

UN-REDD
PROGRAMME



National Programme Final Report

VIET NAM

UN-REDD Programme

31st July 2019

In accordance with the decision of the Policy Board, hard copies of this document will not be printed to minimize the environmental impact of the UN-REDD Programme processes and contribute to climate neutrality. The UN-REDD Programme's meeting documents are available on the internet at: www.unredd.net or www.un-redd.org.

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Final Report for the UN-REDD National Programmes

The Final Report for the National Programmes (NPs) highlights overall results throughout the implementation of the NP. These results are reported against the consolidated National Programme Document results framework, as approved by the Programme Steering Committee or Executive Board, or as adjusted following a mid-term review or evaluation.

The report includes the following sections: 1.) National Programme Identification; 2.) Progress Reporting; 3.) Lessons Learned; 4.) Warsaw Framework for REDD+ and Associated UNFCCC Decisions; 5.) Financial Delivery; and 6.) Adaptive management.

The lead agency for each National Programme is responsible for coordinating inputs to the Final Reports, and for ensuring all agency and counterpart perspectives have been collected - in particular government and civil society organizations. The reports are reviewed and vetted by the regional agency teams, who provide quality assurance and recommendations to the national teams for a focus on results and adjustments to be made. It therefore follows an iterative process which serves to enhance the quality of the reports and enable a meaningful assessment of progress and identification of key lessons that could be exchanged among partner countries.

The Final Report for the National Programmes should be submitted to the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat (un-redd@un-redd.org).

1. National Programme Identification


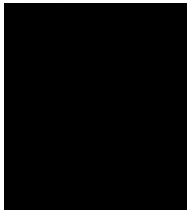
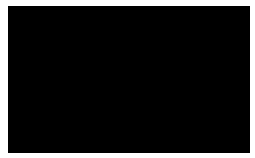
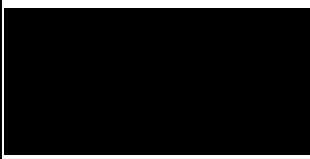
Please identify the National Programme (NP) by completing the information requested below. The Government Counterpart and designated National Programme focal points of the Participating UN Organizations are requested to provide their electronic signatures below, prior to submission to the UN-REDD Secretariat.

National Programme Title	UN-REDD Viet Nam Phase II Programme
Implementing Partners	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)
Participating Organizations	FAO, UNDP, UN Environment

Project Timeline			
Programme Duration	03/2013 – 03/2019	No-cost extension	Yes
NPD Signature Date	01/03/2013	Current End Date	31/03/2019
Date of First Fund Transfer	16/08/2013	Mid-term Review	Annual reviews
Original End Date	31/12/2015	Mid-term review date	2014, 15, 16, 17

Financial Summary (USD)			
UN Agency	Programme Budget indicated in ProDoc.	Total Amount transferred	Cumulative Expenditures* up to July 31 st 2019
FAO	11,948,740	7,425,542	7,425,417
UNDP	12,314,105	17,361,023	17,361,023
UNEP	3,989,310	988,081	988,081
Indirect Support Cost (7%)	1,977,650	1,861,295	1,861,286
Total	30,229,805	27,635,941	27,635,807

The "Cumulative Expenditures* up to July 31st 2019 include all expenditure and commitments as of July 31st 2019

Signatures from the designated UN organizations			Signature by the Government Counterpart
FAO	UNDP	UNEP	
			
Date and Name of Signatories in Full:			
7 th Nov. 2019	11 th Nov. 2019	6 th Nov. 2019	4 th Dec. 2019
Albert T. Lieberg	Sitara Syed	Emelyne Cheney	Vu Xuan Thon

FAO Representative in Vietnam	Deputy Resident Representative	Regional Advisor, Forest and Climate Change, Asia and the Pacific Office	National Programme Director Programme Management Unit
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2. Progress Reporting

This section aims to summarize the results and identify key achievements of the NP. Additionally, the section provides the opportunity to capture government and civil society perspectives and for these parties to provide additional or complementary information.

2.1 Overall Results of the National Programme

Please provide a brief overall assessment of the extent to which the NP has reached the expected outcomes and outputs identified in the National Programme Document. [500 words]

The objective of the Programme has two parts. The first part is “to enhance Viet Nam’s ability to benefit from future results-based payments (RBPs) for REDD+”. The Programme has contributed extensively to the present advanced state of REDD+ readiness of Viet Nam, through the preparation of the four pillars of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+ (WFR), in accordance with decisions of the Conference of Parties (COP) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). A National REDD+ Strategy (NRS) has been developed, and adopted as a high-level policy document through Prime Minister Decision 419/QĐ-TTg, April 2017, as the National REDD+ Action Programme (NRAP), and has since been supplemented by a National REDD+ Implementation Plan (NRIP). A Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL) was submitted to the UNFCCC in January 2016, revised and resubmitted in January 2017 after the Technical Assessment (TA) process. A National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) is fully operational, and a Safeguards Information System (SIS) has been developed, with a Summary of Information (SoI) on safeguards submitted to the UNFCCC. The Programme has therefore enhanced Viet Nam’s ability to benefit from future RBPs, by supporting its capacity from a technical and institutional perspective to become eligible for RBPs, according to the ‘scorecard’ of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the main international channel for REDD+ RBPs at the time of writing.

The second part of the Programme objective is to “*undertake transformational changes in the forestry sector*”. To this end, the Programme has facilitated and supported these documents through a series of high-level conferences and workshops and constructive dialogues, bringing together multi-sectoral stakeholders. Transformation of the forestry sector is linked to a series of conceptual level shifts:

1. A vision to change from a goal to achieve more forest to better forest, thus from “area to quality of forests”
2. A more holistic and integrated valuation of forest, as expressed in the Forest Law, not only valuing timber, but approaching forest as a multifunctional provider of multiple benefits (direct and indirect) and environmental services,
3. A development towards multi-sectoral multi-year spatial planning, with NRAP and PRAP experiences and the Planning Law offering new approaches for improved integration of REDD+ and SFM into spatial and Green Growth plans,
4. Private sector involvement, beyond only the forest sector and including agriculture, in an effort to make supply chains more sustainable and deforestation or forest degradation free, and
5. Improved land tenure and use rights of ethnic minorities as reflected in the Forest Law, and providing livelihood opportunities for forest dependent communities.

Based on this two-part objective, the summary of the results and the independent evaluation of the Programme carried out from 2017-18, the key outcomes and outputs have been substantially achieved.

2.2 Ancillary results

Please provide a description of results that had not been planned for in the National Programme Document but delivered in the process of implementing the National Programme. [250 words]

- The Programme forms an example of the “One UN” approach of the UN in Vietnam, attempting to work closely and in synergy, mirroring in essence the UN-REDD core of integrated collaboration between UNDP, UN Environment and FAO. Although this has caused at the start of the Programme some confusion, to coordinate the involvement of the various UN agencies and the complexity of a joined NIM and DIM implementation modality, it has resulted in a clearer understanding of the respective roles and inputs and a better reflection of the desired “One UN” approach.
- In retrospect, the Programme has offered the opportunity for valuable learning on how to strengthen UN technical and operational coordination and harmonization, and reach a corresponding improvement in overall delivery progress. “The complex implementation modality linking three participating UN organizations, each having different operational procedures and working modalities¹” proved to be a source of issues hampering the Programme’s progress. Key learning was reportedly linked to two key issues: harmonization and simplification of operational procedures and approaches to ensure coordination and accountability. An important finding was also that: “Each participating UN organization was ultimately able to apply significantly more flexibility in the Programme within their existing rules and procedures than was previously thought possible during Programme design, inception and initial implementation”. Another key finding is that the United Nations Technical Team (UNTT) set-up has proven to be “a highly valuable mechanism for fostering the intensive and rigorous technical exchanges necessary for consensus-building as an essential basis for consistent technical advice and assistance to national REDD+ efforts through the Programme.”

2.3 In Focus

Please provide an example of an outstanding achievement made by the NP. [150 words]

The best practices demonstrated by the Programme, as perceived by key stakeholders and documented in the Final Evaluation report, are as follows:

1. **NRAP-PRAP-SIRAP planning methodology:** an integrated participatory land-based planning approach to incorporate national REDD+ strategy objectives into prevailing planning processes, identifying key drivers and prioritizing specific actions through which sub-national jurisdictions can contribute to national REDD+ objectives, feeding into adaptive management of NRAP and NRIP.

¹ Citations from: David Paine, UN-REDD 2016: UN-REDD Viet Nam Phase II Programme - Report on Lessons Learnt in the Harmonization Process among Related UN Agencies within the Programme.

2. **Engagement of CSOs/Ethnic Minorities (EMs) and private enterprises in the REDD+ process:** meaningful and effective participation of EM/CSOs at national and provincial level ensuring broad-based consultation and contributing to independent monitoring.
3. **Agroforestry models** as alternative approaches to address illegal or unsustainable encroachment into forest land through encouraging intercropping, diversifying livelihood resources, while improving forest cover and improving land tenure status.
4. **TERRA-I** as an innovative tool for near-real-time monitoring of forest change and direct guidance to on the ground forest monitoring and patrolling for improved prioritization and law enforcement, with possible integration into current forest cover monitoring system (FORMIS) and with the fire early warning system.
5. **Value addition in the commodity chain**, to enhance and broaden forest valuation through certification of timber and NTFPs (e.g. medicinal plants), and enhance sustainable supply chains through the development of agriculture sub-sectoral action plans with Policies and Measures (PAMs) integrated (aquaculture, coffee and rubber).

2.4 Government Comments

Government counterparts to provide their perspective and additional complementary information not included in the overall progress assessment. [500 words]

The UN-REDD Viet Nam Phase II Programme was initiated in 2013 and was due to be completed in 2018. With the Programme's support, Viet Nam has put in place REDD+ instruments as required by UNFCCC and is ready for its implementation. Particularly, Viet Nam has developed the National REDD+ Action Programme which is being implemented; established its Forest Reference Level (FREL/FRL); established and operationalized the Safeguards Information System, produced its first SOI and consolidated its National Forest Monitoring System.

The above progress and achievements have been made thanks to the active support of the Government of Norway and participating UN agencies which have provided technical and financial assistance for the implementation of the UN-REDD Programme. Through the Programme, inter-agencies cooperation at central and local levels and the participation of ethnic minority network and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in forest management and protection have been strengthened.

Along with in-country activities, Viet Nam has enhanced international cooperation, particularly with the countries in Mekong region to address issues of transboundary displacement. Being a country affected by climate change seriously, Viet Nam is fully aware of the importance of forest protection as a significant solution to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Therefore we are willing to strengthen regional cooperation on this matter.

