National Workshop on PLR Review and Grievance Redress Mechanism Design for REDD+ Implementation
Workshop Report

1. Purpose

The implementation of the REDD+ workshops held in Nay Pyi Taw was intended to obtain feedback, comments, and recommendations from a selection of key stakeholders involved in the REDD+ process.

- Improved understanding of the institutional arrangements to implement the safeguards.
- Draft recommendations on PLR gaps to support PaMs and ensure that Cancun safeguards are addressed and respected.
- Sense check consultation findings including but not limited to identifying potential grievances, disputes, complaints or equivalent and existing formal or informal mechanisms to address these grievances;
- Evaluate the institutional capacity and other stakeholders (CSOs, NGOs...) to implement these mechanisms;
- Assess adequacy and effectiveness of current formal and informal grievance mechanisms to address and resolve anticipated grievances, disputes, complaints or equivalent at national, provincial and local levels, using the evaluation framework outlined in the Guidance Note;

2. Overview

Myanmar is currently preparing its National REDD+ Strategy in line with the agreements reached under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This work involves the identification of potential Policies and Measures (PaMs) to maintain or improve the condition of forests, as well as setting out the necessary framework conditions, institutional structures, and processes for REDD+.

As part of the of the National Programme, UNDP contracted a team of Consultants, Howe Sustainable, to Review legal and policy framework and develop grievance redress

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1 Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation
2 United Nations Development Programme
mechanisms for REDD+ implementation with the following objectives: (1) review, assess and ascertain the adequacy of current policy, legal and regulatory (PLR) framework to support policies and measures (PaMs) implementation in relation to REDD+; (2) analyze the extent to which the PLR framework supports how safeguards are addressed (“address safeguards”) and the institutions and institutional arrangements to implement these safeguards (“respect safeguards”); (3) develop recommendations to strengthen PLR framework for REDD+ implementation and to ensure that Cancun safeguards are addressed and respected; and (4) review and propose potential grievance redress mechanisms (GRM) for REDD+ implementation.

For the second phase of the consultancy, and after a desktop review and consultation based on face to face interviews, Howe Sustainable organized three national workshops to collect feedback on the initial findings as well as recommendations to develop action plan and design for Grievance Redress Mechanism for REDD+.

Team

- Clémence Bourlet, Environnemental Expert, Team leader
- Anastacia Howe, Social Expert
- Zarni Aung, M&E specialist
- Shwe Mar, Junior Consultant
- Aye Chan Maung Maung, Environmental Expert

3. Summary of workshop

3.1 Workshop Agenda

The first workshop covered the following topics:

1. PLR review addressing and respecting the Cancun safeguards;
2. PLR review supporting the REDD+ Policies and Measures (PaMs) implementation;
3. Recommendations.

The second workshop covered the following topics:

1. Sense check consultation findings including but not limited to identifying potential grievances, disputes, complaints or equivalent that are considered formal or informal.
2. Evaluate the institutional capacity and other stakeholders.
3. Collect recommendations for establishing and strengthening a grievance mechanism (GRM) for REDD+ implementation.
The Final workshop covered the following topics:

1. Sense check consultation findings from the past 5 months and the previous two workshops;
2. Evaluate the institutional capacity and other stakeholders (CSOs, NGOs...) to implement the recommendations;
3. Debate next steps to ensure REDD+ implementation.

3.2 Participants

First Workshop: A total of 46 participants attended the workshop which included representatives from 9 departments within MOALI, MONREC, MOEA, MOPF and 8 CSOs.

Second Workshop: A total of 27 participants attended the workshop which included representatives from 9 departments within MOALI, MONREC, MOEA, MOPF and 9 CSOs.

Final Workshop: A total of 31 participants attended the workshop which included representatives from 9 departments within MOALI, MONREC, MOEA, MOPF and 8 CSOs.

3.3 Workshop Achievement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
<th>Lessons</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workshop 1</td>
<td>• Active participation across all activities; and • Recommendations on safeguards addressed and respected as well as solutions to support PAMs implementation provided.</td>
<td>• More diverse participants should have attended, including more line ministries • Additional time needed to train facilitators • Participants requested to have a 2-day workshop as topics were quite dense.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workshop 2</td>
<td>• Active participation across all activities; • Recommendations on GRM provided; • Understand the concept, definition, and design of the GRM; and • Identified sources and areas of conflict related to land-use and forest.</td>
<td>• More examples needed to improve participation in exercises provided • Training on GRM should be provided ahead of the workshop to facilitate improved outcomes • Participants asked to consider a 2-day workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workshop 3</td>
<td>• Active participation across all</td>
<td>• Participants asked to</td>
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activities;
• Recommendations on PLR provided;
• Reviewed and recommended suggestions to improve the REDD+ GRM design; and
• Identified next steps for REDD+ implementation.

consider a 2-day workshop
• More training needed to better understand the GRM and PLRs
• The participants are not the same representatives from previous workshop

4. Recommendations

The recommendations listed below should be considered when planning for future training.

• To ensure the participation of key participants that have existing knowledge related to REDD+ or working in a relative field. This will help to guarantee information is retained and capacity can be built effectively;
• Given the concept of GRM is fairly new to many of the stakeholders, additional training to understand GRM are needed;
• Workshops concerning laws and policies should be provided over a duration of 2 days to maximize participation and ensure effective uptake of new knowledge and or information. This recommendation would also help to facilitate and encourage participation of stakeholders.
• Workshop invitations to government departments should be delivered at least 5 days in advance of the workshop. This will provide the time needed to identify and select the right representative to attend the workshop.

5. Workshop Evaluation

Training evaluation forms were provided to participants to obtain their feedback on the workshop as well as suggestions to improve future training. The evaluation is based on 8 questions aimed at evaluating the content, activities, objectives of the workshop, as well as relevance of the workshop content to the participants work.

First Workshop

A total of 32 participants attended the workshop but only 20 evaluation forms were completed.
Key comments received concerning the workshop included the following:

- A variety of line ministries, department and organizations should be invited; and
- Effective coordination between relevant organizations including REDD+ taskforce members should be participated.

Second Workshop

A total of 17 participants attended the workshop but only 11 evaluations forms were completed.
Key comments received concerning the workshop included the following:

- More time needed to understand each step of the GRM;
- Additional workshops should be provided as well as time needed for participants to apply the information to their work and communicate back to participants in follow up workshops.

Third Workshop

A total of 19 participants attended the workshop but only 15 evaluation forms were received.

![Figure 3 Overall evaluation of the workshop](image)

Key comments received concerning the workshop included the following:

- GRM implementation for further step requires collaboration from all the stakeholders;
- The same participants from previous workshop should be required to attend all 3 workshops;
- Both implementation partners and local committees should be invited to attend the workshop;
- Agenda and presentation slides should be given to participants in advance;
- A monitoring and evaluation framework should be considered to evaluate the effectiveness of implementing a REDD+ program.
Photo Section
First National Workshop

Photo Section
Second National Workshop
Photo Section
Third National Workshop