

# UN-REDD PROGRAMME



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



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## National Programme Annual Report

**VIETNAM**

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UN-REDD Programme

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January 2016- December 2016

## **1. Annual Report for the UN-REDD National Programmes**

The Annual Report for the National Programme (NP) highlights progress over the twelve month period ending 31 December 2016 (1 January-31 December). This progress is reported against the consolidated Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2016, as approved by the Programme Executive Board.

The report includes the following sections:

- 1) Annual Report for the UN-REDD National Programmes;
- 2) National Programme Identification;
- 3) Progress Reporting;
- 4) Results Matrix;
- 6) Warsaw Framework for REDD+ and Associated UNFCCC Decisions;
- 7) Financial Delivery
- 8) Adaptive management.

The lead agency for each National Programme is responsible for coordinating inputs to the Annual 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 agency teams, who provide quality assurance and recommendations to the national teams on articulating results and on 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 regarding knowledge exchange.

## 2. National Programme Identification

National Programme Title	UN-REDD Viet Nam Phase II Programme
Implementing Partners	GoVN (VNFOREST/MARD)
Participating Organizations	UNDP, FAO, UNEP

Project Timeline			
Programme Duration	72 months	Original End Date	31/12/2015
NPD Signature Date	01/03/2013	No-Cost Extension	36 months
Date of First Fund Transfer	16/08/2013	Current End Date	31/12/2018

Financial Summary (USD)			
UN Agency	Programme Budget indicated in PRODOC	Total Amount transferred	Cumulative Expenditures* up to 31 December 2016
FAO	11,948,740	7,045,798	4,711,976
UNDP	12,314,105	11,852,247	10,732,071
UNEP	3,989,310	836,772	617,294
Indirect Support Cost (7%)	1,977,650	1,381,437	1,161,636
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,229,805</b>	<b>21,116,254</b>	<b>17,222,977</b>

\*: This amount doesn't include any commitments made in 2016 and to be paid in early 2017

Signatures from the designated UN organizations			Signature by the Government Counterpart
FAO	UNDP	UNEP	
			
Date and Name of Signatories in Full:			
30 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	30 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	30 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	30 <sup>th</sup> May 2017
JongHa Bae Representative Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations	Akiko Fuji Deputy Country Director United Nations Development Programme	Johan Kieft UNEP UN-REDD Regional Coordinator Bangkok, Thai Lan	Vu Xuan Thon National Programme Director, Programme Management Unit

## 3. Progress Reporting

### 3.1 Achievements

Please provide a description of key achievements made by the NP in relation to the 4 pillars of the Warsaw Framework and how the NP has supported those.

The UN-REDD Vietnam Phase II Programme is one of GoVN's main initiative to prepare national REDD+ instruments and architecture to comply with UNFCCC. All achievements below are the direct result of the UN-REDD Programme support.

National strategy and action plan: Vietnam National REDD+ Action Programme was approved in 2012 and governs the implementation of REDD+ in the country. Following the NRAP implementation review carried out in 2015, an inter-ministerial drafting team was set up by the GoVN and led a participatory and transparent process combining thorough analytical work and intensive consultations with support from a team of international and national consultants. This process has nurtured and demonstrated substantial strengthening of the national vision for a transformative, cross-sector, multi-partners and innovative approach to forestry. A new NRAP for the period 2017-2030 will replace the first NRAP. By the end of 2016, MARD was running last consultations with other Ministries before submitting the final draft to the Government's Office. The new version shows GoVN's commitment for REDD+, engaging and empowering Ministries like MPI, MPS, MOF, MONRE... on critical collaborations for sustainable management of forests, addressing both direct and underlying drivers of deforestation, and suggesting strengthened institutional arrangements to improve accountability and leadership at the Government's Office level. The new NRAP is expected to be formally endorsed by Prime Minister and made publicly available by the end the first Quarter 2017. Beyond the revision of the NRAP and the preparation of future partnerships, the Programme also continued implementing REDD+ activities contributing to NRAP implementation, including at regional level (collaborative activities as part of bilateral MoU), at national level (support to law revisions, integrated planning with agriculture for deforestation-free supply chains...), and at sub-national level (finalization of PRAPs, implementation of province and site level actions including forest land allocations, support to sustainable management of forests' activities and related livelihoods...).

Safeguards Information System and summary of information: Building on the preparatory work from previous years, Vietnam adopted a more systematic and comprehensive approach on safeguards with the aim at building its SIS and formulating its Sol by 2017. The Programme built on on-going initiatives like risks and benefits assessments at provincial level, grievance redress mechanism, and also intensified the work on participatory governance assessment, to feed into a comprehensive review of relevant policies, laws and regulations implementation, a national interpretation of Cancun safeguards and a gap analysis including institutional capacities, and a consolidated review of data and system needs for SIS. Despite no milestone was achieved in 2016 on SIS and Sol, the Programme has made significant progress in preparing the building blocks, and came back on track to deliver on the Programme's targets by 2017.

Forest Reference Level: Vietnam's first national forest reference level was submitted to the UNFCCC in January 2016 and then entered the international technical assessment process. A second version was produced in May 2016, and continuous communication with the assessment team has allowed to clarify assumptions and harmonize views on the credibility of the reference level. Due to outstanding reasons, the TA was not able to complete its review in 2016, but the final report is expected to be completed by the first Quarter of 2017, and posted on UNFCCC website with positive conclusions.

National Forest Monitoring System: GoVN has made a major decision in 2016 to launch a new NFIMAP cycle, which is a critical part of a credible National Forest Monitoring System and MRV system against UNFCCC standards. However, the production of data that can serve as a basis for BUR report still needs to be planned and budgeted. The integration of the REDD+ geo-portal into FORMIS has been delayed, and further clarification on institutional arrangements to support NFMS are still needed. 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. However, it remains uncertain if the country can produce and publish its first REDD+ result in its BUR before the end of the Programme.

### 3.2 Challenges and solutions

Please provide a summary of the challenges faced and solutions put in place to address them. These could be of any nature, operational, good procedure, unsuccessful process that other countries could benefit from.

As the 2016AWP was very ambitious in term of both deliverables and budget, the programme has faced with huge challenges in maintaining high speed of programme delivery while strengthening quality assurance, enhancing the programme sustainability and impacts on overall REDD+ process in Viet Nam.

- For quality assurance, the programme has to make sure that the strategic direction at national level on REDD+ priorities is well interpreted by provincial process in scoping PRAPs and prioritizing interventions for site level. To overcome this challenge, the technical officers of both UN and PMU meet on monthly basis to review the progress, to endorse technical guidance for key elements of the programme, to give comments on key proposals and documents submitted by provinces and partners. The team also conducted joint mission to support provinces in development of their annual and quarterly workplans. PMU leaders also issued two letters in 2016 enforcing the compliance of provinces and partners to the agreed technical review process of the programme.
- For programme sustainability, big challenge remains on VRO position and capacity to continue raising momentums of inter-agency collaboration and accelerating the transformation in REDD+ after the Programme is ended. This issue has been discussed with MARD's leader and the NRAP inter-agency drafting team throughout the NRAP revision process in 2016. In the new version of NRAP, it already included provisions for improved institutional arrangements to strengthen accountability, coordination and collaboration. For instance the new National REDD+ Steering Committee would be merged with the State Committee on Sustainable Forest Management (SCSFM) and chaired by the Prime Minister, while VRO would ensure a cross-sectoral role of coordination under the direct mandate of the Steering Committee. Lots of work need to be done in 2017 to get this decision turned into a functional set-up of VRO and making the SCSFM works effectively to lead the REDD+ agenda in Vietnam.
- It also is a real challenge that the vision of REDD+ as primarily a financial mechanism tends to predominate, in particular among decision-makers from MARD and VNFOREST at national and provincial level. This vision tends to focus REDD+ on the forest sector and goes along with difficulties for the REDD+ process to reach high political levels. In general REDD+ technical staff and UN agencies tend in contrast to view REDD+ as primarily a new, more strategic, approach to the forest agenda. In 2016, the programme has supported MARD to come up with new REDD+ vision and used NRAP revision as a platform to gain attraction and engagement from the Government's office, MPI, MoF, MOFA and MONRE. Further efforts to be made in 2017 to make the related ministries are better engaged in REDD+ and assume more leadership of this agenda.