Given policies and legislations recently promulgated and with support provided by international communities, there are great opportunities for transformational changes in the Forestry sector, in which forests are better managed and protected toward sustainable development, effectively contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Vice Minister Ha Cong Tuan had expressed appreciation for the Programme through two phases over the past ten years, achieving its strategic goal of support Viet Nam's REDD+ readiness. He noted the support from Norway as well as the contributions of the Government of Viet Nam, the UN implementing agencies, the PMU, the Programme beneficiaries and the EG Secretariat to the performance of the Programme. Looking ahead, he noted that REDD+ is still a new and challenging area internationally and emphasised the need to sustain the results achieved by the Programme.

2.5 Non-Government Comments

Civil society stakeholders to provide their perspective and additional complementary information (Please request a summary from existing stakeholder committees or platforms). [500 words]

Ms Lương Thị Trường, the EM Member of the PEB, affirmed the effective engagement of EM in the Programme at both national and subnational levels through the EM network and the direct involvement of local EM people in livelihoods, forest protection and other Programme activities. Sharing observations from Programme field visits, she emphasized that when the forest and land use rights of EM are clearly defined and communicated, they will take responsibility for protecting the forests. She highlighted the sustainable support to people's livelihoods provided by the Programme, including the respect for indigenous knowledge by the central and provincial PMUs and the selection of seedlings suitable to the conditions in different Programme locations, which was appreciated by local people. She noted some ongoing challenges, including the full recognition of the role and engagement of EM, the need to prioritise the involvement of women and to establish a network of EM women for forest protection, the need to ensure EM livelihoods, and the need to ensure widespread respect for indigenous knowledge as a key factor for forest protection generally and REDD+ in particular.

CSOs

Ms Vũ Thị Bích Hợp, CSO Member of the PEB, expressed appreciation for the engagement of CSOs in Programme activities. She shared her observations from monitoring visits on the Benefit Distribution System (BDS) model in three provinces, which demonstrated that the forest will be protected when contracts are signed with local people, that the livelihoods support through the BDS model has had positive results, and that people's awareness about the contribution of forests to environmental protection has been improved. Regarding the sustainability of the Programme, she emphasised the need for further efforts on awareness raising, community outreach, and scaling up the results. She affirmed that CSOs will continue to engage on forest protection together with the government, the private sector, and the whole of society.

2.6 Results Framework Matrix

The results framework aims to measure overall results of the National Programme against the outcome and output targets identified in the National Programme document log frame. In cases where there are no achievements or shortfalls in achieving targets, a thorough justification is required. Requirements for the sections include:

- For each outcome, please provide the outcome title and indicate if the outcome was achieved. Please list each outcome indicator, the associated baseline and expected target for the National Programme. Please provide an assessment of whether the target has been achieved and expected outcome met.
- For each output, please provide the output title and list each performance indicator, the associated baseline and expected overall target and delivery against this target.
- Please repeat this for all outputs and outcomes listed in the NP results framework (or revised version after inception workshop or mid-term review).

Outcome 1: Capacities for an operational National REDD+ Action Programme (NRAP) are in place			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved		<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome not achieved	
<p>Results against the Outcome: Overall Achieved</p> <p>The second NRAP for the period 2017-2030 was officially approved in April 2017. The new NRAP demonstrates significant progress towards a transformative approach to REDD+ and sustainable forest development in Vietnam. Quality indicators including cross-sectoral dimension, multi-stakeholders engagement and consideration for regional collaboration and impacts are met.</p> <p>The robust NRAP is a central deliverable, and therefore Outcome 1 is considered as broadly achieved although capacity building for NRAP implementation continues to be needed beyond the Programme lifetime. The endorsement of the NRAP has opened many opportunities for the Programme to explore innovative policies, measures and arrangements in various sectors, facilitate transition from planning to implementation.</p> <p>Capacity building and communication activities have intensified; collaboration with various stakeholders including CSOs and ethnic minorities and the business sector are actively promoted and piloted. However, moving from readiness to full implementation requires continuous efforts in terms of capacity building and mobilization. Some REDD+ structures including REDD+ networks or sub-technical working groups need to be upgraded to adapt to the new framework of REDD+ implementation.</p>			
<i>Outcome Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Level of understanding of REDD+ by national stakeholders	Understanding and capacities assumed to be low	≥ 80% of national stakeholders whose work relate to implementation of NRAP assessed to understand REDD+	Twenty three different government line ministries and government banks and 17 representative provinces contributed to finalize the NRAP in 2016-2017 and the
Degree of coherence between NRAP			

<p>requirements in terms of supportive capacities and implementation</p>		<p>100% of capacity requirements set by annual work plan are met, and 100% of annual budget implemented</p>	<p>NRIP in 2018. Most of the stakeholders understood clearly the roles of the sectors outside forest and had made commitment in writing (by minister level) for the implementation of NRAP and NRIP.</p> <p>Selected business sectors such as coffee and rubber have taken important actions to mainstream their commitment on “no further encroachment to forest” into their business plan and operational procedures.</p> <p>100% of Programme budget implemented according to the approved plans.</p>
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Output 1.1: NRAP updated as necessary			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
<p>New NRAP decided on and disseminated by GoV</p>	<p>First NRAP endorsed in 2011 with limited involvement of the sectors other than forestry sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRAP guides the REDD+ process in Vietnam • REDD+ investment plan under implementation • Forest Law revised 	<p>Fully achieved</p> <p>Revised NRAP and NRIP both approved by PM</p> <p>Forestry Law revised and endorsed by National Assembly</p>
<p>Assessment towards Output: (100 words)</p>			

The second NRAP was officially approved by Prime Minister on April 5th, 2017 and its investment/implementation plan (NRIP) for the period up to 2020 has been endorsed on Dec. 28th 2018 and all are under implementation.

The Forestry Law was endorsed by National Assembly in November 2017 in full alignment with the vision set by the NRAP in term of “moving from more forest to better forest”, e.g. no more conversion of natural forest into other uses; enhancing the access of EM communities to forest goods and services; and strengthening accountability framework on forest protection and development.

Output 1.2: Building effective mechanism to generate knowledge, organize policy dialogues, and feed policy recommendations is adopted and functioning

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Database on REDD+ projects in Vietnam established and accessible online # of Sub-Technical Working Groups (STWG) established	No REDD+ database and network STWGs and NRSC not fully activated/operating	Database on REDD+ projects in Vietnam established and accessible online ≥4 STWGs established	Mostly achieved. Database available 4 STWGs established and operational
#2 National REDD+ Steering Committee (NRSC) meetings conducted by Vietnam REDD+ Office (VRO) yearly	4 VRO experts supported by GoVN in 2012	VRO conduct ≥2 NRSC meetings yearly	NRSC institutionalised into inter-ministerial coordination
Increased capacity and no. of staff in VRO		Increased capacity and no. of staff in VRO: 10 staff	VRO not yet fully capacitated

Assessment towards Output:

Institutional arrangements for REDD+ implementation are significantly enhanced. Specifically, national REDD+ coordination and steering functions are integrated into the government’s high-level multi-sector steering mechanism for sustainable forest development, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister. Decision 823 /QD-BNN-TCCB of MARD on the establishment of the State Steering Committee (SSC) office for the “Target Program on Sustainable Forest Development for 2016-2020 and REDD+ implementation” identified VRO as a national REDD+ coordination body. Further operational guideline was revised and approved in April 2018, including provisions for chairmanship and gradual staffing. However, budget for staffing remains an issue.

REDD+ database has been developed and linked with other database of MARD. STWGs on FREL, Governance, Safeguards, and BDS have been re-activated and made significant contribution to the VN’s REDD+ progress and the Programme’s achievements such as the PGA’s process, SIS and SOI development, BDS pilot.

As mentioned above, NRSC has been integrated into SSC with higher autonomy in reaching to other ministries for coordination for REDD+ implementation.

The investment to the REDD+ office under the SSC-Office is still a concern posed by the participating UN agencies. MARD however confirmed that the REDD+ coordination functions must be conducted by whole SSCO not just VRO and more specialists on REDD+ will be mobilized upon the need of the NRAP M&E.

Output 1.3 Law enforcement capacity and mechanisms are developed to enhance effective forest law enforcement in pilot provinces

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Capacity gaps in forest crime law enforcement in the pilot provinces	No coordination mechanisms between law enforcement agencies in place Capacities assumed to be poor	Capacity and mechanism sustained	Mostly achieved. FPD forest law enforcement capacity enhanced.

Assessment towards Output:

FPDs' capacity has been enhanced in forest law enforcement with technical capacities equipped including in enhanced knowledge and skills about forest violation handling, updated forest protection law and regulations etc.

FPDs also improved mechanisms of inter-provincial cooperation, multi-agency task forces at national and provincial level which were supported earlier by the Programme.

N.B.: Planned VNTLAS related activities (i.e. violations database etc.) were cancelled by government and replaced by broader interventions proposed including strengthening the implementation of Party Directive 13-CT/TW (2017) on enhancing Party's leadership in forest management, protection and development; and strengthened multiagency collaboration in forest protection and forest fire control as well as continued capacity building for FPD.

Output 1.4 Awareness on climate change and REDD+ raised among key stakeholders at national and sub-national levels through enhanced communication and dissemination of lessons learned

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Proportion of National and Provincial REDD+ Steering Committee members with adequate understanding of REDD+	Assumed to be low Numerous products developed and services provided during Phase I (see	Awareness assessment is conducted at national and provincial levels	Fully achieved

Number of awareness raising workshops, publications, newsletters and other forms of documents/lessons published and features in various media outlets such as newspapers and on TV	report entitled "Assessing the Effectiveness of Training and Awareness Raising Activities of the UNREDD Programme in Viet Nam (2009-2011)"		<p>Awareness assessment conducted 2016-17</p> <p>Communication products produced regularly</p> <p>REDD+ Academy modules incorporated into national academic courses</p>
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Assessment towards Output:

Various awareness raising and capacity building measures for REDD+ planning and implementation were conducted to support stakeholders' participation and engagement, at both national and sub-national levels.

Viet Nam was among the first countries to adopt the REDD+ Academy for comprehensive capacity building to enhance awareness and knowledge of key national stakeholders and support NRAP revision and implementation process, and was eventually integrated into training institutions. As an illustration, through the collaboration with VNUF, various working sessions and training courses on Climate Change and REDD+ were organized for more than one-hundred lecturers and over 200 graduate students from six participating universities.

