

Minutes of the 8th Meeting of the Myanmar National REDD+ Taskforce

- Date: 31 July 2019
- Venue: Forest Department
- Time: 09:00 – 12:00
- 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: Daw Khin Mar Swe, Director, Planning Department, MOPF,
U Ohn Lwin, Director, Department of Mines,
U Soe Naing, Director, ECD, MONREC,
U Min Lwin, Deputy Director, Planning Department, MOALI,
Daw Aye Aye Thinn, Assistant Director, Department of Social Welfare, MoRRD,
U Htein Lin Aung, Assistant Director, General Administrative Department, MOUG,
U Khaing Zay Latt, Staff Officer, IWUMD, MOALI,
Daw Kyi Kyi Win, Staff Officer, Department of Agriculture, MOALI
U Hla Myint, Advisor, MRPPA,
U Aung Thant Zin, CEO, MERN,
Naw Ei Ei Min, Director, POIN,
Nan Wint Wint Phyoo Thu, Branch Manager, KBZ, Nay Pyi Taw,
Daw Ei Ei Khaing, Staff, KBZ, Nay Pyi Taw
- Taskforce Secretary: Dr. Thaug Naing Oo, Director, Forest Research Institute, FD.
- Observers/Donors: Mr. Bruno Hugel, Global Technical Advisor, UNDP, BRH, Daw Thinn Thitsar Kyaw, Project Assistant, UN-REDD Programme, Myanmar, Mr. Timothy Boyle, Chief Technical Advisor, UN-REDD Programme, Myanmar, Daw Khin Hnin Myint, Programme Coordinator, UN-REDD Programme, Myanmar, U Min Soe, Stakeholder Engagement Officer, UN-REDD Programme, Myanmar, Daw Phyoo Pa Pa Han, REDD+ Office Assistant, REDD+ National Programme, Myanmar,

Agenda item 1: Opening

The meeting was opened by U Kyaw Kyaw Lwin, Chair of the TF, Deputy Director General of the Forest Department. He pointed out that as the number of activities under the Myanmar REDD+ Programme increase, so does the importance of TF decisions, so he encouraged all the members to continue to support its activities.

Agenda item 2: Action taken to follow up on decisions reached at the 7th meeting of the Taskforce

Dr. Thaug Naing Oo, the Secretary of TF reported on the implementation of decisions reached at the 7th meeting of the TF. Progress can be seen in the table below.

Actions taken to follow up on Decisions reached at the 7th meeting of the Taskforce

No.	Decision	Action Taken
7/1	TF endorsed the revised Knowledge Management and Communication Strategy of Myanmar REDD+ Programme.	No action required
7/2	TF agreed the proposed contents of SOI and workplan for the development of SOI.	No action required
7/3	Taskforce agreed with the conclusions of the TWG that, for Phase 2 of REDD+, the use of Direct Budget Support and Multi-donor Trust Funds (i.e., “option E”) is the best option.	The Decision has been incorporated into a revised National REDD+ Strategy document
7/4	For Phase 3, Taskforce agreed to use “option F” (start up with the use of Direct Budget Support and Multi-donor Trust Funds and later work with EMF and MBF).	As above
7/5	Taskforce recommended to have discussion with the focal points of the EMF/MBF development processes about REDD+ agenda	On-going
7/6	The Taskforce requests the UN-REDD Programme to assist the Forest Department in preparing for a formal NEC ⁵ agenda item on REDD+.	The UN-REDD PEB has endorsed this request; the UN-REDD PMU will now act on it

Agenda item 3: Progress on REDD+ in Myanmar

Dr. Thaug Naing Oo, the Secretary of TF updated the progress of REDD+ in Myanmar in the context of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+. Engagement with ethnic nationalities for consultation on the draft REDD+ Strategy has continued. This process has been completed for Chin, RCSS, PNLO and Kachin and is on-going for KNU.

In relation to GHG data, a high-level meeting between the DGs of ECD and FD was held on 28th May 2019 and a follow-up technical meeting is still needed. The Field testing on Field Methodology of National Level Forest Inventory in 6 districts was already finished around mid-April and the Field-Testing Feedback workshop had been organized on 11th to 13th of July. The initial results of the field data including soil data have been presented in the workshop together with the time study analysis of the field testing. The Field Methodology has been updated in accordance with the experiences learnt from the field testing.

The identification of information needs for the SIS and the assessment of information systems & sources relevant to the SIS has already been accomplished and a draft design for Myanmar’s SIS has also been prepared. The discussion on operationalization plan for establishing the SIS is undergoing. Setting up SIS operationalization plan that sets out the technical, human resources and financial needs, detailed data template of data collection from each sector need to be done in 2019. The first draft of the SOI (Summary of Information) has already been prepared with the support of SOI drafting group members. For developing FPIC guidelines, the piloting at the Community Level in Mawlamying District is on progress.

