

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the Myanmar National REDD+ Taskforce

Date: 15 December, 2017

Venue: Forest Department, Nay Pyi Taw

Time: 13:30 – 16:30

Objective of the meeting: To update the Taskforce on progress in REDD+ initiatives in Myanmar, and to discuss the way forward for the Taskforce

Chair: U Kyaw Kyaw Lwin, Deputy Director General, Forest Department

Participants:

Taskforce members U Kan Shein, Director, Planning Department, MOPF,
U Kyaw Lwin, Director, Department of Planning, MOALI,
U Than Htut, Director, Agricultural Land Management and Statistics,
MOALI,
U Myint Soe, Deputy Director, IWUMD,
Daw Khin Mar Thi, Deputy Director, Budget Department, MOPF
U Kyaw Soe, Assistant Director, General Administrative Department,
MOHA,
U Kyi Lwin, Staff Officer, Environmental Conservation Department,
MONREC,
U Zaw Win, Member, MERN,
U Myo Ko, Programme Manager, POINT

Taskforce Secretary Dr. Thaung Naing Oo, Director, Forest Research Institute, Forest
Department, National Programme Director, UN-REDD Programme,
Myanmar

Observers/Donors U Ngwe Thee, Assistant Director, Forest Department (FD), MONREC, Daw
Ei Ei Swe Hlaing, Assistant Director, Forest Research Institute (FRI), FD,
Daw Yu Ya Aye, Assistant Director, FRI, FD, U Thein Saung, Staff Officer,
FRI, FD, U Kyaw Myo Lwin, Staff Officer, Environmental Conservation
Department, U Billy Ne Win, FRI, MONREC, U Ling Huang, Programme
Coordinator, POINT, Mr. Timothy Boyle, Regional Advisor, UNDP
Bangkok, Daw Khin Hnin Myint, Programme Coordinator, UNDP Myanmar,
Daw Phyo Pa Pa Han, Office Assistant, REDD+ National Programme,
Myanmar, Daw Thinn Thitsar Kyaw, Project Assistant, FAO Myanmar

Opening

The meeting was opened with remarks by the chair, U Kyaw Kyaw Lwin, Deputy Director of Forest Department. In his opening, he highlighted the important role of REDD+ Task Force to coordinate between and among all relevant REDD+ programmes, projects and initiatives in order to achieve consistency among all relevant REDD+ actions to be implemented in national territory. In addition, Task Force has to provide guidance and oversight for all REDD+ related programmes in Myanmar in order to support the effective and efficient development of all REDD+ actions in the country.

Session 1: Progress on Decisions of 1st TF meeting

Daw Khin Hnin Myint, National Programme Coordinator, UN-REDD Programme reported on the implementation of decisions set by 1st TF meeting and the progress can be seen in the table below.

No.	Decisions	Follow Action
1.	To invite Department of Agriculture under Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation and Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) under Ministry of Planning and Finance to be member of TF	Invited at 2 nd Meeting
2.	The ToR of TF would be revised on the basis of comments made by TF members.	Revised and Presented at 2 nd meeting as 1 st reversion
3.	The schedule for ministerial meetings for consultation on the draft National REDD+ Strategy and PAMs be adjusted as per the availability of each ministry and requests send directly to Ministry Office.	Done in June 2017

Session 2: UN-REDD Programme in Myanmar: Achievements and Plan

Dr. Thaug Naing Oo, National Programme Director, UN-REDD Programme, Director, Forest Department, Secretary of Task Force described the achievements of the UN-REDD Programme and plans for 2018.

Achievements include:

- Taskforce established, supported by 3 “Technical Working Groups”; the purpose of these bodies is to support the development of the **Myanmar REDD+ Programme** (not UN-REDD). These bodies have government, CSO, IP membership (plans to extend to private sector)
- The UN-REDD Programme also has a governing body – the “Programme Executive Board” (PEB)
- Relationship between TF and PEB needs to be clear. TF Chair invited to brief PEB on TF activities at each PEB meeting
- A REDD+ Academy was conducted in 2016 – now a team of 20+ REDD+ trainers. This team has been used for training provided to government agencies (FD and others), CSOs, and the media
- Stakeholder engagement guidelines developed and implemented
- Consultation with 7 ministries on draft PAMs (June-Aug 2017); with each state/region on draft PAMs (started Nov. 2017; Magway and Kachin completed); and with the private sector on draft PAMs
- Communications and knowledge management strategy developed and implemented: videos, TV/radio broadcasts, IEC materials etc.
- Safeguard Roadmap developed, 2017
- Policy/law/regulation review; and grievance redress mechanism – contract issued in Dec., 2017
- NFMS Action Plan endorsed by September 2015
- Wall-to-wall mapping for 2005, 2010, 2015, supplemented by point sampling, to measure change in forest coverage, completed in 2017
- National Forest Inventory designed (now under further development by parallel FAO-Finland NFI/ NFMIS Project)
- Initial FREL to be submitted to UNFCCC on 8th January 2018. Scope is deforestation and enhancement through Myanmar Reforestation and Rehabilitation Programme; scale: National; carbon pools included: above-ground biomass, below-ground biomass and litter.