Output 1.5 Action Plans for greater sustainability of production of raw materials from key industries (e.g. aquaculture, coffee, rubber and timber) implemented			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
<p>Number of relevant industry action plans designed to reduce emissions from forests</p> <p>Level of adherence to industry action plans</p>	Sustainability plans are developed for the three major agro-commodities that are drivers of deforestation in the pilot provinces (coffee, rubber, shrimp), but strategies are not widely implemented	Implementation of industry action plans is reviewed and assessed "satisfactory" in at least 75% of sectors	<p>Partly achieved</p> <p>Sectoral action plans developed for inclusion in NRIP</p>

Assessment towards Output:

- Updated action plans are being finalized in collaboration with commodity associations (rubber, coffee, shrimp) and are reflected in the final NRIP to ensure private sector engagement and additional funding for continued implementation of PAMs.
- Regarding coffee, the Programme has been the convening force to gather partners (IPSARD, IDH, CIAT, SNV) around a coordinated work plan in 2017 . A multi-stakeholder coordination workshop was organized (Di Linh, Lam Dong – April). Partnership with CIAT and CSO/EM groups has been kicked-off to pilot real-time monitoring in Di Linh area during 2017-2018. The web-based platform to report forest cover changes detected by the TERRA-I system and the guideline on how to uses this information in sustainable forest management and forest protection have been finalized and shared with Lam Dong and other interested provinces/programs/projects and even with private sectors (DFFJ initiative, green growth planning in Lam Dong or monitoring forest cover changes in Lao Cai and Ha Tinh provinces) up till early 2019.
- Regarding rubber, pilot support for safeguard implementation in three rubber concessions has been implemented as part of the regional collaboration
- The sustainable rubber production manual had been developed by Viet Nam Rubber Association under the support of the Programme. The manual will also introduce the activities that rubber sector does in order to implement the respective PAMs in the NRAP

Beyond targeted sector meeting, broader dialogue and awareness raising campaign with private sector continues in 2017 and 2018, in partnership with Viet Nam Private Sector Forum, VCCI, CEMA and local NGOs

Outcome 2: The six pilot provinces enabled to plan and implement REDD+ actions

Outcome Achieved

Outcome not achieved

Results against the Outcome:

Six pilot provinces have gone through the full process of Provincial REDD+ Action Plans (PRAP) and Site level REDD+ Implementation Plans (SiRAP) formulation and approval, the REDD+ Implementation Agreements (RIAs) signing, and have now fully entered the implementation phase. Interventions range from generic (like forest land allocation) to specific and “unique” activities selected based on provinces’ specific circumstances, challenges and opportunities. 34 SiRAPs, including 17 plans piloting benefit distribution system and covering more than 60 communes, have been designed and all implemented. PRAP activities were finished and a PRAP Experience Sharing Workshop was organized in November 2018.

<i>Outcome Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Number and quality of implementation of provincial and local REDD+ programmes	Initial Provincial REDD+ Action Plans have been proposed	PRAP and their implementation are assessed satisfactory by an independent assessment	Fully achieved

Output 2.1: REDD+ institutions in pilot provinces established, and REDD+ planning coordinated with FPDPs			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Institutional arrangements in the 6 pilot provinces are adequately functioning to implement PRAPs	Lam Dong Province has incorporated REDD+ into FPDP	All related mechanisms are established and operational	Fully achieved
<p>Assessment towards Output:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All PRAPs of 6 provinces have specified clearly their implementation and M&E mechanisms at provincial and local level. During the implementation of PRAPs and SiRAPs, all mechanisms had been mobilized and provinces demonstrated their capacity to implement all processes. 			

Output 2.2 Awareness on climate change and REDD+ raised among provincial, district and commune officials and other stakeholders in six pilot provinces			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Percentage of stakeholders at provincial, district and commune level in six provinces who have a “good understanding” of REDD+	Less than 5%	70% of stakeholders at provincial, district and commune level in six provinces are assessed to have a “good understanding” of REDD+ (see awareness assessment 1.4)	Fully achieved
Number of awareness and training events organized			
<p>Assessment towards Output:</p> <p>Communication efforts were strengthened at provincial level with the production of brochures, leaflets, posters and other communication materials. Building on communication networks and capacities set up in pilot provinces, the communication activities have been sustained with limited support from the Programme. This led to increased capacity and awareness in pilot provinces, and enhanced participation of relevant stakeholders, including special attention to gender and ethnic minorities involvement (an analysis within January to September 2017 showed a 25% female participation and 31% ethnic minorities out of the approximately 5,000 participants).</p>			

The communication review conducted in late 2016 reported that “76% of the interviewees are assessed to have an understanding of REDD+”. In October 2017, based on an internal survey targeted to REDD+ officials in pilot provinces, the rate of “good” and “very good understanding” has reached 94%.

Output 2.3 Site-based REDD+ Activity Plans and Provincial REDD+ Action Plans in the six provinces are finalized and approved

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Number of PRAPs approved Number of communes covered by site-based agreements	0 PRAPs and SiRAPs	6 PRAPs are approved SiRAPs and RIAs covering 60 communes are formulated with approximately 110,200 beneficiary households and 155,063 Ha of forest protected (disaggregated into national forest and other forest)	Fully achieved

Assessment towards Output:

The Output has been fully achieved. All PRAPs in 6 pilot provinces have been approved. 35 SiRAP (including 17 SiRAP-BDS signed in 2016) with detailed RIAs have been signed by Commune’s People Committees or Provincial Department of Agriculture or Rural Development that covers 156,000ha of forest, reaching about 440,900 men and women [equivalent to 110,000HHs] in 345 villages of 6 provinces.

Experiences and lessons gained from sub-national planning process have been documented, including the development of the manual on subnational spatial planning ([PRAP²](#) and SiRAP manuals) and provision of training to technical support institutes and provincial teams. In Viet Nam, more than 20 provinces developed their PRAP with the adoption of the approaches developed by the Programme.

Output 2.4: Provincial REDD+ Action Plans are implemented

² The PRAP approach initially developed in Viet Nam through this Programme was subsequently adopted in other countries including Nepal. The experiences and lessons were consolidated to develop this generic manual.

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Achievement of annual targets of PRAP and RIA	No plans formulated and approved	Implementation of PRAP and RIA is comprehensively reviewed and assessed "satisfactory"	Fully achieved
<p>Assessment towards Output: PRAP and SiRAP selected activities for support are being successfully implemented. 17 SiRAP- benefit distribution system (BDS) signed in 2016 had been evaluated in October and November 2018 for the last payment.</p>			

Output 2.5 NFMS - Monitoring framework in the six pilot provinces established, including participatory monitoring			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Number of provinces that have established and operate their monitoring framework	No framework established	Monitoring, particularly of RIAs are conducted with active participation from local stakeholders	Fully achieved.
Level of participation of local stakeholders in monitoring			
<p>Assessment towards Output: The monitoring framework, focused on the bio-physical status of forests is now established. Operating the monitoring framework and collecting data are embedded into existing monitoring systems (e.g. Forest Resources Monitoring System: FRMS), and process and capacities to operate it are in place. Local stakeholders participated in the monitoring through formation of patrolling units and reporting results of the patrolling through the District officers. Participation appears effective and demonstrates significant progress for Vietnam. Results are then consolidated to the level of PRAPs for provinces for REDD+ implementation process monitoring. A monitoring manual has been developed.</p>			

Outcome 3 National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) for Monitoring and Measurement, Reporting and Verification is operational	
X Outcome Achieved	<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome not achieved
Results against the Outcome:	

The different components of the national forest monitoring system are in place with respective institutions, however noting that there is still uncertainty on the methodology of the FRL/MRV, to be confirmed based on assessment of MRV results currently underway by VNFOREST/FIPI. The data source for MRV will come mostly from the NFIMAP cycle 2016-2020 and studies have been carried out to recommend improvements towards consistency between key processes including a) national MRV for the UNFCCC submitted FREL/FRL, b) the MRV for the Emissions reduction program of FCPF, c) UNFCCC FREL/FRL technical assessment recommendations, d) the GCF REDD+ pilot result based payments scorecard and e) the GHG-Inventory.

Monitoring of REDD+ actions at the provincial level has been designed and is based on data in the Forest Protection Department (FPD)'s annual update through the Forest Resources Monitoring System (FRMS), accessible as spatial data in the FORMIS platform.

<i>Outcome Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Level of readiness of NFMS to generate data	NFIMAP has been operating for the last 20 years MARD conducting the National Inventory and Statistics Programme since 2012	Relevant REDD+ related information (including geo-spatial information and others) available through the FORMIS Platform and other tools, fully mapped out.	Achieved

Output 3.1 NFMS related information is systematically archived, and made accessible according to permission standards

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Number of provinces with NFMS data regularly updated	Zero provinces: No existing system Planned targets	Relevant REDD+ related information (including geo-spatial information and others) available through the FORMIS Platform and other related tools	Fully achieved. REDD+ information portal fully functional

Assessment towards Output:

The REDD+ Information Portal (previously called geo-portal) was developed, handing over to the Information Center of VNFOREST completed and training provided. A key constraint in the portal development and handing over was the issue of acquiring the approved administrative boundaries (noting the sensitivity around the national boundaries of the country), but successfully resolved.

As above, most of the NFMS relevant datasets are embedded in existing government systems, namely the NFIMAP and the FRMS. Whereas the FRMS results are now systematically updated into the FORMIS platform, the results of the NFIMAP will be updated onto the REDD+ Information Portal.

The PRAP monitoring indicators were finalized and testing, and integration with NRAP M&E is ongoing

Output 3.2 NFMS – Land Monitoring System (LMS) developed

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Availability of quality assured/controlled activity data (AD) for completed cycles of the NFI (including NFI&S)	No data for provinces AD without QA/QC has been generated through NFIMAP	Upgraded set of data integrated	Fully achieved Activity data completed and available on portal

Assessment towards Output:

Activity Data (AD) for completed cycles of the NFI (ie NFIMAP cycle V) have been made available on the REDD+ information portal.

Output 3.3 NFMS-Emission Factors (EF) developed

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Number of EFs, BEF/allometric equations developed National Communications LULUCF sector reports at Tier 1	249 equations for 4 forest types in 3 ecosystems, including 89 species	Update emission factors on Geo-portal as measurements become available	Achieved

Assessment towards Output:

For historical data, EFs and BEFs were developed and used for the official FREL/FRL submission by the Government to the UNFCCC.

The official endorsement of a next NFIMAP cycle including the development of MRV indicators brought much welcomed clarity on Vietnam MRV system, in terms of Emission Factors. It will ensure the development of updated emission factors (EF) for the period 2016-2020. Interim EF for 2018 can be prepared using one year of plot measurement, or alternatively, EFs of 2005-2010 could be applied.

