REDD+ Situation in Lao PDR -Toward Consistent Approaches- 

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INTRODUCTION TO REDD+ IN LAO P.D.R.

Background and status
REDD+ in the context of Laos: Needs

• **Realizing REDD+:** Particular importance for Laos as its high forest-dependency in social, economic and environmental terms

• Rapid loss of forest coverage
  - Mid 1960’s 70%
  - 1992 47%
  - 2002 42%
  - 2010 40%

• Target under Forest Strategy 2020
  - 2015 65%
  - 2020 70%
Efforts for REDD+ in the Past

Considerable efforts made including:

• REDD Taskforce was established for coordination of REDD initiatives

• Participation to Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FPCF) as one of the 14 participating countries (July 2008), and development of a Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP)

• Feasibility studies and REDD+ demonstration activities has started since 2010, assisted by multilateral, bilateral and international NGOs.
Challenges from Legislation to Practices

• Forestry law: Under the process of revision as a basis for legal framework on REDD+.

• Demonstration Projects in the fields with different concepts are under implementation,
  – REDD+ Safeguards incl. FPIC (CliPAD, DOF/GIZ)
  – SFM in Production Forest (SUFORD, DOF/Finland)
  – Development of approaches for reducing deforestation (PAREDD, DOF/JICA)

• On-going issues under discussion, testing, etc.:
  – Reference Emission Level/Reference Level
  – MRV System
  – Benefit Sharing and Distribution
**REDD+ Demonstration in Laos**

- **Luang Phabang Province**
  - Implemented by: JICA (PAREDD)

- **Savannakhet Province**
  - Implemented by: Finland, World Bank (SUFORD)

- **Sayabouri Province**
  - Implemented by: GIZ, KfW
  - (Under Formulation)
  - Jurisdictional REDD+ Approach

- **Feasibility Study: Xe Pien NBCA in Champasack Province**
  - Implemented by: WWF

- **Feasibility Study: Xe Sap NBCA in Saravan Province**
  - Implemented by: WWF

- **Jurisdictional REDD+ Approach in Houaphan Province**
  - Implemented by: Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), SNV, GIZ, KfW

- **Jurisdictional REDD+ Approach in Saravan Province**
  - Implemented by: GIZ, KfW

- **Luang Namtha**
  - Phongsali

- **Source:** Interviews

- Activities of the host country
- Activities of international organizations
- Activities of NGOs, etc.
Institutional Arrangement - Central Level

• Ministerial Arrangement for REDD+
  – Department of Forestry (DOF-MAF) and Department of Forest Resource Management (DFRM-MONRE) share the tasks and responsibilities on REDD+.

• The National REDD+ Task Force
  – Leading REDD+ discussions and implementation.
  – DOF chairs the TF, while REDD+ Office under DOF acts as the Secretariat.

• Technical Working Groups (to be established)
  – Multi-stakeholder Technical Committee, consist of the government, experts and INGOs, supports the REDD+ Task Force
Institutional Arrangement

National Environmental Council (NEC)
Minister/Vice Minister Level

REDD+ Task Force
Director General Level
Multi-Stakeholder Representation

National REDD+ Office
Division Level

Technical Working Group
REL

Technical Working Group
MRV

Technical Working Group
Stakeholder Participation and Consultation Plan

Technical Working Group
Land-use

Technical Working Group
Benefit Sharing

Provincial Environmental Council (PEC)

Provincial REDD+ Task Force

Provincial REDD+ Office

Provincial Environmental Council (PEC)

Provincial REDD+ Task Force

Provincial REDD+ Office

Technical support
Coordination/Consultation
Executive Implementation

Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP), Lao PDR 2010
From Project to National level

CONSISTENCY AMONG LEVELS: STATUS AND STRATEGY
Approaches in Different Levels

Each level of three strata is actively attempted in Laos

- **National level**
  - Development of Forest Base map 2010 and 2005, becoming a basis of National REL and MRV.

- **Sub-National**
  - Jurisdictional and nested REDD approach employed by CliPAD
  - Scaling-up from project level to province level by PAREDD – DOF/JICA

- **Project level**
  - Several attempts are undertaken including both government-based and private-based
Status of REL/RL at National level

Forest base maps in 2005 and 2010 are developed by FIM

- Preparation of Satellite Imagery at National Level
- Identification of Forest types
- Forest Base map
- REL/RL?

Satellite Image 2005
Satellite Image 2010

Class Items
- Mixed Forest (Secondary Forest)
- Dry Dipterocarp Forest
- Plantation Forest
- Bamboo
- Fallow Land
- Slash and Burn Land

Forest Inventory
Image Analysis

Forest Basemap 2005
Forest Basemap 2010

Historical Data in 2005 and 2010
National Communication

Carbon Stock
Time (year)
Status of REL/RL at Sub-National level
–In a case of Luang Prabang Province–

Remote Sensing Analysis on land use changes (Forest Area)

Socio-economic data (Statistics in each area)

Field Survey for Developing Emission Factor

Reference considering socio-economic data
Simple historical trend
GHG emission reduction
After project activities (Project scenario)

Department of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR
Slash and burn agriculture is a main cause of deforestation and forest degradation in Phonsay district, Luang Prabang Province.

PAREDD started to support mitigation activities including forest zoning, plantation and alternative income generation activities since 2012-3.

In a village cluster, REL/RL and project scenario were developed based on mitigation activities.

In the case of PAREDD, REL/RL and project scenario are considering mitigation activities.

GHG emission estimated by remote sensing and field survey.

GHG emission reduction estimated by comparison between reference level and mitigation activities.

Project scenario is considering mitigation activities.
Consistency throughout the Levels (Proposed)

- GHG emission/emission reductions in “Lower Level” are adjusted along with the total amount of “Higher level”.

![Graph showing consistency throughout the levels](image-url)
Key Points for REDD+ in Different Levels

• To avoid inconsistencies among levels and initiatives, following points should be addressed:
  – Applying same satellite imagery (*RapidEye* based)
  – Employing same forest type classification
  – Employing same emission factors for estimating carbon stocks.

• National Benchmark Maps and DB are the foundation of consistent monitoring/evaluation.

• Capacity development in all levels is essential.

➢ In conclusion, REED+