#### 4. Government & Non-Government Comments

This section provides the opportunity to capture government and civil society perspectives and provide additional or complementary information.

##### 4.1 Government Comments

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

Viet Nam's Administration of Forestry (VNFOREST) highly appreciates the Program's performance in 2016 and agrees with the National Program Report. The program has basically accomplished the main tasks of the AWP 2016, including, among many other, proposing a new NRAP for the period 2017 - 2030, supporting MARD to develop a new Forestry Law, improving the FREL/FRL and National Forest Monitoring System (REDD+ geo-portal), piloting BDS, proposing SIS framework, actively working on Sub-regional collaboration and displacement issues. The PRAPs of the pilot provinces have been approved and used as guidance for activities on the ground.

Collaboration with key stakeholders, including Vietnam Forestry University to integrate REDD+ Academy in curricula of a Master course, the Ethnic Minority Network and SRD as REDD+ representative of CSOs, relevant Government agencies, research institutions, universities, programs/projects and private sector have been improved and progressing well. And all these help strengthen Vietnam's capacity in REDD+ readiness.

2017 will be a crucial year for the UN-REDD Vietnam Program to consolidate its achievements recorded so far to prepare for the country fully ready for REDD+ implementation. Therefore VNFOREST is looking for further collaboration and support from the donor and the participating UN agencies.

##### 4.2 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]

CSO-PEB member was involved more and more in the year 2016. PMU has organized field visits to Ha Tinh, Lam Dong and Ca Mau where the CSO-PEB member had the opportunity to join and observe in brief actual activities at these provinces. In general, there is a speedy progress made by the PMU and UN agencies in term of implementation. Sufficient information was provided prior PEB and EG meetings which were held with participation of CSOPEB and her alternate nomination at her absence.

CSO-PEB member would like to visit 3 remain provinces of UNREDD Program, e.g. Bac Kan, Lao Cai and Binh Thuan in 2017, to have a more broaden view of its implementation, to see the different contexts and subsequent different achievements, and provide more insights for the the program.

It would be most appreciative if UNREDD could support, not only CSOPEB, but some local NGOs of VNGO-FLEGT network at provincial and site levels to learn more of the program and participate in relevant activities (PRAP planning, PRAP and SIRAP monitoring, annual review, etc.).

## 5. Results Matrix

<b>Outcome 1: Capacities for an operational National REDD+ Action Programme (NRAP) are in place</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On track to achieving this outcome;	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected minor delays <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected significant delays <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place
<p>Progress towards Outcome: Overall, this outcome keeps progressing well and is on track. The revision of the NRAP in 2016 is a major milestone for this outcome and was technically finalized by the end of 2016, at a level of quality meeting international standards. It is expected to facilitate a more effective operation of the NRAP in the period up to 2030, with clear inter-sectoral engagement and credible coordination arrangements. REDD+ institutions in the country (NRSC, VRO, STWG...) have been more active in 2016 but capacities and mobilization remain uneven. Some STWG are active and regular platforms for dialogue, while others have remained dormant. NRSC met once in 2016 and its role has remained limited, in the context of the appointment of a new Minister. The new NRAP paves the way for a more transformative and inter-sectoral approach to REDD+, and it also shows provisions for improved institutional arrangements to strengthen accountability, coordination and collaboration. For instance the new National REDD+ Steering Committee would be merged with the State Committee on Sustainable Forest Management and chaired by the Prime Minister, while VRO would ensure a cross-sectoral role of coordination under the direct mandate of the Steering Committee As capacities outside VNFOREST and particularly in other ministries remain largely to be developed, such arrangements are critical to ensure future success in NRAP implementation. Awareness, communication and capacity building have intensified at a reasonable quality level. Overall, the programme is making good progress, but now enters a period of budget constraint that might not allow it to fully address the challenge of deploying a revised, more ambitious and also more demanding NRAP.</p>			

<b>Output 1.1: NRAP updated as necessary</b>			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New NRAP decided on and disseminated by GoVN</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revise NRAP as needed for 2nd part 2016-20</li> <li>i) NRAP revised to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inter-ministerial drafting team established (decision 2514/QD-BNN-TCLN on 22nd June). Kick off meeting and approval of methodology and work plan (June 29).               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NRAP consultant team recruited (4 experts) as well as specialists to formulate 7 policies and measures.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<p>meet international requirements;</p> <p>ii) NRAP monitoring framework developed</p> <p>iii) Policies/ strategies related to REDD+ implementation revised (e.g. Decree 135.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Issues and Options Paper, including a compilation of relevant datasets, research reports and policy and legal documents, review of drivers and analysis of options drafted (August) and finalized (December)</li> <li>○ Draft NRAP formulated (September 27<sup>th</sup>). 2nd Drafting team meeting organized on 14th Oct. Draft annex including policies and measures and intervention packages formulated (October 23<sup>rd</sup>). Public consultations together with drafting team members organized (November 2<sup>nd</sup>). NRAP published on the Ministry's website for public consultations, and communicated to relevant Ministries for formal feedbacks (December)</li> <li>● Revision of the Law on Forest Protection and Development (No. 29/2004/QH11): Started and in progress, on track <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 3 consultants recruited by UN-REDD to help the revision of Law on forest protection and development (July)</li> <li>○ Revision of the law initiated by MARD Letter no-1415 (November 5<sup>th</sup>) with detailed organization of revision content and task assignment.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Decree 135 revision: delivered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 3 consultants recruited by UN-REDD to help the revision of Decree 135 (July)</li> <li>○ Field consultation conducted in Quang Tri and Quang Binh to validate information for the revision of decree 135.</li> <li>○ National consultation workshop conducted in September, followed by additional consultations</li> <li>○ New Decree 168 replacing Decree 135 approved in December</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Progress towards Output: The NRAP revision is on good track. The annual output target is expected to be met with a maximum three months delay. Quality level of analytical background, expert mobilization and consultation process, and draft NRAP and annex under discussion meets international standards and gives evidence of a substantial progress on political vision and REDD+ maturity in Vietnam. The legal format for NRAP endorsement by Prime Minister impose a short document, which nevertheless is supported by robust analytical background, demonstrates improved directions in terms of cross-sectoral implementation and accountability, and will be translated in 2017 into a practical investment plan.</p>			