Output 3.4 NFMS – Institutional arrangements for compiling National REDD+ GHG-Inventory clarified

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Appointment of GoVN institution with required capacity to work on sector data for the National REDD+ Inventory Report	No institution identified to date: National Communications LULUCF sector GHG report is developed by an ad hoc team	Institutional arrangement for LULUCF sector endorsed by GoVN Institutional capacity building initiated	Partially achieved. Inter-ministerial technical group established, recommendations made, but decisions on ensuring GHG-I consistency still pending
<p>Assessment towards Output:</p> <p>A key constraint in the institutional arrangements the GHG-Inventory compilation process lies in the status of data that can be considered 'official' by the government. Traditionally and still today, the GoV considers and publishes official forestry data based on the activity reports received from the field through the administrative levels of government. On the other hand, the REDD+ MRV process identified the need for a more robust approach to MRV, and used the data compiled largely through the centrally-administered forest inventory and mapping processes. While the former is considered and published as a dataset of official government statistics, the latter is not. Despite the care taken by the Programme and stakeholders to ensure the involvement of stakeholders from both processes in the development of the MRV, at the political level, the government's position of official datasets has not changed, and continues to affect the difficulty in getting buy-in for applying consistent data (and therefore institutional arrangements) across the GHG-Inventory process and the REDD+ MRV.</p> <p>In recent years, a technical group from MARD and MONRE developed a detail comparison of the inconsistencies between FREL/FRL and the GHG-I, with recommendations on how to overcome these inconsistencies. Technical discussions have converged on technical level recommendations, but, decision making is required to ensure that the same data will be used for both exercises in the future. Further work is needed to further identify key messages for policy makers to better understand how the consistency can be accommodated in the two processes.</p>			

Output 3.5 Interim performance indicators and REL/FRL established			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
National FRL submission to UNFCCC and degree of technical recognition	First interim version of REL/FRL proposed by a JICA study	National FRL submitted to UNFCCC reviewed for updates/ improvements if needed	Fully achieved
<p>Assessment towards Output:</p> <p>Official FREL/FRL submitted to the UNFCCC and underwent a technical assessment with largely positive results.</p>			

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Outcome 4 Stakeholders at different levels are able to receive positive incentives:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved partly	<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome not achieved
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Results against the Outcome:

Outcome 4 expectations have been updated to ensure consistency with evolution of national circumstances. In line with Executive Group (EG) # 4 decision, the set-up of a National REDD+ Fund was kept on hold until opportunities for financing become more apparent. This decision does not negatively impact on the capacity of Vietnam to access additional financial support in the short term. In terms of deploying REDD+ finance, good progress was made on benefit distribution system and grievance redress mechanism in 2017 and 2018, particularly through the implementation of the 17 SiRAPs designed in 2016. Outcome targets were met and these instruments were significantly strengthened by innovative initiatives, including piloting co-management of BDS and PFES, exploring opportunities and recommending reforms of offset replanting, or engaging with Ministry of Justice on incorporating GRM findings and requirements into mainstream legal framework

<i>Outcome Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Tools and mechanisms required for stakeholders to access positive incentives functioning	Viet Nam has experience with PFES piloting, but otherwise no tools/mechanisms exist	NRF fully operational, GRM developed and endorsed	Partly achieved

Output 4.1 National REDD+ Fund (NRF) operational

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Degree of development and functioning of NRF	No NRF proposal; no institutional capacities in place	NRF fully operating if finance available NRF accredited by an independent international qualified organisation	Partly achieved

Assessment towards Output:

The output has been voluntarily delayed and removed from the Programme due to the lack of the evolution of financial opportunities (bilateral partnership, GCF result-based payment...) during the Programme's life. However, the proposal on NRF formulation had been developed with Programme's support and endorsed by MARD's Minister in 2016 and ready for adoption whenever the funding sources become viable.

Output 4.2 National and provincial-level mechanisms and standards for allocation of REDD+ positive incentives adopted			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Degree of development and functioning of national ISA (BDS)	Experience with, and lessons learned from PFES pilots	All elements of a national IAS (BDS) tested, designed and operational	Partly achieved
Level of official endorsement		Mechanism integrating REDD+ IAS, PFES and other incentives designed and approved by GoVN	
<p>Assessment towards Output:</p> <p>The Programme has supported two pilots on BDS/PFES integration in Lam Dong and Lao Cai to generate lessons for BDS integration system in future.</p> <p>At the national level, basing on the lessons learnt from this Programme, Viet Nam has developed their benefit sharing plan for FCPF and had been technically reviewed by the Carbon Fund.</p>			

Output 4.3 Grievance and redress mechanism (GRM) established			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Degree of development and implementation of GRM	No elements of GRM in place	GRM upgraded if deemed necessary	Mostly achieved
<p>Assessment towards Output:</p> <p>The programme supported VN to conduct an assessment on the existing GRMs and identified the gaps. The programme also assisted in piloting new elements of GRMs at site level in all 6 provinces. Based on these lessons, the policies and measures to improve GRMs have been integrated into NRAP and NRIP for implementation at national scale</p>			

Outcome 5: Mechanisms to address the social and environmental safeguards under the Cancun Agreement established

Outcome Achieved

Outcome not achieved

Results against the Outcome:

By the end of the programme, Vietnam had met UNFCCC requirements for provision of information on safeguards, with its SIS established and its first Summary of Information (SOI) formulated (submitted to UNFCCC website in early 2019). The test of SIS operations is in place and the finalization/endorsement of SOI was accomplished in December 2018. The process has been lengthy but enriched with many quality-oriented activities focusing on addressing weaknesses, including CSO/EM capacity building and engagement, local governance strengthening through participatory governance assessment, and institutionalization of mitigation measures in collaboration with Ministry of Justice. In 2017, expertise was mobilized to screen social and environmental risks and benefits and formulate mitigation measures and redirection of activities through NRAP mid-term implementation planning. In conclusion, the Programme delivered beyond targets and expectations on this outcome, considering that not only mechanisms are in place, but capacities and pilots for implementation are also be improved.

<i>Outcome Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Level of progress to demonstrate how GoVN is addressing and respecting the safeguards in Cancun Agreement through SIS and Summary of Information (Sol)	No implementation guidelines established	Safeguard Information System and the first SOI of VN developed, and measures to address the gaps are ready for implementation	Fully achieved.

Output 5.1 Scope of country safeguards approach defined and safeguards information system determined

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Degree to which information related to national approach to safeguards is publicly available and accessible	No elements established, no information available	SIS and Sol formulated and upgraded if deemed necessary	Fully achieved. SIS and Sol formulated, endorsed and posted on UNFCCC website.

Assessment towards Output:

Development of Viet Nam’s safeguards approach included: review of safeguards relevant policies, laws and regulations (PLRs); preparation of a national clarification of the safeguards; and assessment of potential benefits and risks of REDD+ actions, including proposed mitigation measures. Viet Nam has aimed to operationalise its SIS in a phased approach, allowing improvement over time and extending its scope beyond the forestry sector. It’s SIS design is set out in a SIS design report and SIS specification document.

Viet Nam has officially launched its SIS phase I and submitted the first Sol to the UNFCCC³, marking the fulfilment of Warsaw Framework for REDD+ in Viet Nam. The SIS website provides publicly accessible information on the country’s safeguards approach, it’s SIS design/operations and currently available safeguards information.

A Roadmap for SIS Phase II involving further integration of other information systems and sources has been also prepared.

Output 5.2: Policies and measures to address and respect social and environmental safeguards operationalized			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Degree of formulation, endorsement and implementation of national approach to address and respect safeguards	No national approach formulated	Implementation of measures and governance arrangements to operationalise safeguards assessed and upgraded if necessary	Mostly achieved.
Degree of satisfaction of diverse stakeholders to the national approach to safeguards and its implementation		50% of stakeholders, including men, women, ethnic minorities and local communities are aware of, and satisfied with the implementation of the national approach to safeguards	
Assessment towards Output:			
The national instruments and directions were well defined. The financial constraint will limit operationalizing to a minimum, allowing for relevant pilot, advocacy and promotion, but not sufficient to deliver significant change. The process of strengthening social and environmental safeguards and operationalizing policies and measures remains a challenging and step-wise endeavor that will require Vietnam’s effort beyond the Programme’s timeframe. While the collaboration with Ministry of Justice offers a unique opportunity to deliver beyond the output’s expectations and start mainstreaming REDD+ safeguards, like GRM, into formal legal and regulatory framework			

³<https://news.globallandscapesforum.org/viewpoint/viet-nam-becomes-the-second-country-in-the-world-to-complete-all-four-pillars-of-the-warsaw-framework-for-redd/>

in Vietnam, the active partnership with CEMA brings in quite significant outputs and outcomes in sharpening the proposal and future policies on leveraging the position of Ethnic Minorities to the extent equivalent as a partner, not just supplier or employee in supply chains of forest good and services.

Outcome 6: Regional cooperation enhances progress on REDD+ implementation in Lower Mekong Sub-Region

Outcome Achieved

Outcome not achieved

Results against the Outcome:

The [Vietnam-Lao PDR Bilateral Exchange](#) in May 2017 was organized and witnessed strong interest among stakeholders of the two countries to collaborate towards addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. The Programme is also on track to make a significant link between the REDD+ objectives of forest conservation with the forest crime scene, through a workshop to bring together multi-ministry dialogue engaging law enforcement agencies, including MPS, Customs, Border Army and the forestry sector from six regional countries, in 2018.

Aligned with and to support VPA/FLEGT process in the country, UN-REDD Program has supported Binh Dinh Forest Product Association to develop Association-level Due Diligence System (DDSTA) that will ensure legal timber sources and promotes legal trade of timber and timber products between Vietnam and international markets.

In linkage with, and encouraged by these developments, a regional initiative to address transboundary drivers of deforestation and degradation is now under formulation by the UN-REDD Programme.

These discussions align well with several high level commitments from Vietnam and regional countries, including the 2018 Prime Ministers’ Joint Declaration on collaboration between Cambodia-Lao PDR-Vietnam which includes in its scope collaboration on transboundary forest protection.

<i>Outcome Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
<p>Number of regional REDD+ meetings and learning events with relevant /appropriate level of participation</p> <p>Contribution to improve legal timber trade</p>	<p>One non externally-driven LMS meeting per year in 2010-2012 average</p>	<p>Regional REDD+ Coordination Forum and e-network established</p> <p>A comprehensive map of regional initiatives and targets for the control of illegal logging and reduced displacement consolidated</p>	<p>Mostly achieved.</p> <p>Although the regional REDD+ Coordination Forum and e-network has not been established due to institutional unreadiness of Viet Nam and other countries in the region, a number of exchange and learning events had been explored and coordinated.</p>

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Output 6.1: Effective cooperation between governments in the Lower Mekong Sub-Region on reducing illegal logging and trade			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
<p>National systems, as agreed as part of the VNTLAS (Annex V) of the FLEGT VPA with the EU, are designed and successfully piloted</p> <p>Data on cross-border timber trade exchanged for comparison in Ha Tinh province with neighboring provinces on Lao border</p>	<p>VPA negotiations have agreed to include timber imports into the scope and to apply the “risk-based verification system” (as of January 2016)</p> <p>Action plan towards exchange of trade information annexed to the provincial MoU (3 provinces)</p>	<p>Based on issues and proposed solutions from piloting the risk-based verification system, a revised system is developed</p> <p>Data sharing between pilot provinces continued at frequency and applying format agreed</p>	<p>Mostly achieved.</p>
<p>Assessment towards Output:</p> <p>The Vietnam-Lao PDR Bilateral Exchange in May 2018 demonstrated strong interest among stakeholders of the two countries to collaborate towards addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. The Exchange brought together participation from multiple sectors from within and outside government. The discussions gave way to discussions and actions towards the development of a regional initiative to address the drivers with a focus on their transboundary and regional nature.</p> <p>These discussions align well with several high level commitments from Vietnam and regional countries, including the 2018 Prime Ministers’ Joint Declaration on collaboration between Cambodia-Lao PDR-Vietnam which includes in its scope collaboration on transboundary forest protection.</p> <p>The Programme is also on track to make a significant link between the REDD+ objectives of forest conservation with the forest crime scene, through multi-ministry dialogue engaging law enforcement agencies and the forestry sector.</p> <p>Targets have partly shifted, due to change in government decisions related to TLAS development.</p>			

Output 6.2 Commitments by the wood processing industry in Viet Nam and other regional countries to sourcing legal and sustainably harvested timber			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>

Share of legal and sustainably harvested timber in Vietnamese timber imports from neighbor countries	To be approximated a posteriori	Share of legal and sustainably harvested timber in Vietnamese timber imports from neighbor countries increased	Mostly achieved
Availability and understanding of guidelines			

Assessment towards Output:

The Programme's support facilitated the capacity building process of timber associations and their members on due diligence systems to verify legal and sustainable sourcing of wood materials. Guidelines and procedure have been developed by FPA Binh Dinh in cooperation, and coordination with other timber associations (e.g. HAWA) will inform the national development of VNTLAS that will ensure the use of legal and sustainable harvested timber both from imports and domestic sources. This approach has been well acknowledged by the government and some other potential donors (e.g. FAO EU FLEGT Facility) for further expansion to include more members and synergies with other timber associations.

