



**FCPF-Capacity Building on REDD+ for Civil Society
Organizations and Local Communities in East Asia and the
Pacific Region
(P153588; FCPF Grant No. TA0A5386)**

Progress Report

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Introduction

This progress report presents the major activities and achievements of the FCPF Capacity Building on REDD+ for CSOs and Local Communities in East Asia and Pacific Region Project (P153588) financed by the World Bank through Small Recipient Executed Trust Fund (RETF) grant. ANSAB (Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources) was selected by the World Bank as the recipient for the project to implement the Capacity Building Program (CBP) Phase II/FCPF Readiness Fund for the southern civil society (CSOs) and local communities (LCs) in East Asia and Pacific. The beneficiaries of the project are CSOs and LCs in four FCPF countries in East Asia and the Pacific, namely Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and Vietnam, who will participate in national-level REDD+ capacity building activities and in regional knowledge exchange events.

The project development objective (PDO) is to strengthen: (i) the knowledge of targeted southern CSOs and LCs on REDD+ Readiness at the national level and (ii) knowledge exchange at the regional level. Specifically, the project aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- a. National level capacity building activities on REDD+ undertaken by CSOs and LCs in FCPF countries in East Asia and Pacific have resulted to strengthened communities and effective engagement with governments at local and national levels;
- b. Knowledge products on REDD+ have been developed and disseminated, and knowledge-sharing activities undertaken and shared with CSOs, LCs, governments and other stakeholders in East Asia and Pacific.

During this reporting period (August 2018 through January 2019), the sub-projects have been implementing the country level capacity building activities in Vietnam and Fiji. Details on the project activities and achievements, progress towards achieving the project development objectives and the plan for the next six months are presented in the following sections.

Activities and Achievements

Component 1: National Capacity Building and Awareness Raising

a) Implementation of country-level activities

Three organizations, namely Center for Sustainable Rural Development (SRD) - Vietnam, PanNature (Center for People and Nature Reconciliation) - Vietnam, and Grace Trifam Ministry (GTM) - Fiji, have been implementing country level activities. A brief narrative of the country level activities carried out during the reporting period is presented below:

Empowering CSOs and LCs to effectively participate in the implementation of Vietnam's Emission Reduction Programme (ER-P). Implemented by SRD – Vietnam, the sub-project aims to empower CSOs and LCs so that they will be able to effectively participate in the implementation of Vietnam's ER-P.

SRD has conducted a training of trainers' workshop for the representatives of CSO/CBO/social organization from 6 Northern Central Coast (NCC) provinces in order to facilitate for their effective participation in the implementation of Vietnam Emission Reduction Programme (ER-P). Altogether 31 staffs were trained on REDD+, ER-P, and on how to facilitate the local

communities for their participation in ER-P activities. The project also organized training workshops for the local communities in 5 provinces of Ha Tinh, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Quang Tri and Hue. In the trainings, 225 individuals (Male: 117, Female: 108) learned about REDD+, ER-P and their expected involvement in national ER-P activities. During the training, participants were asked to identify current situation of their forest changes and ideas about forest change monitoring in their localities. They then discussed in details about what preconditions are needed for the local communities for the Forest Change Independent Monitoring, what they have now, what are the gaps and proposals to bridge the gaps. The CSOs have then summarized all these discussions to present in the dialogues with the provincial authorities.

One dialogue in each of the five provinces were held with provincial authorities. Altogether, there were 80 participants in the 5 dialogues. From the dialogues local authorities were informed about forest change situations and the need to do forest change monitoring. They discussed and agreed action plans and also recommended some actions to the central government.

SRD had conducted a desk review and identified 3 potential monitoring methodologies/systems. After a detail analysis of pros and cons of these, one monitoring system will be selected to pilot test in one province. These are: i) Forest Resource Monitoring System (FRMS): a system designed with financial support from Finland and is part of the Forest Management Information System of Vietnam (FORMIS); ii) Provincial Forest Monitoring System (PFMS): a system designed by a JICA funded project looking at using tablet for forest change monitoring at commune, district and provincial levels; iii) Forest change monitoring using satellite images terra-i: an open source software developed by the International Center of Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) and piloted in Lam Dong province under UNREDD Program.

