

Minutes of the Meeting - REDD+ Readiness Roadmap Preparation

Working Group 1: National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) and Forest Reference Emission Levels/Reference Levels (RELs/RLs)

Meeting held on October 17, 2014 in Islamabad

The third meeting of working group for REDD+ Readiness Roadmap was held on October 17, 2014 in Islamabad. There are four working groups (WGs). The WG1 is for National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) and Forest Reference Emission Levels/Reference Levels (RELs/RLs). Names of the Working Groups members, who attended the meeting, are given in the list at the end. The participants discussed the following agenda and made decisions.

- Presentation on the findings of the field data collection for the CBNA for NFMS;
- Review of the findings and recommendations and filling of any missing information.

The meeting was started from the Holy Quran by Mr. Muhammad Ibrahim Khan. Mr Ibrahim briefed the participants about the background of the REDD+ Preparedness and the current project. He said that the current project, as evident from its name, is focused on the action planning for National Forest Assessment. Under this project various studies have been launched so far, which includes capacity building needs assessment, assessment of data availability for LULUCF and GHG inventory and development of standard methodology for spatial analysis of forest cover change. He further said that the studies would finally culminate in the development of an action plan for the NFMS. Mr Ibrahim mentioned that National Consultant visited all provinces for collecting information through questionnaires and focus group discussions for these studies. The purpose of the working group meeting was to review the findings and recommendations to finalize the first draft of the report.

Presentation on the Need Assessment for National Forest Inventory

Mr. Kamran gave presentation to the participants on final draft report on capacity building needs assessment for Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS). He shared the comprehensive tables used for data collection which included capacity assessment of data, human resource, technology etc. Few recommendations were given by the working group which are as follows;

1. Data related to SLMS is scattered at various levels in the country. Some of the organisations/departments have used high resolution data while others have used medium to low resolution data. Similarly differences in the usage of temporal resolution exists which is mainly due to thematic application. It was recommended to develop a National Data Archive System, which should be used as national node for storage and dissemination of data and information. The availability of all archived data at same place will reduce data duplication and enhance its usage due to easy accessibility.
2. Provincial and National data regulation authority should be constituted for the data standardisation. Mr. Saleem Khan said that all activities could be coordinated and

regularised if such body is available at provincial and national level. It should be mandatory for the governance.

3. Ms. Urooj Saeed said that all the provinces should use same temporal resolution of the images. Time span for the past as well as future monitoring should be decided and it should be the same for all provinces.
4. For base reference level, twenty years is recommended by IPCC. Base year can be selected from 1992-1995, depending on the image quality i.e. cloud cover, shadow.
5. Forest definition including the threshold of tree height should be defined for Pakistan, FAO or IPCC can be consulted for the finalisation of the definition. Ibrahim Khan said that different options could be considered by considering carbon trading and definition of forest degradation. Different forest types and ecosystems should also be considered while defining the definition. He recommended Pakistan Forest Resource Inventory (PFRI) document for harmonization of Land cover classes. There should be legal and institutional reforms for NFMS.
6. Mr. Aslam Buzdar suggested that the nominations for the future REDD+ activities should be done by name and not by designation. Persons with relevant education and technical skills should be invited for such workshops so that their capacity is enhanced in the relevant subject.
7. Mr. Kamran Hussain said that FAO's support could be taken to establish an online provincial to national level system. It would be a long term recommendation and could be materialised once the data for any province was complete.
8. Sher Nawaz Khan said that specialised trainings on REDD+ such as SLMS/ NFMS should be conducted at two different levels i.e. for technical people (RS/GIS) and for policy/decision makers.
9. Mr. Fayyaz insisted that the interaction of National Consultant with the provincial representatives was very important.
10. Kamran Hussain also presented National Forest Classification scheme in which classes were defined by incorporating IPCC requirement, FAO data and climatic and ecological zones. Furthermore he said that the forest classes had been stratified on the basis of density.
11. Last recommendation of the committee was internal data verification system which is mandatory under UNFCCC. It was recommended to constitute a provincial quality control panel with multi-stakeholder representation. They should study and verify the data before it is presented to the National Quality Control panel.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Sr. No.	WG Member	Status	Organization/ City	Email Address/Contact#
1.	Mr. Abdul Basit	Member	PFD, Lahore	Cf.dwpcircle@gmail.com
2.	Muhammad Aslam Buzdar	Member	BFD, Quetta	buzdarcf@yahoo.com
3.	Ms. Urooj Saeed	Secretary	WWF	usaeed@wwf.org.pk 042 111993725, 03014511828
4.	Mr. Kifayatullah Baloch	Member	KP FD	balochitc@gmail.com 0333726673
5.	Mr. Saleem Khan	Guest Member	KP FD	0339119759
6.	MR. Sher Nawaz Khan	Guest Member	FATA FD	Forest.cons@fata.gov.pk
7.	Fayyaz Ahmad Surrayo	Member	Sindh FD	Surhio99@gmail.com
8.	Iftikhar Ahmad Khan	Member	AJK FD	lfi07_wj@yahoo.com , 03445172149
9.	Mr. Mumtaz Babar	Guest Member	PFD, Lahore	Mab.dfo@gmail.com
10.	Mr. Irfan Akhtar	Member	SUPARCO Islamabad	irfanswat@hotmail.com 03159290306
11.	Mr. Muhammad Imran	Guest Member	SUPARCO Islamabad	imzyousafzai@gmail.com
12.	Mr. Ibrahim Khan	Facilitator	WWF	ikhan@yahoo.com
13.	Mr. Muhammad Latif	Guest Member	BFD, Quetta	
14.	Mr. Afrasiyab	Facilitator	WWF-Pakistan	mafrasiyab@gmail.com 03245029077