Output 6.3 REDD+ strategies across the Lower Mekong Sub-region and beyond are informed by Vietnamese lessons. Enhanced biodiversity conservation through REDD+ collaboration

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Expected Target</i>	<i>Assessment Against Target</i>
Existence and activity of a Regional REDD+ Coordination Forum and e-network	No regional REDD+ coordination forum or e-network	Regional REDD+ Coordination Forum and e-network operate regularly	Mostly achieved
Availability of a common tool and approach for forest biodiversity conservation and biodiversity monitoring	No common tool for biodiversity conservation and monitoring	Assessment of effectiveness of forest biodiversity management tool	

Assessment towards Output:

Overall achieved. The direction as shown in the AWP's has been focused more on supporting exchange of lesson learnt as well as exploring opportunities to include considerations of multiple benefits in planning process as well as in banking sector.

Being considered an advanced REDD+ country in the region and building on the experiences with REDD+ process, the Programme has actively supported Viet Nam in joining as well as organising a number of knowledge exchanges building on lessons gained from national and sub-national implementation. Major regional exchanges supported by the Programme included the [regional dialogue on ethnic minority cooperation in addressing deforestation and transboundary displacement](#) in collaboration with the Government of Viet Nam's Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA); the [sub-regional learning event on integrated land-use planning and mainstreaming of multiple benefits](#) in sub-national REDD+ planning, in close collaboration with GIZ and MPI; the [regional knowledge exchange on operationalizing and financing national REDD+ strategies](#); and the [South-South regional learning event on country approaches to REDD+ safeguards and safeguards information systems](#)

2.7 Revisions to the National Programme Document

Please provide a summary of any key changes made to the National Programme Document relating to the results framework, indicators, outcome, outputs, implementing partners or duration of the (NP).

If the **results framework** was revised following the inception meeting or mid-term review, please provide a short narrative outlining the changes. [100 words]

After the first 2 years of implementation a situation of “near standstill” had been reached and an external Mid-Term Review was commissioned to evaluate options to facilitate the Programme to become better positioned to deliver on its initial goals. Considering the recommended need for a 3-year no-cost extension, as long as the initial foreseen implementation period, the initial design had thus been too optimistic and ambitious and was developed before the Warsaw Framework was negotiated, meaning that the logic reflected in the old logframe is not entirely consistent with the logic of the Warsaw Framework. As a result, **the logframe was revised with a reduction and simplification of outputs and related indicator and target sets.**

The number and content of Outcomes remain as it is part of the agreement with donor and government. Likewise, the Overall and Immediate Objectives remain.

If the **NP outcomes or outputs** were revised following the inception meeting or mid-term review, please provide a short narrative outlining the changes. [100 words]

Outcome 1. Original output 1.4 has been moved to Outcome 4, and old outputs 1.7 and 1.8, which both covered awareness raising, but for different audiences, have been merged into new Output 1.5. The previous Output 1.5 on alternative crop sustainable development remains but now as 1.4 as it becomes “vacant” Output number. The original output 1.6 was changed to 1.3 with a wish to establish a timber legality assurance system (“TLAS”) as a quick-win law enforcement tool, and also in support of Vietnam’s national efforts towards FLEGT and a VPA with the EU.

Outcome 2. Old outputs 2.6 and 2.7 have been merged to become new output 2.5. Old output 2.5 has been deleted and some of its core activities merged into output 2.4. Forestland allocation was covered through interventions under the PRAPs, and was therefore addressed by output 2.4.

Outcome 4. Output 4.1 on NRF has been relocated from Outcome 1, old output 1.4 because of the close relationship between the NRF and a BDS. The various aspects of a BDS which were previously three separate outputs have been merged into a new 4.2. A new output, 4.3, on a grievance/redress mechanism was proposed.

Outcome 5. Outputs have been reduced to two, to simplify the logic and emphasize the focus on a country-led process of identifying weaknesses in existing safeguards, addressing those weaknesses, and developing an SIS.

Outcome 6. The Programme has learned that the extent of work possible through a national programme to work on regional issues, particularly that of illegal logging, is limited. To be most effective, the logframe has been modified and merged the original six Outputs into 3 only.

If the **results framework indicators** were revised following the inception meeting or mid-term review, please provide a short narrative outlining the changes. [100 words]

As resulted from the restructuring and rephasing process of outputs, the indicators were updated to reflect new targets and timelines. See new indicators updated in Section 2.6.

If the **NP implementing partners** were changed following the inception meeting or mid-term review, please provide a short narrative outlining the changes. [100 words]

Although the board of directors representing the implementing partner had been changed, the IP itself remains the same

If the **duration of the NP** was changed following the inception meeting or mid-term review, please provide a short narrative outlining the changes. [100 words]

The duration of the NP was extended from December 2015 to December 2018 with operational closure date was of July 2019 for the following reasons:

- The UN-REDD Viet Nam Phase II programme is of large magnitude. It has proven time consuming to identify and develop the necessary administrative infrastructure for implementation of the UN-REDD Viet Nam Phase II programme, and the three year timeframe was ambitious for a programme of this size.
- Since the Programme Document was approved in 2013 the international policy environment on REDD+ has continued to advance, with seven decisions reached at COP-19 in Warsaw in December 2013, collectively known as the “Warsaw Framework for REDD+”. This has implications both for the design of the logframe, as well as for specific targets to be achieved. Specifically, the Warsaw Framework can inform the design of new targets for the UN-REDD Viet Nam phase II programme, based on development of the various requirements that the Framework outlines, which can lead to results-based payments under a future international REDD+ mechanism.
- The Programme targets “transformational changes in forestry sector” and these ambitions normally take time to happen, in at least three stages: (i) understanding situation, (ii) consolidating solutions and creating enabling environment for change, and (iii) implementing solutions. Thus, a three- year programme appeared, in retrospect, to be unrealistic.

3. Lessons Learned

This section aims to capture the most significant lessons learned in the context of the National Programme, as they relate to the thematic work areas on REDD+ or more generally to the practical aspects of implementation, coordination and communication. The sections below should be completed only as applicable and in case where lessons learned have been identified.

Please provide a narrative of the **most significant lessons** learned during the implementation of the National Programme. Include explanations of what was learnt, why the lesson is important, and what has been done to document or share those lessons. [150 words]

The redesign, reorientation and intense dialogue, needed to address the very difficult start-up of the Programme in its first two years, has led to a clearly improved Programme set-up, with enhanced efficiency and effectiveness in implementation and delivery and with a positive collaboration in a complex setting with national and provincial stakeholders on a multi-disciplinary multi-sectoral theme.

The Programme has set high ambitions in intending to undertake transformational change of the forestry sector of Viet Nam. A key lesson has been however, that this transformative process and the establishment of such an enabling environment (policies, legal and regulatory framework) requires substantial time and energy. The initial 3 year programme cycle was therefore unrealistic. That was the main reason why the Programme was extended for another 3 years.

Please provide a narrative of the most significant lessons learned relating to **inter-sectoral coordination** during implementation of the national programme: (150 words)

In reflection of the inherently holistic and integrated landscape-base of the REDD+ concept, multi-sectoral approaches have been pursued by the Programme, both in planning, implementation and monitoring of REDD+ interventions. This was combined with facilitating innovative approaches to support broader integration of the REDD+ concept into governmental policies, e.g. through the support to the new Planning Law and its implementation at provincial level (One Master Plan and Green Growth Plan piloting). Reaching out and connecting to the private sector, including financial institutions and engaging dialogues with additional stakeholders as Ministries of Public Security and Justice, reflects the understanding of the Programme for the need to go far beyond the traditional forestry sector, but involve key stakeholders in spatial planning and landscape based approaches, including essentially agriculture. Just as transformational sector change requires sufficient time, multi-sectoral collaboration and coordination, involving key stakeholders of landscape-based interventions and policies, is complex and time-consuming, requiring strong facilitation and coordination to bring sectors together and governmental embedding of a strong coordination entity.

Please provide a narrative of the most significant lessons learned relating the **technical dimensions** of the national programme during implementation: [150 words]

A REDD+ centered integrated participatory land-based planning approach, identifying key drivers and prioritizing specific actions. The planning approach is developed at decentralized, provincial level and leads to a provincial REDD+ action plan or PRAP, visually reflected in maps and based on and assisted by spatial data. Prioritized actions are implemented at local or site level through a SiRAP, a site-based action plan at community or municipal level. These local and provincial planning approaches and the lessons from this approach are infused into the national level development of NRAP, the national REDD+ action plan. The implementation of NRAP is further guided by an implementation plan with identification of priority interventions and earmarking of targeted budget, the NRAP Mid-Term Implementation Plan (NRIP), with phased implementation horizons of near (a couple of years) and medium-term (up to 10-15 years). Gender was embedded in the participatory action planning methodology and appropriately considered in the PRP and SiRAP development guidelines. Women union representatives were part of the PRAP planning team and provincial REDD+ Steering Committees. Women participation in consultation meetings, planning process, implementation and monitoring activities has been proactively encouraged.