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

Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Database on REDD+ projects in Vietnam established and accessible online</li> <li>≥4 STWGs established</li> <li>VRO conduct ≥2 NRSC meetings yearly</li> <li>Increased capacity and no. of staff in VRO</li> <li>National REDD+ Network functioning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No REDD+ database and network</li> <li>STWGs and NRSC not fully activated/operating</li> <li>4 VRO experts supported by GoVN in 2012</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NRSC meets regularly to guide NRAP implementation and revision</li> <li>National REDD+ database architecture developed</li> <li>National REDD+ network and STWGs actively function to share lessons learnt and promote quality of REDD+ process in VN.</li> <li>Continue to organize trainings on REDD+ to enhance awareness and knowledge on REDD+ for experts/leaders of VNFOREST and outside VNFOREST.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National REDD+ Steering Committee Meeting was chaired by MARD Minister on May 12<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>Sub-technical working groups have actively supported the Programme's work. STWG-safeguards met twice, with three additional core group meetings; STWG-governance also met twice, and private-sector met once; BDS? FREL/REL?</li> <li>6 days of national trainings have been organized, raising capacities of 69 participants, including 27 women, and 38 participants from Ministries outside MARD/VNFOREST. The REDD+ Academy served as the backbone for the training that stretched from July to September.</li> <li>Recruitment of consultants for mapping REDD+ information architecture is under progress at VRO</li> </ul>

Progress towards Output: Generation and dissemination of knowledge has substantially improved and accelerated in 2016. The volume of activities has reached a reasonable level. The programme has more systematically engage communication and training outside VNFOREST, including by using the REDD+ Academy and partnering with national institutions. Opportunities for policy dialogue have been intensified in relation with NRAP revision. However, the mobilization of STWG remains uneven, some STWG remained dormant, and the change of Minister during the year did not allow to hold more than one NRSC. Capacities of VRO to coordinate the whole process have not been reinforced by additional staff.

**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>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address capacity gaps in forest crime law enforcement in the pilot provinces.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No coordination mechanisms between law enforcement agencies in place</li> <li>Capacities assumed to be poor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A detailed review of provincial forest and forestry law enforcement capacity in 5 provinces.</li> <li>Training Needs Assessment and corresponding trainings for different district and provincial FPD units conducted to address capacity gaps in law enforcement in pilot provinces.</li> <li>A tool to implement TLAS/VPA database containing and listing forest violators and to improve information management will be established. The Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS) and database might be integrated into FORMIS II Platform</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Law enforcement capacities were strengthened at local levels through trainings organized by the Forest Protection Department. In total 218 staffs at provincial level (27 women) and 330 staffs at district level (5 women) participated.</li> <li>Technical training for 165 trainees (rangers, policemen, and custom officers and border army soldiers) on cross-border issues for frontline law enforcement officers in progress.</li> <li>Inter-provincial cooperation mechanisms on law enforcement reviewed through workshops between Bac Kan, Ha Tinh, Lam Dong and Binh Thuan and Ca Mau with neighboring provinces.</li> </ul>

Progress towards Output: In continuity with 2015, this output is providing substantial support to FPD capacity building, notably at provincial and district levels.

However, there has been limited progress to date towards engaging with barriers to law enforcement outside FPD and strengthening mechanisms like a collaborative multi-agency task force for forest law enforcement. Prime Minister's speech in Central Highlands shows political willingness, and the revised NRAP is expected to open additional avenues to contribute to the expected output, beyond the frame of this Programme. The establishment of forest violation database has not yet started due to further requirements of integration into FORMIS and insufficient budget allocation.

***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>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of National and Provincial REDD+ Steering Committee members with adequate understanding of REDD+</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assumed to be low</li> <li>• Numerous products developed and services provided during Phase I (see report entitled “Assessing the Effectiveness of Training and Awareness Raising Activities of the UNREDD Programme in Viet Nam (2009-2011)”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 trainings, 1 publication on lessons learnt, quarterly newsletters, 1 consolidated newsletter, 1 film, 4 progress review in public media, &gt;6 articles in public media</li> <li>• Communication strategy reviewed and updated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 days of training organized (see 1.2). Multiple notes and briefs published (PRAP, SiRAP, land tenure, drought, sub-regional cooperation...). Only 1 programme’s newsletter published to date, but the first national REDD+ newsletter (across programmes) was published in December 2016 with strong support from UN-REDD Programme. Active dissemination of articles on social medias. 1 film “moving from more forest to better forest” produced to showcase more transformational vision for REDD+ released at EG4 meeting, and 2 films for national broadcasting under production.</li> <li>• REDD+ glossary printed and published.</li> <li>• The Programme’s communication strategy and capacities have been reviewed and report finalized. In December 2016, a tentative strengthened com&amp;KM workplan was drafted for implementation in 2017.</li> <li>• An international communication specialist has been recruited under UNV contract.</li> <li>• Active collaboration with Vietnam Forestry University led to training materials formulated and inserted in the University’s curriculum. Ceremony and launch of the pilot curriculum and training organized (October).</li> </ul>
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Progress towards Output: Awareness on REDD+ at national and pilot provinces level has been strengthened. In line with 2015’s recommendations, activities have been intensified, including in terms of general communication on programme’s progress and “real life” stories. Preliminary findings from the independent review of the programme’s communication suggests that quality of messages and supports can be improved, and 2016 has already demonstrated progress.

***Output1.5: 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>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of relevant industry action plans designed to reduce emissions from forests</li> <li>• Level of adherence to industry action plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 industry action plans are revised/formulated to ensure compliance with REDD+ objectives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration with IPSARD on formulating REDD+ PAMs and improving sector plans for coffee, aquaculture and rubber has been strengthened and backstopped by technical partnerships with CIAT and IDH. Consultations were conducted in July and August towards first drafts.</li> <li>• The REDD+ policy and measure and revised sector plan for coffee was consulted in October 25 and 26<sup>th</sup> in Lam Dong with participation from international experts and private sector.</li> <li>• A first draft report on timber industry has been received from VAFS (October), following a consultation campaign in three provinces (August).</li> <li>• Final reports were about to be completed by the end of 2016, and are expected to be delivered within February 2017.</li> </ul>
<p>Progress towards Output: After delays in 2015, this output has picked up in 2016. Additional support has been provided to coffee and aquaculture, and good quality actions plans for greater sustainability for these two sectors are expected to be finalized in early 2017. Revised actions plans for timber will also be completed by the first quarter of 2017, even though quality remains unclear at this stage. The programme might not have the financial capacity to substantially contribute to the implementation of the plans in 2017.</p>			

<b>Outcome 2: Six pilot provinces enabled to plan and implement REDD+ actions</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved;	<input type="checkbox"/> On track to achieving this outcome;	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected minor delays <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected significant delays <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place
<p>Progress towards Outcome: The outcome can be considered achieved, as six pilot provinces have gone through the full process of PRAP and SiRAP formulation and approval, RIAs signing, and have now fully entered the implementation phase. Interventions range from generic (like forest land allocation) to specific and “unique” activities selected on the basis of provinces’ specific circumstances, challenges and opportunities. More than 40 SiRAP, including 17 plans piloting benefit distribution system and covering more than 60 communes, have been designed and are now being implemented. The process demonstrates good progress in understanding REDD+ and learning from its approach and practices to improve forest protection and development, even though it needs to be seen in a long-term learning-by-doing perspective. Next year will allow to continue implementing activities, collect more lessons learnt, and better assess the quality and impact of this experimentation. The limited financial resources and the scattered approach to pilot rather small intervention in various sites will probably not deliver significant results in terms of concrete emissions reductions.</p>			