From the initial assessment, the forest change monitoring using terra-i has been considered for use to produce maps and information about forest changes. This model used a software (terra-i) to track the satellite images every 16 days to identify change in forest. With the pilot in the Lam Dong province, the provincial authority in charge of forest administration (Department of Agriculture and Rural Development of Lam Dong province) has prepared a report, which has highly appreciated the information generated using terra-i and pointed out many advantages of using this software compared to the current forest monitoring system.

Promoting Adaptive Collaborative Management Approach (ACMA) through strengthening capacity and participation of Vietnamese CSOs and local communities in REDD+ process in Vietnam. Implemented by PanNature - Vietnam, the overall objective of the sub-project is to provide strengthen participation of the local communities in forest governance through adopting ACMA approach.

PanNature has conducted training workshops for 141 local community members (Male: 59 and Female: 82). In the training, the community members were oriented on REDD+ benefit sharing, ACMA, and social and environmental safeguards for implementation of Vietnam Emission Reduction Programme. Furthermore, community consultations consisting of one communal consultation with local women, two village community consultations, ten in-depth interviews with householders and two interviews with the village leaders were carried out.

Based on the consultations, the capacity need assessment and training packages on specific REDD+ issues for different stakeholders have been reviewed. As a result, two training packages, one for local grassroots CSOs representatives on REDD+/ACMA, socio-environmental safeguards (SESA), and FPIC or social aspects of forest governance monitoring; and the other for local communities, especially forest smallholders on participatory forest governance monitoring and sustainable livelihood options are prioritized as the most important contents. Similarly, priority livelihood options for the increased and effective participation of local community have been identified, such as forest rehabilitation by native species, economic afforestation on the returned land of forest owners, and strengthening traditional craft to reduce pressure on forest resources.

The project has also collaborated with the Vietnam National FCPF Program and other REDD+ capacity building program grantee incl. SRD and ICTHER in order to share the ideas and the results of the project to broader CSO network and national policy discussions.

PanNature has developed a community poster on REDD+ in Vietnamese language, and is developing a video documentary on the project activities.

Building Capacity for Fiji’s CSOs and LCs to Actively Participate in the Fiji National REDD+ Readiness Programme. Implemented by GTM – Fiji, this sub-project aims to strengthen the capacity of Fijian CSOs and other LCs so that they will be able to contribute to ERPD strategic issues and provide recommendations to the REDD+ Strategy.

GTM consulted with the relevant government agencies regarding the project. Capacity building needs assessment of the local communities was carried out in 10 districts regarding their understanding of REDD+ through a “talanoa session”, that involves participation of the traditional leaders of the communities. It has helped the project team to gain knowledge on the context and level of understanding of the local communities and design the training workshop session accordingly.

Capacity building training workshops have been carried out in ten districts: Dawasamu, Lekutu, Wailevu, Naqaliyalatina, Tokaimalo, Naboubuco and Naqarawai in the Mainland communities, and Bureta in Ovalau, Nasau in Koro and Solotavui in Lakeba in the Maritime islands. Altogether 756 participants (male: 351 and female: 405) received trainings on the preliminary knowledge on REDD+, current ongoing REDD+ activities and policy at national level, and participation of communities in REDD+ activities. The development of knowledge products has not started and ANSAB will closely work with GTM for their development in the coming quarter.

b) Extension of the contracts with SRD and PanNature

As we did not receive revised proposal from Vanuatu, and we were not able to consider grants to implement country-level activities in Vanuatu, we had a series of meeting within the project team and the TTL regarding the use of the funds allocated for country level activities. After a thorough review of the works and the need of the current sub-projects, a consensus was made to expand the activities of the two sub-projects in Vietnam. ANSAB communicated with the two implementing organizations in Vietnam and asked for proposal for additional activities. SRD and

PanNature prepared the proposal accordingly and submitted to ANSAB. After a thorough review of the proposed activities in consultation with the World Bank, ANSAB provided feedbacks to the proposals. During January 2019, we have extended the contract with SRD, and we are preparing the extended contract with PanNature, which will be effective from February 2019.

