Background

Interest in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and enhancement of carbon (REDD+) stock is very high. A key question for policymakers at every level is how to transform current interest and funding into long-term revenue for ecosystem conservation and restoration. Effectively engaging the private sector is an important part of the answer.

Public funding represents a significant source of funds for scaling up REDD+ in the near term, with more than 4 billion US dollars promised in ODA in addition to existing and planned climate change funding. On the other hand, it will take an estimated 40 billion US dollars per year to reduce deforestation rate in half by 2030. Private finance is needed to bridge the gap and bring about substantial reductions in deforestation. For these reasons, providing viable opportunities for private investment is necessary to the success of REDD+. A nested approach provides a credible roadmap for a REDD+ system that integrates project-based as well as sub-national level activities into national accounting and regulatory frameworks. The nation-wide accounting frameworks, registries, and minimum regulatory standards are seen as vital to ensuring environment integrity of the system, providing for transparency in the market, and laying the foundation for effective benefit-sharing.

The Government of Vietnam is designing National REDD+ Program (NRP) with the aims to contribute to reducing emissions, enhancement of carbon stocks, biodiversity conservation, improvement of local livelihoods, environmental protection, and promotion of sustainable development.¹ With supports from UN-REDD, the UN-REDD Vietnam Programme has been wrapping the first phase, focusing on the activities related to planning and readiness which include capacity building for different stakeholders particularly relevant officials at national and provincial level and development of country’s monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV), and the design of a REDD-compliant benefit distribution system. The proposal for the second phase is now under development, with some key activities will be pilot in some selected provinces. A couple of other donors including JICA and GIZ are also preparing provincial level REDD+ pilot. At project level, conservation organizations such as WWF, FFI, and SNV have been implementing activities with the aim to contribute to the formation of voluntary carbon markets. The implementation of those activities will serve as foundation for the scaling up REDD+ nation-wide.

In Viet Nam, it is largely agreed that REDD+ accounting will be at a national level. However, mechanisms for linking activities implemented at the sub-national (province) and project levels to national REDD+ framework have been missing.

The Government of Vietnam has expressed interest in REDD+ nested approach, hoping that it will be an important and practical policy tool to link REDD+ activities at the project and sub-national (province) to

national REDD+ framework. The current draft of the National REDD+ Program states clearly that “legal provisions regulated conditions, procedures and processes that economic entities can participate in the purchase – sale and exchange of carbon credits should be issued”, and “promote to exchange and learning experience as well as make the discussion forum between the private sector and government organizations on issues related to the development of voluntary carbon market from forest services.”

The priority of the 2012’s work plan of the Vietnam Administration of Forestry (VNFOREST) is “researching, piloting and designing policy on carbon emissions”.

VNFOREST is seeking competent consultants financed by JICA to develop an analytical paper featuring the potentials of REDD+ nested approach for Vietnam. This paper is expected to be presented at a workshop on REDD+ nested approach, to be held in Hanoi at the end of March/early April 2012 hosted by VNFOREST, JICA, Forest Trends, and SNV.

**Objective**

The objective of this consultancy is to develop an analytical paper which features REDD+ nested approach and discusses implications for Vietnam with regard to regulatory framework, technical issues, and financial aspects.

**Deliverable**

An analytical paper, with 40-50 pages in lengths, both in English and Vietnamese languages covering the following issues:

(a) An overview on REDD+ nested approach, including, at minimum, the ones by Forest Trends and Climate Focus (2011), Conservation International and Becker and McKenzie (2010).

(b) A case description featuring some REDD+ activities being undertaken at the project level as well as provincial level with a particular focus on activities currently being implemented in Vietnam.

(c) Based on (a) and (b), a section highlighting how REDD+ nested approach could be developed in order to link the example activities described in (b) to national REDD+ framework.

(d) A section discussing implications with regard to regulatory framework, technical, as well as financial aspects with aim to provide basis for development of nested approach in Vietnam taking into account key components of NRP including MRV, BDS, PaMs and so on.

**Qualification**

First consultant:

- Master degree, prefer PhD degree in the field of Natural resources management
- Good knowledge and experience on technical aspects particularly those related to MRV
- Familiar with REDD+ activities implemented at the national and sub-national levels in Viet Nam.
- Excellent analytical skills

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- High proficiency in both spoken and written English and Vietnamese

Second consultant:

- Master degree, prefer PhD degree in the field of Natural resources management
- Good knowledge and experience on regulatory framework, social and financial aspects related to REDD+
- Familiar with REDD+ activities implemented at the national and sub-national levels in Viet Nam.
- Excellent analytical skills
- High proficiency in both spoken and written English and Vietnamese

30 working days

Timeline

A draft of the paper ready by the last week of February 2012

Final draft reflecting comments made in the proposed workshop as well as by stakeholders and acceptable to VNFOREST by mid-March 2012.

Contact

Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest and a CV to Dr. Pham Quoc Hung, Department of Science, Technology and International Cooperation, Vietnam Administration of Forestry at phamquochung72@gmail.com before 22 February 2012. The letter should indicate expected fees for completing this assignment.