<b>Output 2.1: REDD+ institutions in pilot provinces established, and REDD+ planning coordinated with FPDPs</b>			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Institutional arrangements in the 6 pilot provinces are adequately functioning to implement PRAPs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lam Dong Province has incorporated REDD+ into FPDP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Six provincial REDD+ action plans are formulated, approved, implemented and monitored</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Target achieved</li> <li>REDD+ institutions in the 6 provinces are adequately staffed and functioning. Provincial REDD+ Steering Committees have played an active role in PRAP formulation and finalization.</li> <li>Provincial REDD+ Networks established in Binh Thuan, Ca Mau, Ha Tinh, Lao Cai and Bac Kan</li> <li>An intensive dialogue with provinces was led by PMU in July and August to specify priority targets and unique policies and measures that have potential to demonstrate province’s specific circumstances and innovations.</li> <li>PRAP development manual has been upgraded based on lessons learnt collected through broad consultations and national workshop.</li> </ul>
<p>Progress towards Output: Provincial REDD+ Steering Committees and working groups in all 6 provinces were established in 2015 and have shown good level of ownership and</p>			

engagement in 2016. Connection between FPDP and REDD+ planning processes have been made in all provinces, and PRAP eventually build on and take FPDP further. Structure are in place and functioning, even though REDD+ deployment will remain a learning-by-doing process.

**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>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of stakeholders at provincial, district and commune level in six provinces who have a “good understanding” of REDD+</li> <li>Number of awareness and training events organized</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less than 5%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; 30 awareness and training events organized</li> <li>Provincial communication team and communication networks fully functioned at grassroots level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Target achieved</li> <li>A multi-stakeholder communication team of 10 members was set up and trained in 6 provinces.</li> <li>4 documentary films and 13.500 copies of newsletters, posters and leaflets have been distributed. 120 TV news have been broadcasted on REDD+, 10 photo voice contents were produced</li> <li>More than 130 training and capacity building events were organized.</li> </ul>

Progress towards Output: The volume of activities for communication and awareness raising at subnational level has significantly increased in 2016. Guidance, training and assistance were provided on development of communication materials and skills. Local capacities are in place to take over on communication efforts in the future, even though the quality of messages will certainly need to be controlled, and the impact in terms of overall level of understanding and capacity will have to be assessed in 2017.

<b>Output 2.3: Site-based REDD+ Activity Plans and Provincial REDD+ Action Plans in the six provinces are finalized and approved</b>			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of PRAP approved</li> <li>• Number of communes covered by site-based agreements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zero</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 PRAP are approved</li> <li>• SiRAPs covering at least 30 communes are formulated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target achieved</li> <li>• 05 PRAP finalized, approved and officially launched in all pilot provinces.</li> <li>• 17 SiRAP including BDS have been formulated covering more than 30 communes, and all associated REDD+ Intervention Agreements have been signed.</li> <li>• PRAP development manual has been upgraded based on lessons learnt collected through broad consultations and national workshop.</li> <li>• SiRAP guidelines have been updated to integrate benefit distribution system.</li> <li>• Spatial database of the pilot provinces have been finalized and stored in PMU database system.</li> </ul>
<p>Progress towards Output:</p> <p>The output is completed. The process has allowed learning-by-doing capacity building and shown good level of ownership from local authorities and stakeholders. It allowed for piloting supporting tools like spatial planning (lessons learnt remain to be fully documented), and more participatory, driver-oriented, systematic and inter-sectoral approach for forest planning. Quality of PRAP and SiRAP is fair though uneven, demonstrating both the progress compared to traditional forest planning, and margin of progress for the future. An independent assessment would allow to complete lessons learnt, in particular at SiRAP and BDS level, and upgrade guidelines for national endorsement and dissemination in the future.</p>			

<b>Output 2.4: Provincial REDD+ Action Plans are implemented</b>			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achievement of annual targets of PRAP and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No plans formulated and approved</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An average of 80% of RIAs annual targets is achieved</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target is achieved</li> <li>• Priority activities of PRAP Lam dong for 2016 have been implemented. Other five provinces have finalized priority PRAP activities, piloting mechanisms and started implementation.</li> <li>• Implementation of the 22 SiRAP approved in 2015 is in line with annual plan. 17</li> </ul>

RIA			<p>SiRAPs with BDS approved in 2016 have started first year of implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support to FMB and SoFC is also in line with annual plan. Bao Yan achieved FSC certification. SFM plans for another one SoFC and 5 FMBs are complete and approved.</li> <li>• A scoping study of HH group forest management has been completed which inform the pilot capacity building for forest smallholders in Ha Tinh.</li> <li>• Study on forest/land allocation and contracting in 6 provinces completed. Recommendations under implementation in provinces (e.g. forest protection contract extended with longer term, new version contract template etc.)</li> <li>• 2,797 ha forest land allocated to households &amp; communities in SiRAP communes in Lao Cai, Bac Kan &amp; Ha Tinh in line with annual plan.</li> <li>• The number of others the most PRAP-prioritized interventions initiated &amp; implemented i.e. Lao Cai with ongoing support on reforestation by native species on bare forestry land for small forest holders (200 hectares); and with forest enrichment by native species within the protection forest bare land (37 hectares); Bac Kan with Khoi Lung community-based forest management model; Ha Tinh with ongoing sustainable forest management support to Cooperative Alliance of small forest-planted households; Ca Mau with organic shrimp farming under forest canopy, enhancing capacity on forest protection of contracted households</li> </ul>
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**Progress towards Output:**

In 2016, all pilot provinces have entered the implementation phase. PRAP are broad and the level of available funding limited, so a prioritization dialogue between PPC, PPMU, PMU and UN-REDD experts allowed to focus on distinctive interventions to maximize innovation and potential impacts and replicability. The rate of disbursement is in line with targets, but implementation should also be understood as a learning-by-doing process, and backstopping remains necessary. Main constraints will remain the limited funding, and the time needed to “digest” the REDD+ transformative dimension and implication in terms of activity implementation. Nevertheless, the output is on good track.

<b>Output 2.6: NFMS - Monitoring framework in the six pilot provinces established, including participatory monitoring</b>			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of provinces that have established and operate their</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No framework established</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial and site level monitoring framework is</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring frameworks SiRAP have been developed and are being tested.</li> </ul>

monitoring framework • Level of participation of local stakeholders in monitoring		available in 6 pilot provinces	
Progress towards Output: Good progress was made in 2016 on this output, which is expected to be achieved during the Programme’s lifetime. However, some testing time will certainly be required as the balance between complexity and cost-effectiveness can be hard to strike, and will certainly require several adjustments, and a continuous dialogue with national instruments. There’s a strong link between PRAP monitoring framework and Tablet PC-based FRMS pilot in six provinces under Output 3.2			

<b>Outcome 3: National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) for Monitoring and Measurement, Reporting and Verification is operational</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On track to achieving this outcome;	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected minor delays <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected significant delays <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place
Progress towards Outcome: Outcome 3 is generally on track in terms of technical readiness, but delays in decisions and directions might not allow for full deployment of the technical solution within the Programme’s timeframe. Vietnam has submitted its FRLs to the UNFCCC (January 2016), and the international technical assessment process is well on track despite delays that will put the completion of the process back to first quarter 2017. The upgrade of the national reference level submission in 2016 has required to re-prioritize work and resources within the outcome, but it eventually marks the achievement of an important milestone for Vietnam. In terms of National Forest Monitoring System, elements to be able to measure and monitor future emissions and removals are technically available, but directions are still needed from the Government on technical solutions, information access and institutional arrangements. REDD+ geo-portal is ready and keeps being completed by additional data, for instance from subnational REDD+ monitoring systems, but pending Government decision for deployment. In 2016, the principle of preparing a new national forest inventory through NFIMAP was approved. The implementation of this decision will determine timeframe and perspective for Vietnam to demonstrate results under UNFCCC.			

