

The REDD+ Project in Pakistan

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UNITED NATIONS



ICIMOD 30

THREE DECADES
FOR MOUNTAINS AND PEOPLE

About the REDD+ Project

Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) Project: Preparedness Phase for Pakistan is a joint initiative of the Climate Change Division of the Government of Pakistan, the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), and WWF-Pakistan that is financially supported by UNDP through One UN Joint Programme on Environment. The overall goal of the project is to initiate the REDD+ preparedness phase in Pakistan, which will lead to the development of a national REDD+ strategy. The immediate objectives of this project include:

- building the capacity of key stakeholders in REDD+ concepts and the prerequisites for implementing REDD+ under the Cancun Agreement;
- assessing the capacity needs for developing a national policy and implementing REDD+ in Pakistan; and
- contributing towards developing a national REDD+ programme.

Expected project deliverables

The project is expected to deliver the following upon its completion.

- a. Capacity development of prime stakeholders in REDD+ concepts and the prerequisites for implementing REDD+ through a number of workshops and meetings
- b. National REDD+ programme document (in the form of roadmap and proposal to be submitted to donors)
- c. Formation of the REDD+ National Steering Committee and convening of regular meetings
- d. Press articles and seminars

Project implementation strategy

The project is developed and supervised by the Office of the Inspector General of Forests and is being

implemented by ICIMOD and WWF-Pakistan. The strategy incorporates the regional experience ICIMOD has gained through REDD+ pilot activities in Nepal and the presence of WWF-Pakistan across the country in order to facilitate stakeholders' engagement and capacity building.

Features

REDD+ Project: Preparedness phase for Pakistan officially launched

The REDD+ Project: Preparedness Phase for Pakistan was officially kicked off on 3 May in Islamabad during the second meeting of the project's National Steering Committee (NSC). The event was chaired by the Secretary of the Climate Change Division, and attended by NSC members, including Inspector General of Forests, Director General of Environment, Provincial Secretaries of Forest and Environment Departments, and representatives from UNDP, WWF, IUCN, FAO, World Bank and LEAD Pakistan. ICIMOD is implementing the REDD+ project jointly with WWF-Pakistan under the overall supervision on the Inspector General of Forests and with the financial support of One UN Joint Programme on Environment (JPE).

MoU signed between One UN Joint Programme Environment and ICIMOD

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the One UN Joint Programme Environment and ICIMOD on 7 May 2012 to jointly implement the REDD+ project with WWF-Pakistan under the supervision of the Climate Change Division of the Government of Pakistan.

Learning on REDD+ in South Asia: Regional workshop

A regional workshop ‘Learning on REDD+ in South Asia’ was organized by ICIMOD at its headquarters in Kathmandu, Nepal from 24 to 27 July 2012. The workshop focused on identifying needs for capacity building and technical support for implementing REDD+ as well as exploring possible financing mechanisms.



Joint working session of the Pakistani delegates during participation in the REDD+ Regional Workshop in Nepal

The event included a field trip to Chitwan District, Nepal during which participants were shown various interventions carried out by forest communities. This was followed by a two-day workshop where representatives from regional member countries were able to share their experiences. This workshop also provided a forum to discuss how to include social and environmental safeguards in regional REDD+ strategies and how to further involve local communities in the REDD+ process. It also identified steps for promoting sustainable REDD+ strategies. Participants of this workshop included REDD+ focal points and forestry officials from the governments of Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan, as well as members of civil society and non-governmental organizations from each country. The Pakistan delegation, which included provincial focal points from all of the provinces and representatives from the Climate Change Division and One UN Joint Programme Environment, was sponsored by the REDD+ project.

Provincial REDD+ focal persons witness forest carbon measurement activities with forest communities

Pakistan’s provincial REDD+ focal persons along with foresters and REDD+ experts from countries in the region visited forests in Chitwan District of Nepal. The team from Pakistan consisted of the Secretary of Forests, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa; Deputy Inspector General of Forests; REDD+ provincial focal persons, and representatives from One UN Joint Programme on Environment.

Local community members demonstrated modern techniques they use to measure the forest carbon, including vortex and clinometers. They also shared the selection process for carbon measurement plots and how they collect samples of forest soil and other above-ground vegetation for carbon monitoring purposes.

Participants’ group photo during REDD+ Regional Workshop at ICIMOD headquarters in Nepal



Learning on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) in South Asia
24-27 July 2012, Kathmandu, Nepal



REDD+ project partners in a meeting with the UN-REDD Mission at office of One UN Joint Programme on Environment



A visit to the Community Forests Information Center in Chitwan District, Nepal

Before witnessing field activity, the participants had a chance to interact with community members together with the Director General of ICIMOD and REDD+ experts. The Director General appreciated the interaction among local community members and foreign delegates and called it an important learning process. This activity was followed by visits to other areas in Chitwan where community members had initiated income generation activities using REDD+ payments.



