sustainable forest management |
| PAM 2: Strengthening the effectiveness of existing policies and methods across all forestry jurisdictions and areas |
| PAM 3: Strengthen cross-sectoral land use planning and coordination to reduce policy conflicts |
| PAM 4: Harmonized EIA process to ensure infrastructure proposals are assessed and monitored as a package |

**Direct Policies & measures**

| PAM 5: Achieving a highly diversified and technology-based timber supply chain |
| PAM 6: Adopting fire management approaches that limit impacts on the environment and communities |
| PAM 7: Establish plantations to provide sustainable wood products supply, increase carbon-stock, and enhance biodiversity |
| PAM 8: Promoting the development of enterprises that sustainably manage Non Wood Forest Products |
| PAM 9: Broadening opportunities for income generation from ecosystem services |
| PAM 10: Develop climate smart approaches in agriculture that address adaptation, mitigation, food security, and livelihood improvement |
Feasibility assessment

Regulatory and policy frameworks
- The Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2008
- Forest and Nature Conservation Act, 1995
- Land Act 2007
- National Environmental Protection Act of Bhutan (2007)
- Environmental Assessment Act 2000
- Water Act of Bhutan 2011
- Bhutan 2020
- National Environmental Strategy, 1998
- Economic Development Policy, 2016
- National Forest Policy, 2011

Cost of implementation

Financial gain and risks analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enabling PAMs</th>
<th>Estimate Cost (USD)</th>
<th>Direct Intervention PAMs</th>
<th>Estimate Cost (USD)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PAM 1 Developing institutional and sectoral capacity building to achieve sustainable forest management</td>
<td>3 000 000</td>
<td>PAM 5 Achieving a highly diversified and technology-based timber supply chain</td>
<td>5 800 000</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAM 2 Strengthening the effectiveness of existing policies and methods across all forestry jurisdictions and areas</td>
<td>1 670 000</td>
<td>PAM 6 Adopting fire management approaches that limit impacts on the environment and communities</td>
<td>5 000 000</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAM 3 Strengthened cross-sectoral planning and coordination</td>
<td>4 600 000</td>
<td>PAM 7 Establishing plantations to provide sustainable wood products supply, increase carbon stock, and enhance biodiversity</td>
<td>21 600 000</td>
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<td>PAM 4 Harmonized EIA process to ensure infrastructure proposals are assessed and monitored as a package</td>
<td>1 600 000</td>
<td>PAM 8 Promoting the development of enterprises that sustainably manage NWPPs</td>
<td>1 075 000</td>
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<td>PAM 9 Broadening opportunities for income generation from ecosystem services</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAM 10 Develop climate smart approaches in agriculture</td>
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Total Estimate: 10 870 000
Grand Total, USD 54 595 000
Sub-Comp 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts

SESA identify positive and negative environment and social impacts through series of consultations.

REDD- Strategy options and actions plans are subjected to SESA and finding are incorporated National REDD+ Strategy.
Component 3: Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL/FRL)

- All REDD+ Activities, except forest degradation, are included in FREL and FRL.
- All carbon pools included in FREL and ABG in FRL.

- Assessed as “transparent, complete & in overall accordance with the guidelines contained in the annex to decision 12/CP17.”
- Stepwise approach to FREL and FRL Development applied.
Component 4. Monitoring System for Forests & Safeguards

Sub-Component 4.1. National Forest Monitoring System

National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)

- Monitoring
  - Satellite Land Monitoring System
  - Web Interface
  - Community Monitoring
  - Other Forest-Related Monitoring System

- MRV
  - National Forest Inventory
  - GHG Inventory

- Integrate with existing systems
- Monitor outcomes of REDD+
- Data Sharing, Transparency
- Local knowledge, data and validation

LULC/Area Change

Forest carbon stock change

Forest related GHG emission and Removal
National Forest Monitoring System; Web interface

- [www.bhutan-nfms.org](http://www.bhutan-nfms.org)

- Developed with technical support from FAO

- Data Sharing
  - Transparency
  - Open access
Data Sharing with the DoFPS

- Access only to DoFPS personnel through credential

- sdss.dofps.gov.bt
Sub-Component. 4.2 Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and safeguards

- SESA study the social and environmental issues
- NFMS developed and instituted for carbon benefits and SIS for non-carbon benefits
- Institutional arrangement for monitoring of both carbon and non-carbon established
- Capacity development plan is in place as part of REDD+ investment plan
Multistakeholder Self-Self Assessment
## Multistakeholder Self Assessment

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<th>Component</th>
<th>Sub-Component</th>
<th>Participatory Ranking</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Readiness Organization &amp; Consultation</td>
<td>Sub-component 1a: REDD national management mechanisms.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sub-component 1b. Consultation, participation, and outreach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summary</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. REDD+ Strategy Preparation</td>
<td>Sub-component 2a. Land use evaluation, forest policy and governance</td>
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<td>Sub-component 2b. REDD+ strategy options.</td>
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<td>Subcomponent 2c: Implementation framework</td>
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<td>Subcomponent 2d: Social and environmental impacts</td>
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**Significant Progress**
- Progressing well, further development required
### Multi-stakeholder Self Assessment

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<td>Component 3. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sub-component 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards</td>
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#### Significance Progress
- **Significant Progress**: Progressing well, further development required.
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<tr>
<td>1. Readiness Organization &amp; Consultation</td>
<td>• Operationalize FGRM&lt;br&gt;• Enhance collaboration for SFM &amp; Climate change mitigation&lt;br&gt;• Meaningful participation of stakeholders</td>
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<td>2. REDD+ Strategy Preparation</td>
<td>• Implementation of BSM, SESA and ESMF&lt;br&gt;• Awareness and advocacy&lt;br&gt;• Land use policy&lt;br&gt;• National REDD+ registry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels</td>
<td>• Forest stratification&lt;br&gt;• Strengthening the database system&lt;br&gt;• Biomass map and allometric biomass equations&lt;br&gt;• Forest carbon budget modeling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Monitoring System for Forests &amp; Safeguards</td>
<td>• Annual forest cover/canopy cover map&lt;br&gt;• Integration of NFI and SLMS</td>
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