<b>Output 3.1: NFMS related information is systematically archived, and made accessible according to permission standards</b>			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of provinces with NFMS data regularly updated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zero province: No existing system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PRAPs and provincial and site level monitoring frameworks available on the REDD+ geo-portal for all six provinces, and where site agreements are available.</li> <li>Relevant information related to safeguards will also be made available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In good progress.</li> <li>A standard monitoring framework for all PRAPs has been developed, to be uploaded to the Geo-portal upon conclusion of the Government's due approval of the Geo-portal and its content.</li> <li>Geo-portal transfer to VNForest agreed in principle.</li> <li>Geo-portal updated with the historical data used for the FREL/FRL submission.</li> </ul>
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Progress towards Output:

This output is still well on track. The development of the first phase of the REDD+ geo-portal was undertaken, pending formal transfer to the Government. On this basis, good progress under outcome 2 on designing and piloting monitoring systems at subnational level allows to prepare for consolidating the geo-portal.

**Output 3.2: NFMS – Land Monitoring System (LMS) developed**

Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Availability of quality assured/controlled activity data (AD) for completed cycles of the NFI (including NFI&amp;S)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No data for provinces</li> <li>AD without QA/QC has been generated through NFIMAP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevant activity data (AD) of completed NFI cycles generated from the NFI and NFI&amp;S programmes, and integrated into the FORMIS platform</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated historical maps are in the process for integration into FORMIS, and available in the geo-portal.</li> <li>Tablet PC based forest monitoring system is being piloted in all six pilot provinces to support FRMS and PRAP monitoring</li> </ul>

Progress towards Output:

Output well on track, in the spirit of REDD+ step-wise approach. Upgrading quality assurance and quality control towards robust data is likely to require a long term effort beyond the time frame and resources of the Programme.

**Output 3.3: NFMS-Emission Factors (EF) developed**

Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of BEF/allometric equations developed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Communications LULUCF sector reports at Tier 1</li> <li>249 equations for 4 forest types in 3 ecosystems, including 89 species</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All relevant allometric equations developed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Historical EF used in the FRLs is in the process for integration into FORMIS, and available in the Geo-portal.</li> <li>Developing EF for plantation was not considered a priority for 2016.</li> </ul>
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Progress towards Output:  
The output is well on track.

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

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointment of GoVN institution with required capacity to work on sector data for the National REDD+ Inventory Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No institution identified to date: National Communications LULUCF sector GHG report is developed by an ad hoc team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposal on coordinating and implementing mechanism for GHGs estimation and inventory in REDD+ activities developed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concept notes for institutional arrangements on NFMS and GHG-Inventory, and related capacity building prepared, pending readiness of MONRE-DMHCCC.</li> </ul>

Progress towards Output:

Planning first workshop on the relation between REDD+ FRLs and the GHG-I in 2017, targeting the Gov't identified institutions in charge (ie. DMHCC of MONRE and GSO of MPI).

**Output 3.5: Interim performance indicators and REL/FRL established**

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National FRL</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First interim version</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First FRL submission updated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On track. Vietnam updated its first FRL submission to</li> </ul>

submission to UNFCCC and degree of technical recognition	of REL/FRL proposed by a JICA study	particularly on the adjustment of 661 Program and EF for forests remaining under the same forest type, and submitted to UNFCCC as requested by Gov't.	UNFCCC, with technical support from the UN-REDD Programme. Final report from Technical Assessment team expected in first quarter 2017 due to delays at TA level.
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Progress towards Output:

The output is expected to be fully achieved by first quarter 2017 due to unexpected incidents within UNFCCC TA. It will pave the way for a step-wise technical upgrade process, and closer dialogue with partners on assessment and recognition of REDD+ results.

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

<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On track to achieving this outcome	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected minor delays <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected significant delays <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place
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Progress towards Outcome: The outcome is on good track. Steady progress was made in 2016. Despite the development and operationalization of the National REDD+ Fund being kept on hold, it does not have negative impact on the capacity of Vietnam to access additional financial support in the short term, which is more determined by factors outside this outcome. On the side of deploying REDD+ finance, good progress was made on benefit distribution system and grievance redress mechanism. Both systems were upgraded and successfully deployed to be piloted in 17 REDD+ sites, including guidelines, training, and engagement of focal points... Both systems still need to demonstrate robustness, and cost-effectiveness in the case of BDS. Adaptive management is promoted, and additional ways are being explored to complete the piloting experience, improve dialogue with relevant initiatives and instruments, and ensure that conclusions and lessons learnt from the pilots will be scalable and eventually deliver on the outcome.

#### Output 4.1: National REDD+ Fund (NRF) operational

Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target
Degree of development and functioning of NRF	No NRF proposal; no institutional capacities in place	An operational manual and related regulations for NRF drafted to guide its operations in line with the NRAP revision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Target postponed in due agreement with programme's partners including Norway, to align with the NRAP revision process and associated policy dialogue.</li> <li>A background study was carried out to review experiences of trust fund management and analyze options for the architecture of</li> </ul>

			the National REDD+ Fund.
<p>Progress towards Output: In line with 2016 recommendations and the need to fully engage all relevant partners, the output was voluntarily delayed. The programme still has the time to achieve this output, but more clarity is needed on the financial outlook (Norway-Vietnam partnership, timeline to report results under UNFCCC, FCPF Carbon Fund's ER Programme...) before further decision is made to progress on this output.</p>			

<b>Output 4.2: National and provincial-level mechanisms and standards for allocation of REDD+ positive incentives adopted</b>			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Degree of development and functioning of national ISA (BDS)</li> <li>• Level of official endorsement</li> </ul>	<p>Experience with, and lessons learned from PFES pilots</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incentive deliveries piloted in details at site-level</li> <li>• Lessons and recommendations from local levels gathered and collated as inputs for designing BDS at national level</li> <li>• Existing elements of national and sub-national level procedures and standards captured as inputs for a full national BDS design</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benefit distribution under piloting as part of 17 SiRAPs: formulated in line with PRAPs, approved and under implementation based on plans until 2018 (see outcome 2).</li> <li>• Financial management manual approved in August and trainings at site level organized in September.</li> <li>• Training on monitoring and evaluation completed (September-October). A training manual guide developed for easy use at different levels.</li> </ul>
<p>Progress towards Output: Another good step forward in 2016, with successful deployment of BDS pilots at site level as part of the 17 new SiRAP. The roadmap to pilot the system and further consolidate a national mechanism is respected. Financial and time constraints on the pilots might limit the capacity to fully demonstrate the value and capture lessons learnt and gaps for improvement from this experience, and so call for close monitoring, and ensuring dialogue with complementary approaches. A partnership is being set up with VNFF to better explore the connection with other forest incentive mechanisms like PFES and offset replanting, and also to explore transformative ways of using REDD+ BDS to promote sustainable investments. 2016 demonstrates steady progress in implementing initial BDS idea, and adaptive management to seize opportunities and strengthen the pilot phase to deliver a robust output.</p>			

