

## *Minutes of the First meeting of Provincial REDD+ Management Committee Sindh held on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 at Forest Secretariat Sindh*

The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Provincial REDD+ Management Committee (PRMC) held under the chairmanship of the Additional Secretary Forests and Wildlife, Government of Sindh on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 at Forest Secretariat. The meeting was attended by the members of PRMC and representatives from National REDD+ Office, Ministry of Climate Change, Government of Pakistan (**Annex I**)

The meeting started with the recitation of Holy Quran followed by a brief introduction of all the participants and welcome remarks by the chair, Mr. Altaf Ahmed Somroo, Additional Secretary Forests and Wildlife Department. He discussed that the concept of REDD+ was floated in 2010 in Pakistan and started in federal levels till the R-PP was approved it started working at provincial levels. He said that the land of Sindh is rich in minerals and nutrient but unluckily it is fully polluted, and activities like, REDD+ it can be improved.

### *AGENDA ITEM 1: INTRODUCTION TO CONCEPT OF REDD+ AND COUNTRY PRE – REQUISITES FOR REDD+ READINESS*

Mr. Kamran Hussain, National Forest Inventory (NFI) Expert from National REDD+ Office appraised the participants about the objectives of the meeting i.e. (i) to sensitize the Provincial REDD+ Management Committee (PRMC) on the process and state of progress on REDD+ Readiness Preparation for Pakistan, (ii) review and discuss the provincial progress of Sindh on REDD+ governance and management arrangements, (iii) to get endorse the additional budget requirements for provincial REDD+ readiness activities and (iv) sensitize and take on board the members of the PRMC to ensure support, transparency and facilitate effective and efficient communication and coordination for successful implementation of REDD+ Readiness activities in Sindh. He also informed the members that the financial needs will be incorporated in Mid-Term Report along with request proposal for additional funding to be submitted by Government of Pakistan to FCPF of the World Bank. He also mentioned that proposal for additional funding is being prepared in close consultation with the provinces and territories by giving due consideration to the provincial REDD+ Readiness requirements.

Thereafter, Mr. Kamran gave detailed presentation on the concept of REDD+ and the country pre-requisites for REDD+ Readiness. He referred to decisions of Conference of Parties (COP) of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) that REDD+ is to be implemented in three phases i.e. phase 1 (awareness raising, capacity building and institutional strengthening), phase 2 (further capacity building and piloting) and phase 3 (result based financing) and that this project will

bring Pakistan to be in phase 2 or early phase 3 by mid of 2018. He also mentioned that four prerequisites i.e. (i) National REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan, (ii) National Forest Monitoring System (iii) Forest Reference Emission Levels/ Forest Reference Levels and (iv) Safeguard Information System should developed by the country under the Cancun Agreement. He further explained the National and Provincial REDD+ Readiness Management arrangements and its current implementation status which was much appreciated by the participants. Thereafter, the NFI Expert requested Mr. Afrasiyab, GIS Expert from National REDD+ Office to appraise the participants on the progress of Pakistan's Readiness Process.

#### *AGENDA ITEM 2: PROGRESS ON THE NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL REDD+ READINESS*

Mr. Afrasiyab mentioned that various mile stones have been achieved at national level under REDD+ Readiness Grant by the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) of the World Bank (WB) to strengthen the capacity of Pakistan to monitor deforestation and reduce forest and land use change related greenhouse gas emissions through a socially, environmentally, and technically sound national REDD+ strategy.

Mr Abdul Sattar Khatri, the provincial REDD+ focal point for Sindh briefed the participants about the progress of REDD+ Readiness activities in Sindh and informed about the meeting held a day earlier with the representatives of National REDD+ Office, Ministry of Climate Change to identify missing items and budget requirements for provincial REDD+ Readiness to support implementation of National REDD+ Strategy. He informed participants that the forest department of Sindh has established the REDD+ Cell, nominated members for National Working Groups on different thematic areas of REDD+, notified the Provincial REDD+ Management Committee, Women Representative to attend National Steering Committee meetings and various officers of Forest Department of Sindh have participated in different capacity building workshops and trainings organized by Ministry of Climate Change from time to time. Mr Khatri said that One international firm Indufor, Oy who are working on National REDD+ Strategy and its Implementation Framework has visited the Sindh province and we sensitize them with the related data they needed. He also referred to the progress of Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Gilgit – Baltistan and mentioned that both the governments have established their REDD+ offices and REDD+ staff on permanent basis. He also proposed that Forest Department should prepare and submit a PC-I to competent forum for its approval through public funds.

### *AGENDA ITEM 3: PRESENTATION ON THE ADDITIONAL BUDGET REQUIREMENTS FOR PROVINCIAL REDD+ READINESS ACTIVITIES IN SINDH*

Mr. Kamran Hussain briefed the participants about various components of R-PP for which additional funding is being sought from the FCPF to fulfill the provincial requirements for REDD+ Readiness. He informed the participants that after a fruitful discussion with the provincial REDD+ Focal Point a tentative budget has been designed. He shared the detailed budget with the participants which, after successive discussions, was finally endorsed by all the participants.