Please provide a narrative of the most significant lessons learned relating to the **REDD+ readiness process** during implementation of the national programme: [150 words]

National Forest Monitoring System: GoV took a major decision in 2016 to launch a new NFIMAP cycle, resuming the five-year National Forest Inventory (NFI) campaigns implemented up to 2010, which was used as key input data for constructing the REDD+ FRLs. (The NFIMAP campaign was not implemented in 2011-2015, due to the GoVN's decision to implement a separate forest assessment campaign referred to as the NFI&S that would demarcate forest ownership boundaries.) Even with the NFIMAP Cycle V under implementation, there remains issues to be resolved on generation of both activity data and emissions factors for future MRV and BUR reporting, as well as updating of the FRL to allow for consistency with MRV. Until the results of the MRV are made available, the future MRV (or FRL) methodology cannot be defined. Notwithstanding, NFMS capacity in the country and understanding of NFMS principles are solid, including at the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute (FIPI) under MARD, the Forest Protection Department (FPD) of VNFOREST as the general agency mandated for overall forest resources monitoring, and various research capacity in the country. The REDD+ geo-portal has been handed-over to the VNFOREST including building capacity required for its update and maintenance, and the portal has been integrated into the FORMIS server at VNFOREST. The Programme provided support to strengthen some components, including NFI&S, and to feed decisions and directions of the GoVN on effective arrangements and methodologies to sustain a robust NFMS in the future

Please provide a narrative of the most significant lessons learned relating to **anchoring REDD+** in the national development process: [150 words]

The UN-REDD Programme supported piloting an approach with a more holistic landscape approach to integrate REDD+ and SFM in multi-year, multi-sectoral integrated planning at provincial level. The new Planning Law, enacted only in early 2019, requires at provincial the development of one single integrated Master Plan, replacing conventional sectoral plans. In Lam Dong province, a provincial task force consisting of the Department of Planning and Investment (DPI), Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DONRE) and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) is supported by UN-REDD, IDH, GIZ and ICRAF to pilot the development of One Provincial Master Plan, in parallel with the development of a Green Growth Action Plan (GGAP). The GGAP focuses on six sectors, namely agriculture, forestry, tourism, water, transportation and energy, and the pilot aims at a concurrent development of the GGAP and the Master Plan, mapping out potential conflicts for the short-term (2020-2030) and the long-term (2030 to 2050). A participatory spatial planning methodology is piloted that seeks to be inclusive, integrative and informed, making use of GIS-based modelling to assist a multi-stakeholder decision-making process. The One Master Plan and the GGAP are aimed at establishing an integrated planning base for sustainable development, mitigating GHG emissions from different sectors while simultaneously maintaining economic growth. The pilot experience from Lam Dong is going to be replicated in Lao Cai province and is intended to serve as a model for other provinces to develop in the coming 2 years their Master Plan and in parallel a GGAP.

Please provide a narrative of the most significant lessons learned relating to the **implementation and sequencing** of national programme support: [150 words]

The Programme design capitalized on momentum for REDD+ and moving readiness forward towards demonstration and results based payments under REDD+. Through the course of implementation, the country and global context is rapidly changing, and affects the Programme's design. Flexibility and ability to adaptively manage is crucial to making most of a Programme's opportunity, especially when the Programme is as significant as the Phase II Programme.

For example, the circumstances around the national forest monitoring and assessment shifted significantly in Vietnam during the course of the Programme, triggering the Programme to make adjustments to its results framework and activities. Similarly significant was the shift that took place in the global discourse around benefit distribution systems under REDD+.

Pre-empting such wider dynamics in project formulation is difficult. Therefore, it is important that projects and programmes are designed to periodically review not only the logframe that they are tied to, but, the wider context in which they are placed, to assess relevance.

Please provide a narrative of any **other lessons** learned during implementation of the national programme: [150 words]

[input text] NA

3.1 Unforeseen Benefits or Unintended Consequences

Please provide a summary of any ancillary/unforeseen benefits or unintended consequences that may have become evident during implementation or conclusion of the national programme. [150 words]

Unforeseen Benefits [150 Words]

[input text] NA

Unintended Consequences [150 words]

[input text] NA

3.2 Inter-agency Coordination

This section aims to collect relevant information on how the NP is contributing to inter-agency work and “Delivering as One”.

Was the NP in coherence with the UN Country Programme or other donor assistance framework approved by the Government? If not, please explain what measures were put in place to address this. [150 words]

Yes, the Programme fully contributed to the UN Country Programme for the period of 2010-2015 and 2016-2020. See section 2.2.

Please briefly summarize what types of coordination mechanism and decisions were taken to ensure joint delivery of the NP. [150 words]

The Programme exceptionally benefited from joint governance structure, technical coordination and a harmonized Programme Implementation Manual. For the governance structure, UN agencies nominated one representative on rotation basis to join Executive Group – which is consisted by three members (Norway, Government of VN, UN) to make strategic and budget allocation annually. For technical aspects, the UN Technical Team (UNTT) initially to support the CTA, and then under the strong leadership of CTA has proven to be a highly valuable mechanism for fostering the

intensive and rigorous technical exchanges necessary for consensus-building as an essential basis for consistent technical advice and assistance to national REDD+ efforts through the Programme. It also allows for UN team members to contribute and reach consensus on key issues, bringing together global and regional specialist knowledge with knowledge on the particular country context. It also provides a key mechanism for risk management.

UN agencies also nominated UNDP to be the Lead Facilitating Agency (LFA) to communicate with the Government of Viet Nam on key strategic and technical coordination issues of the Programme, with a single voice and at the appropriate level, reporting back to the three participating UN organizations on the results. The LFA also provides a port of call for the Government to communicate with the participating UN organizations on such issues, and may also play a facilitating role in engagement with the donor and other partners.

Completion of the programme implementation manual was a key operational milestone for the Programme, reflecting the key decisions taken following the UN special joint mission in March 2015. The manual closely reflects national regulations and procedures, for example on procurement. The specific contents of the manual are therefore not generally applicable outside Viet Nam. However, the manual does provide a useful tool, with practical field testing, that may point the way to a new UN national implementation manual in Viet Nam, particularly for joint programmes where a significant part is to be nationally implemented.

Was a HACT assessment undertaken? If yes, to what degree was the HACT being taken up and by which agency? [150 words]

HACT-related tools applied in the Programme include:

- The simplified fund request form used by both FAO and UNDP, which clearly indicates the relevant participating UN organization for each activity/output/outcome.
- FAO's adoption of a single Letter of Agreement for the remainder of the Programme.
- The risk-based approach to delegation of procurement responsibilities to the national implementing partner, applying criteria agreed by FAO and UNDP.
- The use of a unified Chart of Accounts for transfers from both FAO and UNDP.

N.B.: UN Environment and UNDP had a special arrangement for the implementation of this Programme in which the part of funds using for national activities under UNEP's components were transferred through UNDP and therefore followed UNDP's rules and procedures.

3.3 Risk Narrative

This section aims to capture the key internal and external risks experienced by the programme during implementation.

Please provide a summary of the key internal risks experienced by the NP as well as responses. [250 Words]

With very ambitious agenda, the Programme was exposed to many risks that might have hindered its opportunities to achieve the ambitions. The risks came from (i) political will, (ii) strategic policies or (iii) capacity to deliver.

Capacity risks can be seen as internal risks. It relates to capacity of both UN agencies and related partners to deliver the Programme's ambitions. In response, the Programme sought to (i) have "one UN voice" through the establishment of the UN technical team (UNTT), and having one UN agency to act as lead facilitating agency (LFA) to communicate with Govt timely and (ii) harmonize the procedures to extent possible to accelerate the progress. The Programme also maintained regular dialogue with Govt of VN for better understanding and solutions at both political and technical level.

Please provide a summary of the key external risks experienced by the NP as well as responses. [250 Words]

Political risks were identified as whether or not policy makers are well aware of the REDD+ vision for Viet Nam and willing to take measures to address the drivers. In response, the Programme supported Viet Nam to develop its REDD+ vision and conducted an assessment to understand the progress. It also further assisted the country to update the situation of deforestation and degradation and identify their drivers. Based on the above analysis, a strategy was taken to communicate critically with key leaders, national stakeholders and VRO particularly through the process of the NRAP revision and PRAP guidelines.

The strategic risks refer to the fact that strategic development policies of the sectors such as agriculture may put further pressure on forests. In response, the Programme worked closely with related sectors (coffee, rubber, aquaculture etc.) to conduct related research, propose options for sustainable development, provide technical assistance to formulate its Policies and Measures and related instruments for transformation towards enhancing quality and values over the option of expanding its area. It also worked with Ministry of Planning and Investment to support integrated planning through the adoption of first ever Planning Law of the country.

4. Warsaw Framework for REDD+ and Associated UNFCCC Decisions

This section aims to provide insight and to support a thought process into how countries are progressing against the framework of the convention, namely: 5.1) a National REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan; 5.2) a Safeguards and Safeguards Information System; 5.3) a National Forest Reference Emission Level/National Forest Reference Level; and 5.4.) a National Forest Monitoring System. Only complete the sections that apply to the priorities identified for the country and mark as not applicable (N/A) any criteria that do not apply to the context of the country.

4.1 National Strategy or Action Plan

Supported by : <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Programme; <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Support; <input type="checkbox"/> Other Source; <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	
<p>Viet Nam’s National REDD+ Action Plan (NRAP) was approved under a Prime Minister Decision dated 27 June 2012. In 2015, the review of NRAP implementation recommended that “<i>in the light of developments within the UNFCCC, learning lessons from REDD+ implementation in Viet Nam and across the world, Viet Nam’s NRAP needs to be urgently revised</i>”. MARD kicked off the NRAP revision process through issuance of a Decision dated 20th January 2016. The NRAP revision process made steady progress in 2016 and after many rounds of public consultations and formal review by all relevant ministries, it was finalized and approved by Prime Minister on April 5th 2017. Process and directions taken demonstrate a major improvement in quality, and the new NRAP proved to meet international standards and pave the way for effective REDD+ implementation in the 2017-2030 period. The NRAP’s investment plan which started development in 2017 and was endorsed in December 2018.</p>	