<b>Output 4.3: Grievance/ redress mechanism established</b>			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
Degree of development and implementation of GRM	No elements of GRM in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elements of GRM tested in pilot provinces and linked to SiRAPs and PRAP</li> <li>• Lessons learnt from testing GRM at provincial level used for finalizing the design of GRM</li> <li>• Stakeholders at various levels consulted during the development of GRMs and test</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Assessment report of grievance redress mechanism drafted (fourth version), and recommended option for improving GRMs being tested at 17 sites in all 6 provinces. Lessons learnt from piloting are expected to provide further inputs for finalizing the report and concretizing related PAMs under NRAP in 2017.</a></li> <li>☐ <a href="#">GRM training materials and training manual finalized. First round of training completed in all provinces. Second round of training is expected to be completed by early 2017.</a></li> <li>• Technical and legal support groups created at the level of 17 pilot sites, and focal points assigned in all provinces.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
Progress towards Output: On track. GRM pilot is being deployed at site level along BDS experimentation. The programme timeframe should allow for substantive lessons learnt and establishment of a robust GRM for REDD+ at national scale.			

<b>Outcome 5: Mechanisms to address the social and environmental safeguards under the Cancun Agreement established</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On track to achieving this outcome;	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected minor delays	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected significant delays
		<input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place	<input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place
<p>Progress towards Outcome:</p> <p>In 2016, the programme has made good progress towards the outcome. Annual ambitious targets will only be partially achieved, but progress paves the way for Vietnam to achieve “safeguard readiness” under UNFCCC in 2017, including setting up its safeguard information system and formulating its summary of information. Output 5.1 is likely to be completed in 2017. The programme also progressed in terms of formulating policies and measures to address and respect Cancun’s safeguards, even though their deployment under output 5.2 is a long-term endeavor that will be constrained by limited time</p>			

and financial resources.

<b>Output 5.1: Scope of country safeguards approach defined and safeguards information system determined</b>			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
Degree to which information related to national approach to safeguards is publicly available and accessible	No elements established, no information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scope of country safeguards approach defined and safeguards information system (SIS) - framework designed</li> <li>SoI formulated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slight delay despite steady progress</li> <li>Safeguard information system framework drafted and under consultation.</li> <li>Relevant policies, laws and regulations identified. Vietnam's capacity to implement them assessed. Report drafted and under review and consolidation.</li> <li>Interpretation of the Cancun safeguards in the Vietnamese context formulated and under final revision.</li> </ul>
<p>Progress towards Output: The Programme has made good progress in 2016 on this output. Despite some delay and only partial achievement of annual target, the annual progress puts this output back on good track to be achieved within the Programme's timeframe. Quality has been a challenge in 2016, as this rather new discipline makes experienced specialists scarce. The need to ensure good quality deliverables has forced to invest more time and resources into technical analytics and consultation process. Nevertheless, robust basis are in place to allow SIS framework and summary of information to be fully formulated next year.</p>			

<b>Output 5.2: Policies and measures to address and respect social and environmental safeguards operationalized</b>			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Degree of formulation, endorsement and implementation of national approach to address and respect safeguards</li> <li>Degree of satisfaction of diverse stakeholders to the national approach to safeguards and its implementation</li> </ul>	No national approach formulated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies and measures to address and respect social and environmental safeguards operationalized</li> <li>PGA replicated into 3 provinces.</li> <li>Social/environmental safeguards strengthened</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delayed, with progress</li> <li>Participatory governance assessment under progress in 4 provinces. Governance indicators for monitoring the respect of safeguards have been drafted and will feed into the SIS once finalized.</li> <li>Focus made on working with ethnic minorities. An ethnic minorities' network has been set up involving all 6 provinces and first dialogue held between local people and provincial authorities focusing on the Programme policies and</li> </ul>

			implementation was completed in Bac Kan. Replication of such dialogues to other provinces will be done in 2017
<p>Progress towards Output: The programme made some progress towards output 5.2 in 2016, but is also entering a phase where implementation of safeguards policies and measures takes the programme beyond strict technical and analytical dimension. Specific areas of focus identified in 2015 have been explored further in 2016, including focus on governance (safeguard b) and social dimensions (safeguards c and d) on issues like FPIC, gender inclusion and ethnic minorities. Support to Ethnic Minority Network was provided to improve operations. 2016 progress allowed safeguards to be actively considered as part of the NRAP revision process. The process of strengthening social and environmental safeguards and operationalizing policies and measures remains a challenging and step-wise endeavor that will certainly require Vietnam's effort beyond the Programme's timeframe. Limited resources in 2017 will certainly limit the range of possible progress in this broad area of work.</p>			

<b>Outcome 6: Regional cooperation enhances progress on REDD+ implementation in the Lower Mekong Sub-Region</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved;	<input type="checkbox"/> On track to achieving this outcome;	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected minor delays <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expected significant delays <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place
<p>Progress towards Outcome: More progress was made in 2016, despite delays on the annual targets. Failure to recruit a full-time outcome officer put more constraint on the implementation of activities. However, several steps forward were made and could allow for steadier progress in 2017, including on the front of regional displacement, substantive regional dialogue and experience sharing, development of tools in support to implementation of FLEGT process, and factoring biodiversity in the REDD+ agenda at national and regional level.</p>			

<b>Output 6.1: Effective cooperation between Governments in the Lower Mekong Sub-region on reducing illegal logging and trade</b>			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National systems, as agreed as part of the VNTLAS (Annex V) of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VPA negotiations have agreed to include timber</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Risk-based verification system of the VNTLAS designed and agreed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The process of designing an organizational classification system as required under VNTLAS, and a species risk-based classification system for imported timber is in progress. Reports for both containing the design, based on wide</li> </ul>

<p>the FLEGT VPA with the EU, are designed and successfully piloted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data on cross-border timber trade exchanged for comparison in Ha Tinh province with neighboring provinces on Lao border</li> </ul>	<p>imports into the scope and to apply the “risk-based verification system” (as of January 2016)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action plan towards exchange of trade information annexed to the provincial MoU (3 provinces)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procedures (including format and frequency) for data sharing agreed between pilot provinces</li> </ul>	<p>consultations was finalized. Formulation of technical specifications is needed before building the systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cooperation on forest protection and law enforcement at both national level (between central FPD and DOFI), and between Ha Tinh and two provinces from Lao PDR has progressed with annual review workshops, joint training workshops and joint forest patrolling missions along the border lines of the three provinces.</li> <li>Collection and analysis of customs data on timber import completed in support to FLEGT Office.</li> <li>A background analytical mission was carried out and supported VNFOREST’s assessment and commitment on transboundary displacement. VNFOREST produced a draft report on its position and tentative work plan forward, including through collaboration with other relevant Ministries and agencies.</li> </ul>
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**Progress towards Output:**

The Programme has made more progress in 2016 compared to previous years, even though achievement of annual targets is delayed. The Programme also contributed to a national review workshop on strengthening the cooperation on forest protection and forest law enforcement at national FPD (Viet Nam) and DOFI (Lao PDR). At provincial level, the cooperation between the provinces of Ha Tinh (Vietnam) and neighboring Bolikhamxay and Khamouanne (Laos PDR) continues cooperating joint events (e.g. training workshops, joint forest patrolling) but needs to be taken to a more impactful stage, and inform a more systematic and national level process of cooperation that remains challenging in current regional context. Support to FLEGT is also progressing, with some delays compared to initial plans but in line with progress of negotiations. Progress is also being made in terms of addressing regional displacement, options have been formulated by VNFOREST and a dialogue is being promoted across relevant ministries to explore opportunities for addressing this complex issue. Output 6.1 seems out of reach of the Programme’s timeframe, but significant breakthrough could still be achieved and allow for more progress in the future.