As result, National Emission Factor of 125.43 tonnes CO₂ eq per ha and annual CO₂ emission from deforestation during the reference period of 48,607,511 tons per year are developed. UNFCCC Technical Assessment process will take place during 2018.

- Drivers analysis completed, and National REDD+ Strategy drafted.

Dr. Thaug Naing Oo explained that currently Myanmar is near the end of "Phase 1" of REDD+, and plans are that by the end of 2018, Myanmar will be well into Phase 2.

Session 3: Other REDD+ Initiatives in Myanmar: Achievement and Plan

Dr. Yu Ya Aye, Forest Research Institute, Forest Department, spoke about "*Capacity Building of Relevant Stakeholders for REDD+ Readiness of Myanmar*".

U Thein Saung, Forest Research Institute, Forest Department, spoke about "*REDD+ Himalayas: Developing and Using Experience in Implementing REDD+ in the Himalayas*".

Dr. Ei Ei Swe Hlaing, Forest Research Institute, Forest Department described work on "*Nesting a REDD+ project carbon accounting and monitoring system under the (sub-) national system*"

U Ling Huang, Promotion of Indigenous and Nature Together (POINT), spoke on "*Promoting the recognition and protection of indigenous peoples' rights in REDD+ in Myanmar*".

Session 4: Way Forward for Task Force

Mr. Timothy Boyle, Interim CTA, UN-REDD Programme gave a presentation on issues that need to be considered in operationalizing Taskforce ToR. Recalling that the two objectives of the Taskforce are:

1. To provide **guidance and oversight** for **all REDD+ related programmes**, projects and initiatives in Myanmar.
2. To **coordinate** between and among **all relevant REDD+ programmes, projects and initiatives** [to] avoid duplication and contradiction between and among them

During his presentation, he highlighted a number of issues. These were:

- **Challenge 1:** What is a "REDD+ related programme? Some are clear, e.g., UN-REDD, KFS, ICIMOD. But what about the FAO/Finland National Forest Inventory project, or the One Map project?
- **Challenge 2:** Each initiative has its own governing body (e.g., UN-REDD has its PEB (Programme Executive Board)) – do all these bodies acknowledge the role of the Taskforce? In the case of UN-REDD, this issue has been discussed by the PEB, and mechanisms designed to ensure coordination of oversight provided by the PEB and Taskforce. TF chair will be invited to PEB for information exchange.
- **Challenge 3.** Is it the role of the Taskforce to "approve" documents such as the FRL, National Strategy, NFI Design document, etc.?
- **Challenge 4.** A role of the Taskforce is to "... to **coordinate between and among all relevant REDD+ programmes, projects and initiatives** [to] avoid duplication and contradiction", but how to apply this in practice? As an example, do UN-REDD and KFS contradict each other, since UN-REDD is building capacity to implement REDD+ under the UNFCCC, while KFS has plans to develop a voluntary market project proposal?
- **Challenge 5:** Since the Taskforce "*will work under the overall guidance of the Central Committee for Environmental Conservation and Climate Change*", the CCECCC needs to be

aware of and agree to this relationship, and functionality needs to be worked out – how will it work in practice?

- Challenge 6: Taskforce currently has membership from Government, CSOs, and Indigenous Peoples' Organizations. A major stakeholder group that is missing is the private sector. The private sector is extremely diverse – some private sector entities are involved in key drivers of deforestation and forest degradation; others are interested in PAM implementation – either as CSR or from a commercial perspective
- Challenge 7: The TF has not been meeting monthly or quarterly, as indicated in its ToR. A TF Decision regarding its role in approving documents will contribute to indicating the optimum frequency of meetings. If the TF decides it should approve all documents, more frequent meetings will be needed than if the TF only approves “strategic” documents.

Possible solutions were proposed for each of these challenges.

Decisions and Action points

Decision 2/1: It was decided that the Taskforce should meet quarterly.

Decision 2/2: The Taskforce requested that the UN-REDD Programme should undertake a detailed analysis of the costs, risks and benefits of mixing multiple forest carbon schemes, compared with a “REDD+ only” scenario.