Indicator	✓	Qualifier (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
Does the country have a National Strategy or Action Plan (NS/AP) to achieve REDD+?		Not yet initiated	The revised NRAP of Viet Nam has been adopted in 2017 and is under implementation.
		Under design	
	✓	Drafted, under deliberation	
	✓	Adopted	
		Link to the NS/AP provided on the UNFCCC REDD+ Web Platform Info Hub	
	✓	Implementation in early stages	
		Full implementation of NS/AP	
Degree of completeness of national REDD+	✓	The NS/AP identifies, assesses and prioritizes the direct and underlying drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, as	The new NRAP is a succinct legal document, supported by a robust analytical document called “issues and options paper”. A

strategies and/or action plans.		well as the barriers to the "plus" (+) activities on the basis of robust analyses.	thorough review of direct and underlying drivers and barriers has been completed in 2016.
	✓	The NS/AP proposes a coherent and coordinated set of policies and measures (PAMs) for REDD+ that are proportionate to the drivers & barriers, results-oriented and feasible.	The new NRAP does propose a coherent and coordinated set of policies and measures addressing drivers and barriers. PAMs are result oriented and feasible, even though it doesn't show explicitly in the NRAP, which follows a normalized short format. PAMs are being further detailed and turned into operational action and investment plan in 2017 and 2018, then demonstrating feasibility.
	✓	The NS/AP relates to the scope and scale of the FRL, taking into account national circumstances.	Yes. Coherently aligned in 2016 in parallel with the FRL submission and international technical assessment in 2017.
	✓	The NS/AP defines the institutional arrangements for REDD+ implementation, including governance measures, participatory oversight and inter-sectoral coordination.	New NRAP shows substantive progress in terms of institutional arrangements, even though details of their operation are being further formulated as part of the action and investment plan.
Degree to which the NS/AP incorporates principles of social inclusion and gender equality.	✓	The NS/AP is developed through a multi-stakeholder, gender-responsive and participatory consultation and dialogue process.	The 2016 revision and 2017 approval follow the UN-REDD standards in terms of stakeholders' engagement
	✓	The proposed policies and measures for REDD+ integrate gender-responsive actions.	Gender has been considered all the way through NRAP revision, including by building on guidelines developed for subnational action plans. The investment plan is operationalizing this gender dimension of actions.
	✓	The proposed policies and measures for REDD+ consider the realization of land and resource tenure rights (when relevant), as well as the development priorities of indigenous peoples and local communities.	Fully, through different policies and measures (1.1 on integrated land use planning, 1.3 on joint improvement of local governance and livelihoods...) led by relevant ministries (MONRE, MARD, CEMA...)
Degree of anchoring of the NS/AP in the national development policy and institutional fabric.	✓	There is effective inter-ministerial coordination for REDD+ action.	NRSC has been merged with the State Forest Steering Committee under the Prime Minister chairmanship, opening the way for more effective inter-ministerial cooperation and accountability.
	✓	Endorsement of the NS/AP has been obtained at a high political level, beyond the agency or ministry that led the REDD+ readiness process.	NRAP revision has been approved by Prime Minister on 5 th April 2017
	✓	REDD+ actions or targets are embedded in the national plan or policy for sustainable development.	The new scope of policies and measures opens multiple opportunities to align REDD+ with broader development agendas, including climate NDC, green growth and sustainable development goals.

	Partly	There is evidence that ministries/agencies outside the forest and environment sectors are committed to implementing REDD+ policies and measures.	There is growing signs of commitment for NRAP from Administrations beyond the forest sector, including Government's Office, MONRE, MPI, MARD, MOFA, MOJ, MOF, MoST, CEMA, MPS. The concrete activities of each ministry are presented precisely in the NRIP developed in 2017 and officially endorsed in 2018
	✓	Financing arrangements to start implementing the NS/AP (or to channel results-based finance) are designed.	REDD+ investment plan and resource mobilization framework were drafted and endorsed in December 2018.

4.2 Safeguard Information System

Supported by: National Programme; Targeted Support; Other Source; Not Applicable

Safeguard Information System (SIS) is still under development. During 2017, Viet Nam is progressively advancing development of its SIS together with formulation of its first Sol. Viet Nam has aims to operationalize its SIS in a phased approach, allowing improvement over time. The first version of SIS expects being in place from mid-2018

Indicator	✓	Descriptor (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification.
Does the country have a Safeguard Information System (SIS) that provides information on how the Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout implementation of REDD+ actions?	✓	Yes	<p>Work to identify options to develop SIS commenced at the end of 2015. Through an intensive participatory approach, the design framework for SIS has been compiled and was under consultation and validation process facilitated by Viet Nam REDD+ Office (now under Standing office of National Target Programm).</p> <p>The Technical Proposal and work plan for SIS has been prepared for VNForest to provide guidance on its operationalization. As a result, the refined information needs for SIS have been formulated, and information systems assessed in greater detail, by working closely with prioritized information systems (starting with FORMIS – SIS Phase I).</p> <p>SIS database development and integration into the NFMS/FORMIS platform has commenced through collaboration between FORMIS II and UN-REDD from late 2017 and available on-line from late 2018 on-ward</p>
	✓	SIS objectives determined	
	✓	Safeguard information needs and structure determined	
	✓	Existing information systems and sources assessed	
	✓	The SIS is designed, building on existing, together with any novel, information systems and sources clearly articulated in a national government-endorsed document.	
	Partly	The SIS is functional, building on existing, together with any novel, information systems and sources that are clearly articulated in a national government-endorsed document.	

	Partly	Summary of information on REDD+ safeguards, informed by the SIS, has been submitted to UNFCCC.	
Degree of completeness of the design of a country approach to address the social and environmental safeguards for REDD+	✓	Aligns with the NS/AP, covering the social and environmental benefits and risks of the policies & measures for REDD+ being considered by the countries.	Works to assess the institutional capacity to implement PLRs and identify options to develop SIS are completed. Findings/recommendations and follow-up actions have been discussed with relevant key stakeholders, including assessment of social and environmental benefits and risks of the PAMs. A systematic assessment of PAMs has been carried out in 2017 for the revised NRAP as part of the development of mid-term REDD+ implementation/investment plan (NRIP).
	✓	Defines specific policies, laws and regulations (PLRs), as well as other measures, to address the identified benefits and risks.	A comprehensive list of relevant PLRs has been identified, and assessed and updated during/following the NRIP preparation.
	Partly	Have institutional arrangements and/or capacities to implement those PLRs and to monitor the REDD+ safeguards	assessment under way with NRIP M&E process
	Partly	Transparently provides information on how safeguards are respected and addressed.	As above

4.3 Forest Reference Emission Level / Forest Reference Level

Supported by: National Programme; Targeted Support; Other Source; Not Applicable

Vietnam has submitted its first national REDD+ FRLs to the UNFCCC (January 2016) and is undergoing technical assessment (see more under Output 3.5 of Section 5 above) expected for completion by first quarter of 2017.

Indicator	✓	Descriptor (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
Has the country established a FREL/FRL?		Not yet initiated	The national REDD+ FRL for Vietnam was submitted to the UNFCCC in 2016, and the technical assessment completed in 2017.
		Capacity building phase	
		Preliminary construction phase	
		Advanced ⁴ construction phase	
		Submission drafted	
	✓	Submitted to the UNFCCC	
Robustness of FREL/FRL submissions	✓	Submission is transparent, complete, consistent and as much as possible accurate and allows reconstruction of the submitted FREL/FRL.	The submission document itself is supported by annex documents as well as a REDD+ geoportal displaying the data used in the submission. Such annex documents and the Geo-portal have been made publically available in 2016.
	✓	Includes pools and gases, and REDD+ activities (Scope) and justification for omitting significant pools and/or activities.	Of the 5 carbon pools, AGB and BGB are included. The estimation of other pools cannot be done reliably with the currently available dataset, and is also considered insignificant to the overall emissions. Use of default factors would also increase overall uncertainty, and therefore not opted for.
	✓	Justifies where the submission is inconsistent with previous versions of GHG inventory.	An explanation of the consistent definition of forests used in previous GHG-I is provided. All other data sets have upgraded those used in previous NCs, but no specific details are provided in the submission document. The Annex reports (see above) make reference to the differences.
	✓	Includes details of the forest definition used and national circumstances.	Yes, refer to submission document.

⁴ FREL/FRL elements defined or at an advanced stage (scope, scale, forest definition, methodology and data compilation).

	✓	Defines the geographic area covered by FREL/FRL (scale).	National scale.
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4.4 National Forest Monitoring System

Supported by: National Programme; Targeted Support; Other Source; Not Applicable

Vietnam REDD+ process takes advantage of a relatively abundant set of forest data, including several rounds of forest national inventory. These are strong asset to build the NFMS upon. Decisions have been taken to re-introduce the NFIMAP program of the Government as basis for the emission factors (EF) for REDD+ MRV.

Indicator	✓	Descriptor (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means of verification
Has the country established a NFMS?		No	Vietnam's NFMS for REDD+ is based on the existing national systems, primarily of the National Forest Inventory (NFIMAP), the National Forest Information and Statistics (NFI&S) Program, and the Forest Resources Monitoring System (FRMS) which updates the NFI&S. All of these systems are provisionally operational, with a decision to reintroduce the NFIMAP cycle IV.
		NFMS capacity building phase	
		Preliminary construction phase	
		Advanced ⁵ construction phase	
	✓	NFMS generating preliminary information for monitoring and MRV	
	✓	NFMS institutionalized and generating REDD+ monitoring and MRV (satellite land monitoring system, national forest inventory, greenhouse gas inventory)	
Degree of completeness of the NFMS in UN-REDD supported countries	✓	NFMS includes a Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS)	There is a full NFI outline including a SLMS, approved by the Gov't. For the future MRV, the SLMS will generate land cover and change maps and matrices based on a combination of medium resolution and high resolution imagery. Capacity to carry this out is also present in-country.
	✓	NFMS includes a National Forest Inventory (NFI)	There is an approved proposal for an NFI, which would apply a systematic sampling grid for permanent sample plots across the country for future implementation. Capacity to carry this out is generally present in-country.
	✓	NFMS includes a National GHG Inventory (GHGi)	The GHG-I will be produced through the use of the data of the NFMS. But the GHG-I goes beyond the scope of the forest sector (and also managed by another ministry than the one with the State mandate to

⁵ NFMS elements at an advanced stage (satellite land monitoring system, national forest inventory, greenhouse gas inventory).

			oversee the forestry sector), and thus is not necessarily considered as included within the NFMS.
✓	The NFMS is suitable for estimating anthropogenic forest-related greenhouse gas emissions by sources, and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest-area changes resulting from the implementation of REDD+ activities;		There are proposed systems in-country (NFI, NFI&S and FRMS) through which this can be made possible, but there is yet to be a Gov't decision on the future implementation of the systems.
✓	The NFMS is consistent with Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidance and guidelines;		The proposed system in combination would allow for consistency with the IPCC, however, consistency over periods cannot be ensured, as the various systems Vietnam has employed over the years have evolved, and therefore, methodologies for generating the AD and EF will have changed. Consistency over time will need to be carefully considered and addressed as the future MRV systems become defined by Government.
✓	The NFMS enables the assessment of different types of forest in the country, including natural forest.		Yes, all of the systems mentioned above allow for the assessment of different types of forests in the country.

5. Financial Delivery

The table below gathers information on the cumulative financial progress of the National Programme at the end of programme implementation (including all cumulative yearly disbursements).

