

**Minutes of the 1st meeting of Provincial REDD+ Management Committee**  
**Punjab held on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2017**

The First meeting of the Provincial REDD+ Management Committee (PRMC) was held under the chairmanship of the Secretary Forests, Government of Punjab on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017. The meeting was attended by the members of PRMC and representatives from National REDD+ Office, Ministry of Climate Change Government of Pakistan.

The meeting started with recitation from Holy Quran. After the welcome remarks by chair, Mr. Shahid Rashid Awan, Additional Secretary and Provincial REDD+ Focal Point, briefed about the agenda of the meeting with objectives; (i) to sensitize the members of PRMC on the process and state of progress on REDD+ Readiness Preparation for Pakistan (ii) to get onboard committee on additional budget requirements for initiating provincial REDD+ readiness activities from 2018-2020 and (iii) to ensure support, transparency and facilitate effective and efficient communication and coordination for successful implementation of REDD+ Readiness activities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Mr. Shahid Rashid Awan also introduced representatives of National REDD+ Office to the members of PRMC. He praised that the role of Ministry of Climate change on recent initiatives of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and Green Pakistan Program (GPP).

Mr. Kamran Hussain, National Forest Inventory (NFI) Expert, National REDD+ Office 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. He also informed the members that the request for additional funding from readiness fund of FCPF will be submitted along with the Mid Term Report (MTR).

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

Mr. Kamran Hussain gave a brief introduction on the concepts of REDD+ and updated participants on the most recent developments at international level on REDD+. He highlighted the national requirements and pre-requisites for REDD+ Readiness in Pakistan 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.

*AGENDA ITEM 2: PROGRESS ON REDD+ READINESS AT NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL LEVELS*

Mr. Muhammad Afrasiyab, GIS/MRV Expert, National REDD+ Office gave an overall briefing on the past and current activities of National REDD+ Office and its future endeavors. He informed that various miles stones have been achieved to strengthen the capacity of Pakistan in order to monitor greenhouse gas emissions from forestry sector through a socially, environmentally, and technically sound national REDD+ strategy. He also mentioned progress of Pakistan for developing (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 under the Cancun Agreement. He further explained the National and Provincial REDD+

Readiness Management arrangements and updated on the status of notifications. He emphasized on the importance of provincial/territorial inputs regarding their financial requirements for submitting a request for Additional Funding from FCPF along with the Mid Term Report (MTR).

Mr. Shahid Rashid Awan updated participants on progress of Punjab in implementing REDD+. He emphasized on the need of capacity building of staff on technical concepts of Carbon Market and Result based payments for REDD+. He discussed about the notifications of participants from Punjab in National Working Groups and Provincial REDD+ Mgt. Committees. He briefed the participants about the session held a day before on estimating budget requirements for supporting the provincial REDD+ Readiness process in Punjab. He informed that in the discussion session various gaps have been identified and activities have been re-arranged in line with national activities.

He concluded that his office is well informed with the upcoming visits of International Firms for developing NFMS and REDD+ Strategy and ensured full support. He mentioned that three important ecosystems i.e. Conifers, Scrubs and Riverine are being considered in the context of implementing REDD+ at this stage.

The notification and TORs of the PRMC were also distributed among the participants.

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

Mr. Kamran Hussain presented the draft budget of Punjab prepared during preparatory meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 at Forest Secretariat. He explained the proposed activities consistent with the existing components of R-PP for which additional funding is being sought to fulfill the provincial needs for REDD+ Readiness in Punjab.

After successive discussions and a few modifications the proposed budget was finally endorsed by the participants of PRMC.

#### *DECISIONS:*

Based on the discussion, following decisions were taken under agenda item 3;

1. With mutual consensus of the entire members of the meeting, the drafted budget against proposed readiness activities consistent with the R-PP is unanimously approved by the PRMC in the light of modifications suggested during the discussion session and will be submitted along with the MTR by 21<sup>st</sup> April 2017

Action by National REDD+ Office

#### *AGENDA ITEM 4: PLENARY SESSION*

The presentation by Mr. Kamran Hussain opened discussion on various aspects of REDD+ including role of Academia in capacity building for REDD+. It was decided that a modest budget will be added for accommodating interns at Provincial REDD+ Cell under capacity building activities.

During the discussion importance of capacity building of forest communities, REDD+ demonstration, addressing the drivers of deforestation, awareness raising of academia and local communities was realized.

The chair of the meeting emphasized on the importance of continuous support required at provincial level from the Federal Government. Representatives of the National REDD+ Office ensured that all the provinces/ territories will be informed with updates at every step of the process and no information will be forwarded without the prior consent of the relevant Provinces/territories through Focal Points.

The sustainability of the GIS lab was also discussed. It was informed that for MRV procedure a permanent and fully equipped GIS lab has already been established with recruitment of permanent staff. The role of WWF-P was praised in support provided for this process. However need of developing a REDD+ Cell in RWP forest circle was also emphasized and a modest budget was incorporated.

Regarding the frequency of meetings of PRMC/Provincial REDD+ Steering Committee it was decided that the meeting will be conducted on six months basis and in addition to that participation of women representatives and CSOs as member of PRMC will be supported.

#### *DECISIONS:*

Based on the discussion, following decisions were taken under agenda item 3;

1. Forest departments will request the concerned departments of the members of PRMC to ensure participation of same members in future  
Action by Provincial REDD+ Focal Point
2. National REDD+ Office will be approached for sensitization on adopting REDD+ activities in future.  
Action by Provincial REDD+ Focal Point
3. Internship program at Provincial REDD+ cell will be supported through FCPF readiness grant.  
Action by Provincial REDD+ Focal Point/National REDD+ Office
4. GIS works at Mining department and Punjab Forest Department will work together and data sharing agreements will be prepared  
Action by Provincial REDD+ Focal Point/representative of Ministry of Mines
5. The GIS related outputs of Urban Unit for Punjab Forest department related to REDD+ activities will be ensured to follow IPCC guidelines and standards. National REDD+ Office will be reached for any assistance on this.  
Action by GIS lab PFD/National REDD+ Office
6. In the meetings of the PRMC, participation of Women representatives and local CBOs/NGOs/local forest communities will be supported  
Action by Provincial REDD+ Focal Point

7. The PRMC will meet on six months basis to monitor and coordinate the progress of REDD+ activities in Punjab.

Action by Provincial REDD+ Focal Point