Regional Programme Officer UN-REDD in a meeting with the REDD+ project partners at office of the One UN Joint Programme Environment

Series of sensitization and consultation workshops held across ten districts in Pakistan

During the first phase of consultation process, the REDD+ project initiated a series of awareness raising, sensitization, and capacity building workshops at the district level in Pakistan. This included consultations on issues pertaining to deforestation and forest degradation as well on existing and potential tools to address them. These workshops were held as per the following schedule in ten districts across Pakistan and covering various forest types.



Community members demonstrating forest carbon measurement during a field visit to Chitwan District, Nepal

UN-REDD approves technical and financial support to REDD+ readiness in Pakistan

In response to a proposal submitted by the office of the Inspector General of Forests and ICIMOD, the UN-REDD Programme (consisting of UNDP, FAO and UNEP) has committed its technical and financial support to the existing REDD+ project in Pakistan. A formal Letter of Agreement (LoA) has been signed between FAO Pakistan and ICIMOD under which FAO Pakistan will provide a financial contribution of USD 109,000 in 2013 and 2014 in addition to technical support.

Province	District	Representative Ecological Zone	Date
AJK	Muazaffarabad and Rawlakot	Moist temperate, dry Temperate, chir pine and scrub forest	18 Oct. 2012
Punjab	Khushab	Scrub forest	23 Oct. 2012
KP	Abbottabad and Haripur	Moist temperate, dry Temperate, chir pine and scrub forest	6 Nov. 2012
KP	Swat and Shangla	Moist temperate, dry Temperate, subtropical chir pine	8 Nov. 2012
Punjab	DG Khan	Riverine forest	21 Nov. 2012
Sindh	Sukkur	Riverine forest	11 Dec. 2012
Sindh	Karachi/Thatta	Coastal forests (mangrove forest)	13 Dec. 2012
Baluchistan	Ziarat	Dry temperate and (juniper forest)	18 Dec. 2012
Baluchistan	Zhob	Dry temperate (chilghoza forest)	20 Dec. 2012
GB	Gilgit and Diamer (held in Islamabad due to unrest in GB)	Dry temperate zone (chilghoza, juniper, birch forests)	21 Jan. 2013

Learning on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) in South Asia

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Madhav Karki, former Deputy Director General of ICIMOD inaugurating the REDD+ Regional Workshop at ICIMOD headquarters

UN-REDD Mission visits Pakistan

Ben Vickers, Regional Programme Officer of the UN-REDD Programme visited Pakistan in November 2012 upon request of the Inspector General of Forests and ICIMOD. The mission was facilitated by the ICIMOD Pakistan office and consisted of several project partner meetings. Mr Vickers helped facilitate the development of a proposal for targeted support from the UN-REDD Programme. Many of the project activities sought advice from the the UN-REDD Programme Officer based on his experience in other countries of the region.

Pakistan's REDD+ Readiness Roadmap Launching Workshop held in Islamabad

Pakistan's REDD+ Readiness Roadmap was officially launched on 22 February 2012 wherein working groups on four thematic areas were formed to contribute to Pakistan's REDD+ Roadmap/ Readiness Preparation Proposal to be submitted to the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility. The working groups include individuals from federal and provincial governments and civil society organizations and community members. Four working groups were formed on the following themes:

The REDD+ Readiness Launching Workshop in Islamabad



- Governance and Management of REDD+ in Pakistan
- National Forest Monitoring System and MRV
- Drivers of Deforestation and the Strategies to Address them
- Stakeholder Engagement and Safeguards

International consultant holds sessions with REDD+ stakeholders

To facilitate the REDD+ Readiness process in Pakistan, an international consultant and expert on REDD+, Eveline Trines, joined the REDD+ project. She visited Pakistan in February and June 2013 and had a number of meetings and discussions with the concerned stakeholders regarding Pakistan's REDD+ programme. She also prepared the first draft of the REDD+ Roadmap for Pakistan following the format of Readiness Preparation Proposal, which was then forwarded to the Climate Change Division for their inputs and further submission to the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility of the World Bank.

Provincial Consultations and Capacity Building Workshops held across Pakistan

To enhance understanding of REDD+ concepts and implementation requirements among key stakeholders, six consultation workshops were conducted in all provincial capitals, including AJK and Gilgit Baltistan. The provincial workshops included sessions to share the findings of district-level workshops as well as one to assess the need for capacity building of the prime stakeholders. Below is the schedule of that workshops followed:

S. No.	Date/Day	City/Venue
1.	9-10 April 2013	Muzaffarabad
2.	16-17 April 2013	Peshawar
3.	29-30 April 2013	Lahore
4.	7-8 May 2013	Gilgit
5.	24-25 June 2013	Quetta
6.	27-28 June 2013	Karachi

For further information please contact

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