Outcomes	UN agencies	Total receipts from MPTF-0	Total estimated accumulative expenditure* up to July 2019	Balance
Outcome 1	FAO	1,382,803	1,382,803	-
	UNDP	3,482,556	3,482,556	-
	UNEP	230,296	230,296	-
	Sub-total	5,095,655	5,095,655	
-Outcome 2	FAO	3,491,962	3,491,962	-
	UNDP	8,440,751	8,440,751	-
	UNEP	181,387	181,387	-
	Sub-total	12,114,100	12,114,100	
Outcome 3	FAO	1,886,447	1,886,322	125
	UNDP		-	-
	UNEP		-	-
	Sub-total	1,886,447	1,886,322	125
Outcome 4	FAO	-	-	
	UNDP	878,258	878,258	
	UNEP	-	-	
	Sub-total	878,258	878,258	
Outcome 5	FAO	-	-	
	UNDP	1,303,396	1,303,396	
	UNEP	214,044	214,044	
	Sub-total	1,517,440	1,517,440	
Outcome 6	FAO	664,330	664,330	
	UNDP	79,024	79,024	
	UNEP	362,354	362,354	
	Sub-total	1,105,708	1,105,708	
Management	UNDP	3,177,038	3,177,038	
ISC FAO		519,788	519,779	9
ISC UNDP		1,251,244	1,251,244	-
ISC UNEP		90,263	90,263	-
	Sub-total	5,038,333	5,038,324	9

Total		27,635,941	27,635,807	
in which,				
FAO		7,945,330	7,945,196	134
UNDP		18,612,267	18,612,267	0
UNEP		1,078,344	1,078,344	0

The "Estimated Cumulative Expenditures* up to July 31st 2019 include all expenditure and commitments as of July 31st 2019

6. Adaptive management

Referring to the deviations and delays indicated in the results framework above please provide a short narrative of delays encountered, the reasons for them and what actions were considered to alleviate their impact on the Programme. Please indicate if these were discussed at the Programme Executive Board (PEB) or National Steering Committee (NSC) meetings, between the Programme Management Unit (PMU) and national counterparts and what measures have been proposed to overcome them.

6.1 Delays and Corrective Actions

What delays/obstacles were encountered at country level? [100 words]
Significant challenges were experienced during the first two years of Phase II, resulting in very slow progress on Programme implementation. By the end of 2014, none of the expected outputs had been fully achieved, and overall disbursements had only reached 12 percent of the total budget. This situation gave rise to increasing levels of concern on the part of the participating UN organizations and the UN-REDD Secretariat, the national partner, and the donor.
Were any of the delays/obstacles raised and/or discussed at the Programme Steering Committee meetings? [100 words]
X Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No The first annual Executive Group meeting, in February 2014, discussed the need for harmonized and simplified implementation modality (within the agreed rules and procedures of the participating UN organizations), and directed the Programme to accelerate solutions and rapidly finalize an implementation manual. ⁶ However, it proved difficult to resolve key operational questions. All subsequent Executive Group meetings also updated the proposed measures from the previous EG meeting, and discussed the situation on delays and measures for resolution.
What are the delays/obstacles anticipated in terms of their impact on the NP? [100 words]
(a) The overall design, which lacked precise and specific directives for implementation, and did not prescribe an adequate inception phase; (b) The complex management structure as well as the Government's slow internal decision-making processes; and

⁶ UN-REDD Secretariat: Report on the Viet Nam Phase II Executive Group meeting, 26 February 2014, Hanoi, Viet Nam.

(c) The complex implementation modality linking three participating UN organizations, each having different operational procedures and working modalities. ^[11]_[SEP]

The mid-term review report proposed measures to accelerate implementation, recommending strengthened UN harmonization, a streamlined approach, more realistic timelines for key activities and—linked to these changes—consideration of a significant extension to the Programme closing date.

How were these delays/obstacles addressed? [100 words]

In response to the mid-term review recommendations, FAO, UNDP and UNEP, with support and direction from the UN-REDD Strategy Group, worked together to identify UN internal operational and procedural bottlenecks. A special joint mission to Viet Nam was fielded in March 2015 to prepare detailed recommendations to the Executive Group. Critical harmonizing decisions were made and incorporated into the Programme’s implementation manual.

The positive impact of these changes on the Programme’s overall delivery rate demonstrates that key barriers to progress were overcome: by December 2015, overall disbursement had reached 38 percent, and the projected overall disbursement by December 2016 was 74 percent, and almost 100% by end 2018 at the end of the Programme.

6.2 Opportunities and Partnerships

During NP implementation, have any opportunities that were not foreseen in the design of the programme been identified to help advance efforts on REDD+? [100 words]

At national level, the NP had engaged in partnership with other ministries beyond MARD such as Ministry of Planning and Investment for the promotion of integrated planning or working with Ministry of Public Security to promote the exchange with other countries in the region about timber crime and associated opportunities for collaboration. At provincial level, the NP explored and established with a number of businesses working for sustainable forest economic opportunities such as companies working on organic shrimps in Ca Mau or traditional medicines in Lao Cai and Bak Can.

How were these opportunities being incorporated into the work of the NP? [100 words]

All of these opportunities were analysed and incorporated into related annual workplans of the NP.

6.3 Measures to Ensure Sustainability of National Programme Results

Please provide a brief overall assessment of any measures taken to ensure the sustainability of the National Programme results during the reporting period. Please provide examples if relevant; these can include the establishment of REDD+ institutions expected to outlive the Programme and regulations, or capacities that will remain in place after the completion of the programme.

Measures taken to ensure the sustainability of the National Programme. [150 words]

Critical for longer-term sustainability of impact of the Programme is the exit strategy⁷, or phase out plan, of the Programme. This was gradually developed at the request of the EG4 and EG5 and in its latest form represents a comprehensive longer-term approach. The exit strategy of the Programme depicts a strategic approach to anchor REDD+ and SFM into a strategic national agenda building conditions to effectively coordinate the implementation of the NRAP, to pilot multi-sectoral partnerships, promote political commitment and a conducive legal and regulatory framework. This is combined in the exit strategy with securing funding from various sources, integrating/mainstreaming of REDD+ methods and tools into national-level policies and guidelines and active REDD+ knowledge management. The exit strategy details with a time line which actions need to be taken Post-Programme, in the periods 2019-2020 and 2021-2022, in order to enhance and support ownership, institutional embedding, capacity and financial resources. The final evaluation team appreciated the exit strategy as a detailed and practical guiding document that sketches essential elements for enhancing Post-Programme sustainability in support of full NRAP implementation.

The exit strategy is also realistic in the sense that it acknowledges a remaining financial gap Post-Programme to fully implement the NRAP in the coming years. Although considerable domestic public resources through state budget lines are or will be available for implementation, additional funding sources will be needed, including potential funding from PFES in support of NRAP implementation, engagement of the private sector including financial institutions and emerging REDD+/SFM related project opportunities with ODA funding through UN agencies, and other international partners.

The questions below seeks to gather relevant information on how the National Programme is putting into practice the principles of aid effectiveness through strong national ownership, alignment and harmonization of procedures and mutual accountability.

Are the national implementing partners and UN-REDD focal points involved in the planning, budgeting and delivery of the National Programme?

Programme Executive Board Established: Yes No

Date of Last Meeting: 1st December 2018

Number of meetings annually: 02 (one of the Programme Executive Board; one of the Executive Group)

Please explain what measures are in place to ensure national ownership: [150 words]

The NP was designed following National Execution Modality in which Government is in chairing roles for whole programme governance structure and activities. Government acted as the chair of the Programme's EG, while UN and Norway are the members. This spirit has been well translated into the Programme implementation manual in which the roles of Government and UN agencies are well specified and guided.

⁷ UN-REDD Phase II Programme, Exit Strategy, June 2018 and related PPT draft, September 2018

All Programme's decisions, workplans, progress reports have been initiated by and agreed with Government's representatives.

Are the UN-REDD Programme's Guidelines for Stakeholder Engagement applied in the National Programme process?

Fully Partially No

Please explain, including if level of consultation varies between non-government stakeholders: [150 words]

The UN-REDD Programme has conscientiously invested in its design and implementation approaches to include a broad-based representation of stakeholders, reflected the multi-sectoral approach chosen for REDD+ awareness building, action planning, implementation and monitoring. Both at national level, where NGOs/CSOs and Ethnic Minorities are represented in the Programme's Executive Board, and a corresponding budget to help both representatives fulfil their roles, and at the Executive Group, as representation of national level networks, as well as at provincial level where CSOs and EM network groups are formed and represented in the provincial PPMUs and PSCs, there is full and meaningful representation. The Programme has also actively sought to engage the private sector, alongside academia and government representation, as an essential pathway to seek sustainable finance opportunities in creating alliances and business opportunities, linking private enterprises and household groups, communities and forest owners. Meaningful and effective participation of EM/CSOs at national and provincial level is essential in ensuring broad-based consultation and is contributing and facilitating independent monitoring.

Programme sustainability depends on the extent to which sectorial counterparts, civil society representatives, private sector relevant to the REDD+ dynamic in the country and other relevant stakeholders are involved in the Programme's activities and ownership of strategic matters. In the box below please select applicable options and provide an indication of how these different sets of stakeholders are involved in and appropriate Programme activities.

Member of the steering committee

Member of technical or other advisory committees

Implementing partner for some activities of the National Programme

Please explain, including if level of consultation varies between non-government stakeholders: [150 words]

[\[See the section above\]](#)

6.4 National Programme and/or R-PP Co-Financing Information

If additional resources (direct co-financing) were provided to activities supported by the UN-REDD National Programme including new financing mobilized since start of implementation, please fill in the table below:

Sources of Co-Financing ⁸	Name of Co-Financer	Type of Co-Financing ⁹	Amount (US\$)	Supported Outcome in the NPD	Year Mobilized
Government of Viet Nam	Government of Viet Nam	Staff and other administrative costs for the Programme from national and provincial level	680,771¹⁰	Operation and staff cost	2013-2019

⁸ Indicate if the source of co-financing is from: Bilateral aid agency, foundation, local government, national government, civil society organizations, other multilateral agency, private sector, or others.

⁹ Indicate if co-financing is in-kind or cash.

¹⁰ VND15,725,815,299, as reported by VNFOREST as of June 30th 2019

7. Annex – UNDG Guidelines: Definitions

The following definitions for results based reporting from the UNDP Guidelines are to be used for the annual report:

- **Results:** A result is a describable or measurable change that is derived from a cause-and-effect relationship. There are three types of such changes – outputs, outcomes and impact – which can be set in motion by a development intervention.
- **Results Based Reporting:** Seeks to shift attention away from activities to communicating important results that the programme has achieved at output and outcome levels. An effective results-based report communicates and demonstrates the effectiveness of the intervention. It makes the case to stakeholders and donors for continued support and resources.
- **Results Matrix:** An important aid in results-based reporting is the results matrix, which clearly articulates the results at output and outcome level and the indicators, baselines and targets. These items, along the review of indicators, assumptions and risks, should serve as guides for reporting on results.
 - **Outcomes:** Outcomes describe the intended changes in development conditions resulting from UNCT cooperation. Outcomes relate to changes in institutional performance or behavior among individuals or groups as viewed through a human rights-based approach lens.
 - **Outputs:** Outputs are changes in skills or abilities, or the availability of new products and services that are achieved with the resources provided within the time period specified. Outputs are the level of result in which the clear comparative advantages of individual agencies emerge and accountability is clearest. Outputs are linked to those accountable from them giving the results chain a much stronger internal logic.
 - **Indicators:** Indicators help measure outcomes and outputs, adding greater precision. Indicators ensure that decision-making is informed by relevant data.