Component 2: Regional Exchange and Sharing of Lessons Learned

a) Maintenance of REDD+ webpage

The REDD+ website (www.ansab.org/redd) hosted by the project has been regularly updated with relevant information and documents. The sub-projects have been updated with the latest implementation status and relevant pictures. Similarly, national level REDD+ policy documents and programs for the four countries have been included in the website.

b) Development of Terms of Reference (ToR) for researcher for sharing of lessons learnt

In order to share the lessons learnt from the national level sub-projects by documenting the lessons and compiling them in a report, ANSAB will hire a researcher. ANSAB has drafted the terms of reference of the researcher along with the development of the scope of the work for the activity.

Component 3: Management, M&E and Reporting

a) Safeguard management

Environmental and social safeguards. ANSAB has been in regular communication with the sub-project recipients in order to ensure that the sub-projects do not cause negative environmental and social impacts during the regional level workshop organized in Kathmandu.

Grievance redress. We have not received any compliant, suggestions, feedbacks and grievances during the reporting period.

b) Monitoring of the country level project activities

Monitoring of the project has been done against the planned activities and the indicators mentioned in the result framework. Regular monitoring has been done through email correspondence and skype call with the country level consultancies. ANSAB developed formats for event reporting with detailed breakdown of participants and for the feedbacks of the beneficiaries of training events.

c) Procurement

There has been no major procurement during the reporting period. ANSAB has been following the systematic tracking of the project's procurement activities through the World Bank STEP system.

d) Development of Terms of Reference (ToR) for the project audit

In order to carry out financial audit of the project for fiscal year (16 July 2017 to 16 July 2018), the project has developed a detailed ToR for the auditor to produce an audit opinion report. The audit statement will comprise of the fund accountability statement of expenditures including Designated Account statement for the fiscal year.

Progress toward achieving the PDO

The project progress has been measured toward achieving the Project Development Objective (PDO) as measured by the five indicators in the results framework. The results framework with the indicators and the current status on each indicator is presented in Annex 2.

The beneficiary feedback indicator (Indicator 1) is yet to be processed, but it is above the targeted 80% for the ones whose initial analysis is done. For an example the feedbacks from the participants of the training workshop in GTM is above the targeted and in the range of 90-95%. Similarly, the pre-and post training assessment analysis in Thua Thien Hue province shows over 90% of the training beneficiaries with knowledge score of 3 or more on REDD+, and the implementing, monitoring and reporting FCPF/REDD+ process. Analysis of the feedback from other trainings is ongoing, and we will have the exact figure for this. There are 5 knowledge products (a report on review of forest change monitoring mechanisms by SRD, a community poster on REDD+ by PanNature, and three workshop/training reports by PanNature) and the achievement has exceeded Y2 target (a total of four) of national knowledge products indicator (Indicator 2). In addition, production of the two knowledge products – Forest Conversion Independent Monitoring Framework by SRD, and a video on project activities by PanNature is ongoing and is expected to be completed in coming month. For the indicator on regional knowledge products (Indicator 3), the year 2 (YR2) target of two has already been achieved with the completion of the regional workshop and the establishment of the webpage. The end-of-project target for the number of meetings between civil society and LC representatives and national REDD+ decision makers (Indicator 4), four in total, has already been achieved. The three organizations have met with the REDD+ focal points in their country as part of the sub-project preparation process. Furthermore, there was a meeting between the participants of the first regional level workshop and the Chief of Nepal’s REDD+ Implementation Center in Kathmandu. In addition, SRD has carried out five dialogues with the authorities at provincial level. Furthermore, there was a meeting between the participants of the first regional level workshop and the Chief of Nepal’s REDD+ Implementation Center in Kathmandu. The target of the number of direct project beneficiaries (Indicator 5), 800 in total with 40% female participants, has already been achieved.

