



**1. Practice Area:** BPPS/SD

**2. Service Line:** REDD+

**3. Mission Period (incl. of travel days):** 19-22 March 2017

**4. Type of Service/Mission**

- Coordination, programming

**5. Client(s)**

- FCPF PMU, UNDP-CO, MAFF-FA, MOE

**6. Purpose of Mission**

- FCPF-1 backstopping / lesson learning
- FCPF-2 preparation support

**7. Documents, Materials, Resources from Mission**

**8. Mission Member(s) (include Consultants, if any)**

- Joel Scriven

**9. Annexes**

- Mission agenda

**1. Brief Summary of the Mission:**

Cambodia is in the readiness phase of REDD+ implementation. Key milestones in REDD+ readiness include the development of a national REDD+ strategy (NRS) and policies and measures (PAMs) for REDD+ implementation. Cambodia developed its NRS in 2015 and presented a draft version at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Paris, December 2015. REDD+ readiness in Cambodia has received various lines of bilateral and multilateral support, including through the UN-REDD Programme and the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF). A UN-REDD National Programme ran from 2011 to 2015; a 3-year \$3.8m FCPF readiness grant began implementation in March 2014, with UNDP as delivery partner.

In mid-2016, Cambodia applied for additional funding from the FCPF Readiness Fund, and presented its application with UNDP support to the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the FCPF Participants Committee (PC). A funding allocation of \$5m was approved by the PC. Following this allocation, the next step is to prepare a UNDP project document (prodoc) for the \$5m additional funding and an 'Assessment Note' to meet FCPF requirements. The purpose of this mission was to learn lessons from the implementation of demonstration activities under Outcome 3 of FCPF-1, as well as discuss progress on the implementation of activities under Outcome 4 with government counterparts, for the programming of FCPF-2 activities.

**2. Key findings**

- The team (Mr. Nick Beresford, Ms Rany Pen, Ms Tolasreypeou, Ms Chenda Nuon, Mr Sovanna Nhem, Mr Chhum Sovanny, Ms Moeko Saito Jensen and Mr Joel Scriven) visited sites that had received support from former GEF projects (one Sustainable Forest Management project; one Small Grants project) as well as 'demonstration' activities under Outcome 3 of FCPF-1. A clear finding from the visit to Samrong Partnership Forest in Phnom Kravanh District, Pursat Province, was that their forest is generally of poor quality (logged-over) which limits the scope forest-based economic activities. A lesson for programming of FCPF-2 activities under Outcome 3 is the importance of taking a broader view and potentially targeting province-wide activities such as land use planning, involving provincial governments and line ministries: a cross-sectoral approach is required to address underlying drivers. Continued support of local activities such as charcoal production should focus on access to added-value markets. Potential and local will is in place for tree planting.
- Mr Chivin Leng and Ms Sar Sophya, of the General Department of Administration for Nature

Conservation and Protection (GDANCP) in the Ministry of Environment (MOE), were met with to discuss the programming of activities under Outcome 4 of FCPF-2. Research and development on improved monitoring, measurement and reporting of forest degradation is another area needing additional technical support and resources. Methods for Cambodia's new national forest inventory (NFI) methodology have been trialled and an inventory cycle is due for 2018-2022. Funding is being sought from various sources including from FCPF-2 to support implementation. To date each administration (Forest Administration, GDANCP and Fisheries Administration) has been responsible for inventory of forests under their jurisdiction; under the 2018-2022 NFI cycle the plan is for one team will be responsible for inventory of all forest types. A further area requiring support is data sharing and hosting on Cambodia's national forest monitoring system web-portal; currently a national expert is under contract for uploading data; a coordinator is needed to oversee the work.

- The team also discussed the plurality of voluntary carbon market projects that are emerging in Cambodia and the need to 1) map these out and 2) gather lessons learned from their implementation – including from the sale of carbon credits and implications for the national system under the UNFCCC.
- Next steps on FCPF-1 include development of Cambodia's REDD+ Action (or 'Investment') Plan. A starting point could be the development of an options paper for REDD+ investment planning for the government. A further useful exercise that has been carried out in some REDD+ countries is an exercise to map out all flows of REDD+-relevant finance in a country, and down to the local level in a couple of provinces or districts. A similar study could be carried out in Cambodia as a precursor to the Action or Investment Plan.

## Annex 1: Mission agenda

6 March	AM: Travel BKK-Phnom Penh PM: Travel Phnom Penh-Pursat Province
7 March	Visit to Samrong Partnership Forest, Phnom Kravanh District, Pursat Province
8 March	AM: Visit to small-scale charcoal and cook stove producers, Kampong Chhnang Province PM: Travel Phnom Penh
9 March	AM: Meeting with Mr Chivin Leng and Ms Sar Sophyra to discussion FCPF-2 activities under Outcome 4 (MRV and FREL) AM: Meeting with Mr. Shigeru ONO, JICA contractor PM: Travel Phnom Penh-BKK