For REDD+ Strategy implementation, the UN-REDD prepared a proposal in cooperating Mangrove into REDD+ Implementation and submitted to Norad. in June 2019. The proposed activities would be added to the existing UN-REDD/Myanmar Programme under a new Outcome, Outcome 6.

Discussion

The Chair pointed out that options will need to be prepared for the Climate Summit in NYC in September, including emission reduction targets. He suggested that it should be a target to get formal approval of the Strategy before the end of the year.

Agenda item 4: Proposal for National Validation Workshop for the REDD+ Strategy

Mr. Timothy Boyle, CTA, UN-REDD Programme Myanmar presented the proposal for National Validation Workshop on Myanmar's draft National REDD+ Strategy. After more than 50 consultation processes with different stakeholders, the final validation workshop on the strategy is planned to be organized on 10 -11 September 2019 in Nay Nyi Taw. The representatives from different line agencies, CSOs, NGOs/INGOs, Ethnic Armed Organizations and Ethnic Political Parties will be invited. He briefly explained the tentative agenda of the workshop. Before conducting the national validation workshop, the pre-meetings with relevant departments who need to lead the implementation of specific Policies and Measures (PaMs) set out in the REDD+ Strategy, will be conducted. At that same time, the Drivers & Strategy Technical Working Group meeting will be organized before the workshop to have discussion on plan for the validation workshop.

Discussion

TF commented to distribute the draft strategy (both English and Myanmar version) to the participants ahead of the workshop so that the participants can review the contents of the strategy and provide the concrete comments during the workshop. (Decision: 8/1). TF suggested to set facilitators ahead and do preparation for the workshop (Decision: 8/2). As private sector is important for REDD+ Strategy Implementation, private sector should be invited to the validation workshop (Decision 8/3).

Agenda item 6: Safeguard Information System (SIS) design and institutional arrangements, and update on SOI (Summary of Information) development

Daw Khin Hnin Myint, Programme Coordinator of the UN-REDD Myanmar shared the progress and plan of SIS and SOI for Myanmar. The proposed design of SIS has already been drafted and SIS operationalization plan under development, with plans to consult experts/stakeholders in October 2019. The SOI drafting group was established in May and the draft SOI has already prepared and it is now under revision by reflecting the comments of 2nd drafting group meeting in July 2019. She briefly explained on draft design of SIS and structure. A key issue needs to be addressed on SIS design is to identify host institution for the SIS database. She highlighted the comments of SOI drafting group meeting in July which is the revised workplan for SOI development. To have quality first SOI of Myanmar, to have selected consultations with local stakeholders to gather information on perceived social and environmental impacts and integrate results into the draft SOI, providing some additional information on the respect aspect in 2020.

Discussion

There was discussion among TF members about identifying host institution for SIS database: Forest Department (or) Central Statistics Organizations (CSO)? No decision was reached during the meeting as there was no CSO representative at the meeting and nobody was aware of its interest to host SIS. In order to facilitate decision-making at the next TF meeting, the UN-REDD Team was asked to confirm CSO's interest in being host and to invite CSO representative to the next TF meeting during their planned meeting with CSO on 6th Aug 2019 (Decisions: 8/4 and 8/5). If CSO is not interested to host, FD will take that responsibility. (Decision: 8/6)

Agenda item 8: Progress in developing guidelines on the application of FPIC

Mr. Timothy Boyle, CTA, UN-REDD, Myanmar gave initial briefing on the progress in developing guideline on the application of FPIC. He explained the piloting FPIC in Mon State. Discussion has been held with the Mon State Chief Minister and Forest Department and the New Mon State Party for methodology and approach of the piloting. Field visits have been made to 11 Village Tracts, as a result of which, 9 Village Tracts have been selected for the pilot. Community consultations following the pilot methodology are expected to take place in August. In parallel with UNDP piloting in the field, WCS

have been requested by the Forest Department to develop a standard operations procedure for FPIC to be applied in the gazetting of future protected areas. In order to avoid duplication or contradiction in these parallel processes, a small, informal “working group”, consisting of UNDP/UN-REDD, WCS, WWF, and POINT has been established to exchange information and ensure effective progress. A national workshop on FPIC is tentatively planned for September 12th.

Discussions

The Chair pointed out that the specific FPIC process need to be identified based on the required fields/nature of the projects although the overall FPIC concept is the same. It will be different process/tools for different activities. TF recommended to invite RECOFTC to be member of informal FPIC working group as RECOFTC provide training on FPIC (Decision: 8/7).

Agenda item 10: Update on proposals for REDD+ implementation in mangroves

Mr. Timothy Boyle, CTA, UN-REDD, Myanmar presented the proposal for REDD+ implementation in mangroves. As per invitation of Norway, UN-REDD submitted a proposal in June 2019. He highlighted the expected Outcome and Outputs of the proposal. The proposed activities would be added to the existing UN-REDD/Myanmar Programme under a new Outcome.