Plan for next six months

Table 1 presents the planned activities for the period of February 2019 through July 2019.

Table 1: Planned activities for the period from February 2019 to July 2019.

Activities	Year 2018/19					
	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Component 1: National Capacity Building and Awareness Raising						
Establish regular communication with CSOs and receive progress reports						
Implement country level activities including CSOs/LC interaction with national decision makers						
Supervision Mission						
Component 2: Regional Exchange and Sharing of Lessons Learned						

Collect, review and upload relevant documents in REDD+ webpage	[Redacted]					
Hire workshop facilitator						
Organize regional workshop				[Redacted]		
Document lessons of the project and share with the stakeholders			[Redacted]			
Component 3: Management, M&E and Reporting						
Develop and share biannual reports	[Redacted]					
Submit external audits						[Redacted]

Annex: Results Framework with the indicators and the progress on indicators

Project Development Objective (PDO): Strengthen: (i) the knowledge of targeted southern civil society organizations and local communities of REDD+ Readiness at the national level; and (ii) knowledge exchange at the regional level.										
Results Indicators	Core	Unit of Measure	Baseline	Cumulative Target Values			Status as of January 2019	Data Source/ Methodology	Responsibility for Data Collection	Description
				YR1 ¹	YR2 ²	YR3 ³				
1. Beneficiary feedback: Share of target beneficiaries with knowledge score of 3 or more on REDD+ and related issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	Percentage	0	80	80	80	> 80	ANSAB and participating civil society and LC organizations implementing capacity building activities	ANSAB	This indicator's purpose is twofold: (i) to measure impact and (ii) to gather beneficiary feedback. All defined direct beneficiaries, including recipient organizations/institutions and workshop/training participants, will receive a pre-defined short questionnaire (a half pager) that will record their perceptions of their level of knowledge on a defined list of subjects. The forms will be filled by the beneficiaries after a training workshop/program. All the forms will be collected and analyzed by ANSAB with support from the World Bank.
2. National knowledge exchange products disseminated in appropriate languages	<input type="checkbox"/>	Number	0	1	4	4	5 Report on review of forest change monitoring mechanisms by SRD, Community poster on	ANSAB and participating civil society and LC organizations	ANSAB	Knowledge exchange products are capacity building and/or awareness raising activities under Component 1. Knowledge products will be produced in English and translated to local languages as appropriate.

¹ August 2017-December 2017

² January 2018-December 2018

³ January 2019-December 2019

							REDD+ by PanNature, and three training/workshop reports by PanNature			
3. Regional knowledge exchange products disseminated	<input type="checkbox"/>	Number	0	1	2	5	2 Regional workshop for sub project beneficiaries and REDD+ webpage	ANSAB	ANSAB	Cumulative target Knowledge exchange products include regional workshops, a REDD+ webpage and a lessons learned and/or best practices report emerging from Component 1 activities
4. Meetings held between civil society and LC representatives and national REDD+ decision making entities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Number	0	1	3	4	4 In all countries. Consultants shared the proposals with the national REDD+ focal points/units	ANSAB and participating civil society and LC organizations	ANSAB	Cumulative target Meeting are held within the four countries between recipient civil society organizations and national REDD+ decision makers.
5. Direct project beneficiaries	<input type="checkbox"/>	Number	0	200	600	800	1,096 (Male: 564, Female: 532)	Reports of civil society and LC organizations carrying out capacity building and awareness raising activities, and records of participation in regional and bi-lateral activities	ANSAB	Cumulative target Direct project beneficiaries are civil society and LC members participating in capacity building and awareness raising activities under Component 1; members of organizations which participate in meetings and workshops under Components 1 and 2; and recipients of national and regional knowledge products.
Of which female		Percent	0	40	40	40	48.5			