**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>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share of legal and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be approximated a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidelines and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programme support to one of the country’s key forest and</li> </ul>

<p>sustainably harvested timber in Vietnamese timber imports from neighbor countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability and understanding of guidelines</li> </ul>	<p>posteriori</p>	<p>information for private sector actors to source legal timber developed and promoted</p>	<p>timber associations to prepare a Due Diligence System is drafted, to be implemented throughout 2017</p>
<p>Progress towards Output:</p> <p>Recruitment of an outcome officer failed and didn't allow to push this output forward in most of 2016. The Programme supported Binh Dinh Forest and Timber Association to carry out a consultation process and develop its Due Diligence System at timber association level that will also prepare its members to comply with the requirements of the VNTLAS; this support will be implemented in parallel with FAO's support to HAWA association through the FAO-FLEGT Facility.</p>			
<p><b>Output 6.3: REDD+ strategies across the Lower Mekong Sub-region and beyond are informed by Vietnamese lessons. Enhanced biodiversity conservation through REDD+ collaboration</b></p>			
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existence and activity of a Regional REDD+ Coordination Forum and e-network</li> <li>• Availability of a common tool and approach for forest biodiversity conservation and biodiversity monitoring</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No regional REDD+ coordination forum or e-network</li> <li>• No common tool for biodiversity conservation and monitoring</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 regional meetings and learning events among the 5 LMS countries organized</li> <li>• The impacts on biodiversity of REDD+ demonstration activities are reviewed and documented</li> <li>• Common tool for forest biodiversity</li> </ul>	<p>Largely delayed.</p> <p>Several topics for regional exchange were identified and to be realized in 2017</p> <p>The assessment report on the impact of REDD+ implementation on biodiversity was formulated and being revised.</p> <p>Follow-up with findings and recommendations from the assessment is expected in 2017.</p>

		<p>management (reducing risks and enhancing benefits) of REDD+ developed and customized for country's application</p>	
<p>Progress towards Output:</p> <p>Some progress was made in 2016, though with delays. Importantly, more systematic effort was carried out by Vietnam to capture knowledge and lessons learnt on various aspects of REDD+ in 2016, which paves the way for more substantive contribution to regional debate and REDD+ process. This output is unlikely to be met during the course of the phase II Programme, but some significant progress can be achieved in 2017.</p>			

## 6. Warsaw Framework for REDD+ and Associated UNFCCC Decisions

### 6.1 National Strategy or Action Plan

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

Viet Nam's National REDD+ Action Plan (NRAP) was approved under Prime Minister Decision 799/ QD-TTg, dated 27 June 2012. In 2015, the review of NRAP implementation recommended that *"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"*. MARD kicked off the NRAP revision process by Decision No-75/TTr-TCLN-KH&HTQT dated 20th January 2016. The NRAP revision process has made steady progress in 2016. On December 14<sup>th</sup>, a fourth draft of NRAP and annex was released for a final round of online public consultations and formal review by all relevant Ministries. New NRAP is expected to be finalized and endorsed by Prime Minister within first quarter of 2017. Process and directions taken demonstrate a major improvement in quality, and the new NRAP is expected to meet international standards and pave the way for effective REDD+ implementation in the 2017-2030 period. The NRAP will be completed with a detailed action and investment plan in 2017.

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	As mentioned above, the current NRAP of Viet Nam has been adopted in 2012 and is under implementation. The second National REDD+ Action Programme for the 2017-2030 period is expected to be completed by first quarter 2017.
		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+ strategies and/or action plans.	✓	The NS/AP identifies, assesses and prioritizes the direct and underlying drivers of deforestation and forest degradation , as well as the barriers to the "plus" (+) activities on the basis of robust analyses.	The new NRAP is a short legal document, supported by a robust analytical document called "issues and options paper". A thorough review of direct and underlying drivers and barriers has been completed in 2016.
	✓	The NS/AP proposes a coherent and coordinated set of	The new NRAP does propose a coherent and coordinated

		policies and measures (PAMs) for REDD+ that are proportionate to the drivers & barriers, results-oriented and feasible.	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 will be detailed and turned into operational action and investment plan in 2017, 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.
	✓	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 will be 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 follows 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 will operationalize 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 is being 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 process in 2016 is officially recognized by the Government and expected to be signed by Prime Minister within first quarter 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. This remains to be expanded to other relevant Ministries like Ministry of Public Security, and turned into concrete leadership in PAMs implementation from 2017 on.
		Financing arrangements to start implementing the NS/AP (or to channel results-based finance) are designed.	Terms of reference for formulation of a REDD+ investment plan and resource mobilization framework were being finalized in late 2016, for deployment in 2017.

## 6.2 Safeguard Information System

Supported by: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Programme; <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Support; <input type="checkbox"/> Other Source; <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
Safeguard Information System (SIS) is under development. The two major works on safeguards (1) assess the institutional capacity to implement PLRs and (2) identify options to develop SIS commenced at the end of 2015. They provide guidance for setting up the SIS and making it operational in 2017. In 2017, formulation of the first summary of information will also benefit from past achievements from these two major works, and further inputs from contributing processes like Participatory Governance Assessment.

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?	✓	No	<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 VRO by the end of 2016.</p> <p>The SIS design document is expected to be endorsed by government and put in place in 2017. All three remaining boxes are expected to be completed by the end of 2017 with direct support from the UN-REDD Programme.</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.	
		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.	
	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	Partly	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 are being discussed with relevant key stakeholders, including assessment of social and environmental benefits and risks of the PAMs.

safeguards for REDD+			Background PAMs were selected as part of PRAP. With new NRAP expected to be endorsed by first quarter of 2017, a systematic assessment of additional PAMs will be carried out in 2017 as part of the translation into action and investment plan.
	Partly	Defines specific policies, laws and regulations (PLRs), as well as other measures, to address the identified benefits and risks.	A comprehensive list of relevant PLR has been identified, and will be further assessed and recommendations will be made as part of the process described above.
	Not yet	Have institutional arrangements and/or capacities to implement those PLRs and to monitor the REDD+ safeguards.	As above, assessment under way
	Not yet	Transparently provides information on how safeguards are respected and addressed.	As above

### 6.3 Forest Reference Emission Level / Forest Reference Level

Supported by: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Programme; <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Support; <input type="checkbox"/> Other Source; <input type="checkbox"/> 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 first <u>national REDD+ FRL for Vietnam</u> was submitted to the <u>UNFCCC</u> , and the technical assessment is underway, for completion in early 2017.
		Capacity building phase	
		Preliminary construction phase	
		Advanced <sup>1</sup> 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, pending the review and endorsement by an appointed task force.
	✓	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

<sup>1</sup> FREL/FRL elements defined or at an advanced stage (scope, scale, forest definition, methodology and data compilation).

			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.
	✓	Defines the geographic area covered by FREL/FRL (scale).	National scale.