Summary of Decisions and Action points

Decision TF 8/1: TF commented to distribute the draft strategy (both English and Myanmar version) to the participants ahead of the workshop.

Decision TF 8/2: TF recommended to set facilitators and do preparation ahead of the workshop.

Decision TF 8/3: TF recommended to invite Private Sector to the REDD+ Strategy Validation Workshop as it is one of the important stakeholders for REDD+ implementation.

Decision TF 8/4: TF asked UN-REDD Team to have discussion with CSO on its interest on SIS database hosting when it has meeting with CSO on 6th August 2019.

Decision TF 8/5: TF recommended to invite CSO to take part as TF member as Myanmar REDD+ programme will have to collect various data for its implementation.

Decision TF 8/6: TF decided that the decision for SIS hosting will be set for next TF meeting when CSO representation is there.

Decision TF 8/7: TF recommended to invite RECOFTC to involve in the FPIC informal working group as it is providing training on FPIC.


Next meeting

The next Taskforce meeting will be scheduled by end of 3rd Quarter, 2019.

Attachments

- Agenda of the meeting
- Attendance list

Minutes approved by


Kyaw Kyaw Lwin
Chair of National REDD+ Task Force
Deputy Director General, Forest Department

Annex 1: Agenda

No.	Time	Items	Facilitation
1	09:30 - 09:40	Opening remarks	Chair: U Kyaw Kyaw Lwin, Deputy Director General, Forest Department
2	09:40 – 09:50	Action taken to follow up on Decisions reached at the 7 th meeting of the Taskforce, including proposal for change to TF7 minutes	Dr. Thaug Naing Oo, Secretary to the Task Force
3	09:50 – 10:10	Progress on REDD+ in Myanmar and under the UN-REDD Programme in Myanmar	Dr. Thaug Naing Oo, Secretary to the Task Force/Khin Hnin Myint, Programme Coordinator, UN-REDD
4	10:10 – 10:30	Proposal for National Validation Workshop for the REDD+ Strategy	Tim Boyle, CTA, UN-REDD
5	10:30 – 10:45	Questions & Answers	Chair
6	10:45 – 11:00	Safeguard Information System (SIS) design and institutional arrangements, and update on SOI (Summary of Information) development	Franz Arnold, Chief Technical Advisor, UN-REDD Programme (TBC)
7	11:00 – 11:10	Questions & Answers	Chair
8	11: 10 – 11:30	Progress in developing guidelines on the application of FPIC	Tim Boyle, CTA, UN-REDD
9	11:30 – 11:45	Questions & Answers	Chair
10	11:45 – 12:15	Update on proposals for REDD+ implementation in mangroves	Tim Boyle, CTA, UN-REDD
11	12:15 – 12:25	Questions & Answers	Chair
12	12:25 – 12:30	Closing remarks	Chair: U Kyaw Kyaw Lwin, Deputy Director General, Forest Department
13	12:30	Lunch	

Annex 2: Attendance

No.	Name	Title	Organization	Contact No.
1	U Kyaw Kyaw Lwin	Deputy Director General	Forest Department	
2	Ma Naw Ei Ei Min	Director	POINT	09-254000363
3	U Aung Thant Zin	CEO	MERN	09-448016358
4	U Htein Lin Aung	Assistant Director	GAD(MOHA)	09-250059188
5	Thinn Thitsar Kyaw	Project Assistant	FAO	
6	U Khaing Zay Latt	Staff Officer	IWUMD	09-420180275
7	Daw Khin Mar Swe	Director	Planning Dept	09-798314773
8	U Soe Naing	Director	ECD	09-254686261
9	Daw Kyi Kyi Win	Staff Officer	Department of Agriculture	09-456098462
10	U Min Lwin	Deputy Director	Dept of Planning, MOALI	09-420712654
11	Dr. Thaug Naing Oo	Director	FRI	
12	Nan Wint Wint Phyo Thu	Branch Manager	KBZ Bank	09-449399277
13	Daw Ei Ei Khaing	Staff	KBZ Bank	
14	Daw Aye Aye Thinn	Assistant Director	Department of Social Welfare	067-404251
15	U Hla Myint	Advisor	MRPPA	09-5118927
16	Mr. Bruno Hugel	Global Technical Advisor	UN-REDD/UNDP	
17	U Ohn Lwin	Director	Department of Mining	09-254554405
18	Mr. Timothy Boyle	CTA	UN-REDD	
19	Daw Khin Hnin Myint	National Programme Coordinator	UN-REDD	09-420114720
20	U Min Soe	SE officer	UN-REDD	09-256000883
21	Phyo Pa Pa Han	Programme Assistant	UN-REDD	09-252270424
22	Sandar Min Wai	Programme Assistant	UN-REDD	