Decision 2/3: TF Secretary will prepare regular 3-month progress reports, and the TF Chair will report to DG and Minister on progress of REDD+ in order that this information can be presented at CCECCC meetings

Decision 2/4: Other issues related to the operations of the Taskforce should be referred to Taskforce members in writing, at the same time as the Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the Taskforce are circulated for comment, together with a recommended course of action, for approval on a “no-objection” basis.

Next meeting

The next Taskforce meeting will be scheduled in March, 2018.

Attachments

- Agenda of the meeting
- Attendance list

Minutes approved by



U Kyaw Kyaw Lwin
Deputy Director General, Forest Department
Chair of National REDD+ Taskforce

2nd Meeting of Myanmar REDD+ Task Force

Agenda

No.	Time	Items	Facilitation
1	13:30 – 13:40	Opening remarks	Chair: U Kyaw Kyaw Lwin, Deputy Director General, Forest Department
2	13:40-13:50	Progress on 1 st TF meeting Decisions	Khin Hnin Myint, National Programme Coordinator, UN-REDD Programme
3	13:50 – 14:30	UN-REDD Programme in Myanmar: Achievement and Plan	Dr. Thaug Naing Oo, National Programme Director, UN-REDD Programme, Director, Forest Department
4	14:30 – 14:40	Questions & Answers	Chair
5	14:40 – 15:40	Other REDD+ Initiatives in Myanmar: Achievement and Plan Capacity Building of Relevant Stakeholders for REDD+ Readiness of Myanmar REDD+ Himalayas: Developing and Using Experience in Implementing REDD+ in the Himalayas Nesting a REDD+ project carbon accounting and monitoring system under the (sub-) national system Promoting the recognition and protection of indigenous peoples' rights in REDD+ in Myanmar	Dr. Yuya Aye, Assistant Director, Forest Research Institute, Forest Department U Thein Saung, Staff Officer, Forest Research Institute, Forest Department Dr. Ei Ei Swe Hlaing, Assistant Director, Forest Research Institute, Forest Department U Ling Huang, POINT
6	15:40 – 15:50	Questions & Answers	Chair
7	15:50 – 16:15	Way Forwards for TF	Mr. Timothy Boyle, Interim CTA, UN-REDD Programme
8	16:15 – 16:30	Closing remarks	Chair: U Kyaw Kyaw Lwin, Deputy Director General, Forest Department

2nd Meeting of Myanmar REDD+ Task Force

Attendance

No.	Name	Title	Organization	Contact
Chair				
1	U Kyaw Kyaw Lwin	Deputy Director	Forest Department (FD), MONREC	
Members				
2	U Kan Shein	Director	Planning Department, MOPF	kanshein77@gmail.com
3	U Kyaw Lwin	Director	Department of Planning, MOALI	
4	U Than Htut	Director	Agricultural Land Management and Statistics, MOALI	
5	Daw Khin Mar Thi	Deputy Director (on behalf of Director)	Budget Department, MOPF	khinmarthi.07@gmail.com
6	U Myint Soe	Deputy Director (on behalf of Director)	IWUMD	msoe1963@gmail.com
7	U Kyaw Soe	Assistant Director (on behalf of Director)	General Administrative Department, MOHA	09445595270
8	U Kyi Lwin	Staff Officer (on behalf of Director)	Environmental Conservation Department (ECD), MONREC	kyilwinecd@gmail.com
9	U Zaw Win	Member	MERN	naywunmyat1@gmail.com
10	U Myo Ko	Director	POINT	point.mkk@gmail.com
Secretary				
11	Dr. Thaug Naing Oo	Director	Forest Research Institute (FRI), FD, MONREC	tnoo71@gmail.com
Observers				
12	U Ngwe Thee	Assistant Director	FD, MONREC	ngwethee@gmail.com
13	Dr. Ei Ei Swe Hlaing	Assistant Director	FRI, FD, MONREC	eieiswehlaing@gmail.com
14	Dr. Yuya Aye	Assistant Director	FRI, FD, MONREC	yuyaaye@gmail.com
15	U Kyaw Myo Lwin	Staff Officer	ECD, MONREC	kyawthinn2017.ecd@gmail.com
16	U Thein Saung	Staff Officer	FRI, FD, MONREC	theinsaungo9@gmail.com
17	U Billy Ne Win		FRI, FD, MONREC	kominsaw@gmail.com
18	U Ling Huang	Project Coordinator	POINT	point.vegearchofficer@gmail.com
19	Daw Khin Hnin Myint	NPC	UN-REDD	Khin.hnin.myint@undp.org
20	Tim Boyle	RTA	UNDP/UN-REDD	timothy.boyle@undp.org
21	Thinn Thitsar Kyaw	Project Assistant	FAO	thinn.kyaw@fao.org
22	Phyo Pa Pa Han	Office Assitant	REDD+ Office	phyo.pa.pa.han@undp.org