### *AGENDA ITEM 4: DISCUSSION*

A question was raised by a member that what would be the criteria for the distribution of Results based Payments. Mr. Kamran, NFI Expert replied that it will be distributed totally on performance basis. It will not depend on the area covered by forests, those areas whose carbon stock will be more will receive more payments and vice versa.

Dr. Sadiq Mughal, Conservator of Forests Thatta raised a question about the how will we claim carbon credits for farm forestry and agroforestry.

Mr. Kamran Hussain Answered his question that the agroforestry and farmlands are not part of REDD+ although there are guidelines for farm forestry, if these guidelines meet the National standard forest definition we can easily claim the carbon credits. Mr. Riaz Ahmed seconded Mr. Kamran.

Mr. Muhammad Zafar, Conservator forests discussed about the protected private forests that we should encourage such people in conserving their forests by providing them different incentives and Mr. Kamran appreciated his comment and said that REDD+ boost such activities.

Mr. Najam Ud Din, Head of Forestry and Research, Al-Noor, MDF asked a question about some plants species that a larger area of Sindh is covered with this species so how we will claim carbon credits for this because it's a rotational species. Mr Kamran cleared that for Forest Inventory there are five defined carbon pools based on carbon fluxes (above ground biomass, below ground biomass, litter, dead wood and soil). It not depends on the quantity it depends on how much carbon present in the standing plants.

Decisions:

Based on the discussion, following decisions were taken;

- 1. The REDD+ Coordination Committees will be notified at district level under the chairmanship of conservation of forests of the respective forest circle to ensure effective coordination, sensitization, awareness and monitoring of REDD+ activities at community level.*

*Action by the Provincial REDD+ Cell/ Forest Secretariat, Government of AJ & K*

2. The PRMC will meet after every six months to monitor and coordinate the progress of REDD+ Readiness activities.

*Action by REDD+ Cell through Forest Secretariat*

3. A PC-1 will be developed to support the REDD+ Readiness activities through the regularization of REDD+ Office. \

*Action by REDD+ Cell through Forest Secretariat*

4. The Training Manuals developed through international/ National Consultants under R-PP should be in local (Sindh) language.

*Action by REDD+ Cell through forest Secretariat*

5. The Provincial RED+ Management Committee endorsed the Budget prepared in consultation with REDD+ Focal Point

*Action by Provincial REDD+ Management Committee*

The meeting ended with closing remarks by the Chair who thanked all the participants for their valuable inputs and agreement and endorsement of various decisions. Thereafter, the participants were served with lunch hosted by National REDD+ Office.

**ANNEX I: List of participants of Provincial REDD+ Management Committee**

Meeting of Provincial REDD+ Management Committee

Venue: Sindh Secretariat, Forest and Wildlife Department Sindh

Date: 13-14<sup>th</sup> April 2017

S/No	Name	Designation	Organization	Email	Signature
1.	Najamuddin	Head APOR Forest & Reserve	AL Noor MDF	najam.uddin@alnoor.com	
2.	Gul Hassan	CF, SBA/	Sindh Forest Dept	ghassan2p@gmail.com	
3.	A. SATTAR KHATRI	CF, Working Plan Dept	Sindh Forest Dept	ABDULSATTAR_KHATRI@yahoo.com	
4.	Mohammed Zafer Wason	CF, Lesha	Sindh Forest Dept	zafer.wason@gmail.com	
5.	Ghulam Qadir Sadiq	WCU MFF National Coordinator	WCU	ghulam.qadir@wcu.org	
6.	Zulfiqar Ali Memon	CF(A)Hyd	SFD	zulfiqar_mamond@yahoo.com	
7.	Abdul Wahid Akbar	CF/District level	SFD	abulwahid@pdps.com	
8.	Agha Zahid Hussain	CF/ID Mangroves	SFD	agha-zahid@gmail.com	
9.	Muhammad Saleem Vistro	CF(A) Circle Sukkur.	SFD.	saleemvistro@yahoo.com	
10.	Fasih Jabbar	Research Associate	National REDD+ office.		
11.	M. Sadiz Mughal	Conservator of Thatta.	SFD.	ms_mughal12@hotmail.com	
12.	Atiq Ahmad Soomro	AS	Forest Dept.		

13.	Sharjal Menn	Coje Part Off	Swak Part Off		
14.	Muhammad Afasyah	GIS Ekst	National Red office	mafasyah@gmail.com	
15.	Alif Soam	ADOT Hrao			
16.	Asij Menn	B. FD See	Ps. 6 Sec.		
17.					
18.					
19.					
20.					
21.					
22.					
23.					
24.					
25.					
26.					
27.					