

# F-REDD Newsletter

**Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ Support Project  
Nov 2015 - Oct 2020**

## **Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ Support Project (F-REDD)**

The purpose of F-REDD is to enhance the capacity of forestry sector through strengthening policies, effective incorporation of REDD+, and improvement of forest resource information as the foundation of sustainable forest management (SFM) in both central and provincial levels (Luang Prabang as the pilot province). The Department of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF-DOF) is the implementing agencies of F-REDD.

## **2nd Joint Coordination Committee Meeting held under the new counterpart structure**

The 2nd Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) was held on 12th May, chaired by Mr. Sousath Sayakoummane, Director General of DOF and co-chaired by Ms. Saeda Makimoto, Senior Representative of JICA Laos Office. The main objectives of the meeting were to present the outputs produced up until now and the planned activities for the future.

The meeting agreed to assign DOF as the sole implementing agency following the Lao Government decision to integrate the forestry sector agencies under DOF. Accordingly, the JCC members and the project implementation structure will be revised. Additional support, requested by MAF, was also approved. Namely support for revising the Forestry Law, develop-



Ms. Makimoto (left) and Mr. Sousath (right)

ment of "Emission Reduction Program Document (ERPD)" for the FCPF Carbon Fund, and the policy piloting in Luang Prabang province.

Lao PDR is now in the preparation stage of REDD+ towards the result based payment from the UNFCCC and the FCPF Carbon Fund. With support from F-REDD and other development partners, the country has several important tasks to complete in the next year, such as submission of the FREL/FRL to the UNFCCC, submission of the ERPD to the FCPF Carbon Fund, and formulation of the Provincial REDD+ Action Plan for Luang Prabang. The co-chairs concluded the meeting by emphasizing the need of all the stakeholders to join efforts on fulfilling these tasks within the given time, and also the need of sufficient capacity building of the Lao counterparts during this time.

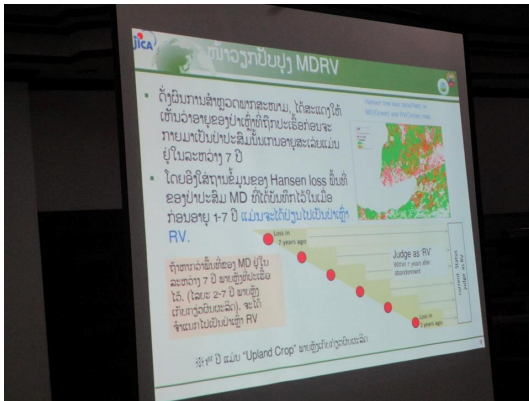
## **2nd Annual Workshop held**

As F-REDD supports the forestry sector and REDD+ in Lao PDR in close collaboration with other development partners, it is very important to widely inform the relevant stakeholders on the strategic direction, progress and results of the Project. For this purpose, the 2nd Annual Workshop was held on 24th May with participation from DOF, universities and research institutes, and international projects and donor agencies supporting the forestry sector. The F-REDD team

made a presentation on the progress of the Project and plans for future activities.

Many questions were raised on the technical and policy aspects which the Project is dealing with, and various constructive comments were also shared to increase the value of the expected outcomes of the Project. As there are many ongoing initiatives and projects in the forestry sector, F-REDD will continue to explore collaboration and synergy with such efforts.

## 4th REL/MRV TWG presented the provisional methodologies and estimation of REL



Technical discussions were held on interim REL and its basic data

The 4th meeting of REL/MRV TWG was held in the afternoon of May 24th with a total of over 30 participants from DOF and other development partners.

F-REDD has been supporting the production of multi-year Forest Type Maps by remote sensing, and quantification of forest carbon stocks through the National Forest Inventory (NFI). Using these results, provisional methodologies and estimation of REL were presented. Key issues discussed included the method to differentiate the level of forest regeneration using a parameter (i.e. years after the forest loss), carbon pools and GHG gases to consider, and assessing the impact of logging. As the contents were technically complex and partly based on provisional data, it was agreed to have further discussions.

In order for the REL of Lao PDR to fulfill the requirements of the UNFCCC and the FCPF Carbon Fund, sufficient capacity development and cooperation among related agencies are essential. F-REDD will continue to support this technically and institutionally.

## Main Activities Conducted

### Common activities

- ◆ 2nd JCC meeting (*completed*)
- ◆ Annual Workshop (*completed*)

### Output 1: Support forestry sector at the central level

- ◆ Preparation for a training program in Japan in September (*ongoing*)

### Output 2: Support measurement of emissions reduction and removal through implementation of REDD+

- ◆ Completion of Forest Type Map 2000, '05, '10, '15 (*completed*)
- ◆ 4th meeting of the REL drafting team and development of interim REL (*completed*)
- ◆ Carbon stratification and uncertainty assessment (*ongoing*)
- ◆ Development of the functions of the NFMS physical system (*ongoing*)

### Output 3: Support National REDD+

- ◆ 4th REL/MRV TWG meeting (*completed*)
- ◆ Drafting of ERPD (*ongoing*)

### Output 4: Support Luang Prabang Province REDD+ Readiness

- ◆ Compiling the results of local consultation at district and village level for developing the Provincial REDD+ Action Plan (*completed*)
- ◆ Drafting work of Provincial REDD+ Action Plan (PRAP) (*ongoing*)
- ◆ Planning of the pilot for the priority forestry policies in line with PRAP and collecting related information (*ongoing*)

## Contact

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### Project Website

<https://www.jica.go.jp/project/english/laos/018/index.html>

## Events in the Next Quarter

Jul.  
5th meeting of the REL drafting team

Aug.  
The Forestry Sub-Sector Working Group  
5th meeting of REL/MRV Technical Working Group

Sep.  
Training in Japan (multiple-use of forests)



MAF  
Ministry of Agriculture  
and Forestry



Japan International  
Cooperation Agency