## 6.4 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 <sup>2</sup> 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

<sup>2</sup> NFMS elements at an advanced stage (satellite land monitoring system, national forest inventory, greenhouse gas inventory).

			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 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.



## 7. Financial Delivery<sup>3</sup>

Output/ Outcome	UN Agency	Planned Expenditure (based on revised AWP 2016)	Actual Expenditure of 2016 <sup>4</sup>	Final AWP 2017 <sup>5</sup>
Outcome 1	FAO	389,576	362,311	184,523
	UNDP	1,158,755	948,466	961,864
	UNEP	197,107	58,812	185,409
		<b>1,745,437</b>	<b>1,369,588</b>	<b>1,331,796</b>
Outcome 2	FAO	1,228,252	550,669	1,428,291
	UNDP	2,617,863	2,782,617	1,823,629
	UNEP	679,640	108,146	150,934
		<b>4,525,755</b>	<b>3,441,432</b>	<b>3,402,854</b>
Outcome 3	FAO	601,073	467,256	446,964
	UNDP			
	UNEP			
		<b>601,073</b>	<b>467,256</b>	<b>446,964</b>
Outcome 4	FAO			
	UNDP	329,940	230,992	456,433
	UNEP			
		<b>329,940</b>	<b>230,992</b>	<b>456,433</b>
Outcome 5	FAO			
	UNDP	481,489	316,425	332,152
	UNEP	252,100	33,600	230,789
		<b>733,589</b>	<b>350,025</b>	<b>562,940</b>
Outcome 6	FAO	358,984	251,704	324,377
	UNDP			
	UNEP	139,100	70,533	135,600
		<b>498,084</b>	<b>322,237</b>	<b>459,977</b>
Management	UNDP	<b>657,400</b>	<b>609,792</b>	<b>553,200</b>
ISC (7%)		<b>590,372</b>	<b>536,877</b>	<b>466,268</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>9,681,650</b>	<b>7,328,200</b>	<b>7,680,433</b>

<sup>3</sup> Final official figures will be updated in May 2016

<sup>4</sup> The expenditure 2016 does not include the commitments that have been put on the signed contracts in 2016 but payments to be made in early 2017.

<sup>5</sup> Include the commitments carried over from 2016 to 2017 (to-be-made payments)

## 8. Adaptive management

Referring to the deviations and delays indicated in the results framework above and considering whether expenditures are on track, please provide a short narrative of delays encountered, the reasons for them and what action has been considered to alleviate their impact on the Programme. Please indicate if these have been 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.

### 8.1 Delays and Corrective Actions

What delays/obstacles were encountered at country level?
<p>The Programme has some delays/obstacles in 2016 involving elements at both local and national level.</p> <p>At provincial level, the PRAPs documents owned by provinces were seen having a number of limitations such as lack of prioritization of drivers, weak logical articulation including between problems and solutions, lack of clarity over M&amp;E design, lack of clarity over financial plan and eventual gap. In this connection, action taken by the Programme in 2016 was helping the provinces to prioritize the PRAP interventions and only finance for the ones which are most relevant and unique to address key drivers in the provinces, adapting well to the situation of lack of funding and uneven qualities. Similarly, for piloting BDS at site level, instead of having REDD+ incentives stand alone, the programme has expanded its strategy to look at incentive harmonization with PFES and private sector's investment to seek for a joint and stronger efforts to fight against drivers to deforestation and forest degradation.</p> <p>At national level, for the FREL report although submitted early 2016 is in need of further update and improvement due to some technical (uncertainties on forest degradation) and strategic (baseline without 661 programme) concerns. There is also a need to ensure consistency of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) with FREL through continuation of NFIMAP (at least for emission factors).</p> <p>Under Outcome 4 of the programme, there was a postponement in establishing the National REDD+ Fund to wait for further commitment, if any, from donors then dialogues with them will be continued on the design and operations of the fund.</p> <p>Finally, to deal with one among the weaknesses of the Programme, the communication and knowledge management element, a plan has been developed to strengthen this part with concrete actions and expected outputs. Actions will be taken from quarter I, 2017 onwards.</p>
Have any of the delays/obstacles been raised and/or discussed at the Programme Steering Committee meetings?
<p>x Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>All of these obstacles have been raised, discussed at the PEB in Nov. 2016 and report to EG during its 4<sup>th</sup> meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016</p>
What are the delays/obstacles anticipated in terms of their impact on the NP?
<p>With adaptive management actions responding to the above delays and obstacles, the impacts on slowing down the Programme progress were kept at minimum level.</p>

How are these delays/obstacles being addressed?

As mentioned above, PEB and EG were well informed about the adaptive measures and decisions were made promptly

A matrix of management responses covering all management measures (who, what, when) in responses to the independent review of the programme was prepared jointly by UN and Government and submitted to PEB in Oct-Nov. 2016 for advices and endorsement

All above measures, however, need to be monitored closely to make sure real efficiency/effectiveness is brought in for accelerating Programme progress and quality assurance.

## 8.2 Opportunities and Partnerships

Over the reporting period, have any opportunities that were not foreseen in the design of the programme been identified to help advance efforts on REDD+?

In 2016, a new Prime Minister was appointed along broad changes within the Government, including the appointment of a new Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development. Also, there has been increased awareness and measures against illegal timber trade at regional level, and in the same time a significant breakthrough in negotiations with the European Union on FLEGT VPA. The financial perspectives for REDD+ in Vietnam has also evolved, with growing uncertainty on the future implementation of the joint Declaration of Intend between Norway and Vietnam, and the first round of project selection of the Green Climate Fund including a national REDD+ programme (Ecuador). Alternatively threats or opportunities, all these external factors have been handled and turned into levers to improve the quality and impacts of the Programme.

How are these opportunities being incorporated into the work of the NP?

The change in Prime Minister and Government came with a stronger message to protect Vietnam's forests, as illustrated by the Prime Minister's speech in central Highlands in June 2016. Concerns from Norway, notably on regional collaboration, were also highly considered and promoted as part of internal debates within the REDD+ sphere in Vietnam and supporting political decisions. The Programme has taken advantage of this opportunity to push for ambitious improvements of the National REDD+ Action Plan, bringing in massive inter-sectoral approach, opening new areas of work on law enforcement, transboundary displacements, collaboration with business sector, improving planning processes and exploring innovative financial instruments. The Programme has been reactive to such opportunities, and supported actions like a follow-up of Central Highlands' speech from Prime Minister for higher political commitment and formal directions for concrete implementation, notably on questions like cross-sector collaboration and accountability. A high-level event on REDD+ was organized in November to promote a new and transformative vision for REDD+ and support broader changes in the forestry agenda as a whole. The Programme also built on Government's Office growing interest to push for an ambition new NRAP, including raising chairmanship over the REDD+ steering committee to the Prime Minister's level, and engaging concretely on new partnerships with institutions like MPI, CEMA, SBV, VCCI, MPS etc. The changes made to the Programme's activities in 2016 are primarily in terms of quality, in orientating and pushing works that was often already planned. But impacts on 2017 work plan are significant, with many new activities and partnerships being initialized as a way to leverage such opportunities, as illustrated by the collaboration plans being developed bilaterally with institutions like MPI, SBV, CEMA or even MPS for 2017. A clear connection was also made between the NRAP endorsement, the scoping of the investment planning process in 2017 and the opportunity to develop a comprehensive project for the GCF on national REDD+ implementation, that will also have implications on the 2017 AWPB.