



REFERENCE LEVEL DEVELOPMENT FOR UNFCCC: LESSONS LEARNED FROM VIETNAM

PA9/PC22, Accra, Ghana

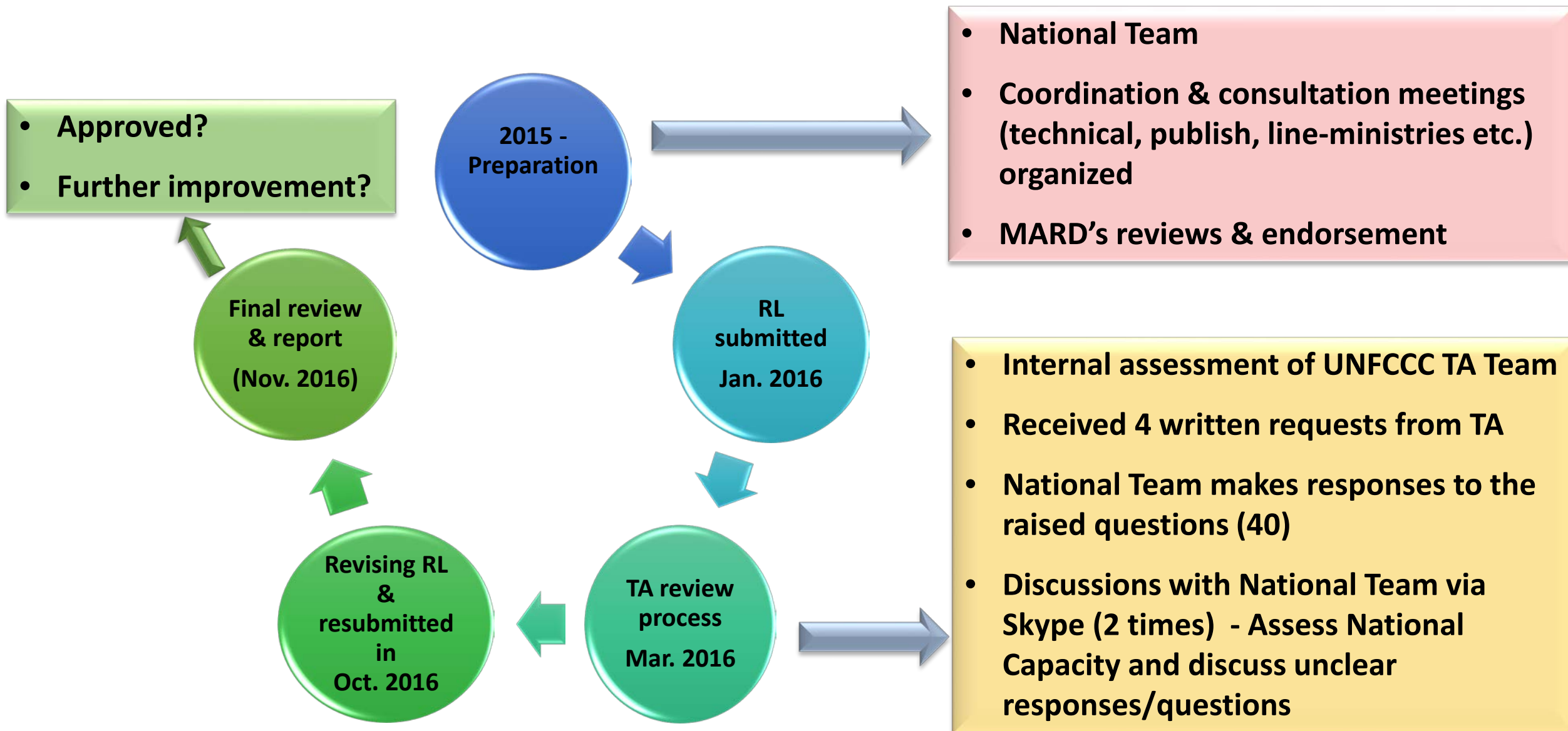
Knowledge sharing section

September 29, 2016

Vu Tan Phuong

Vietnam

UNFCCC RL development process



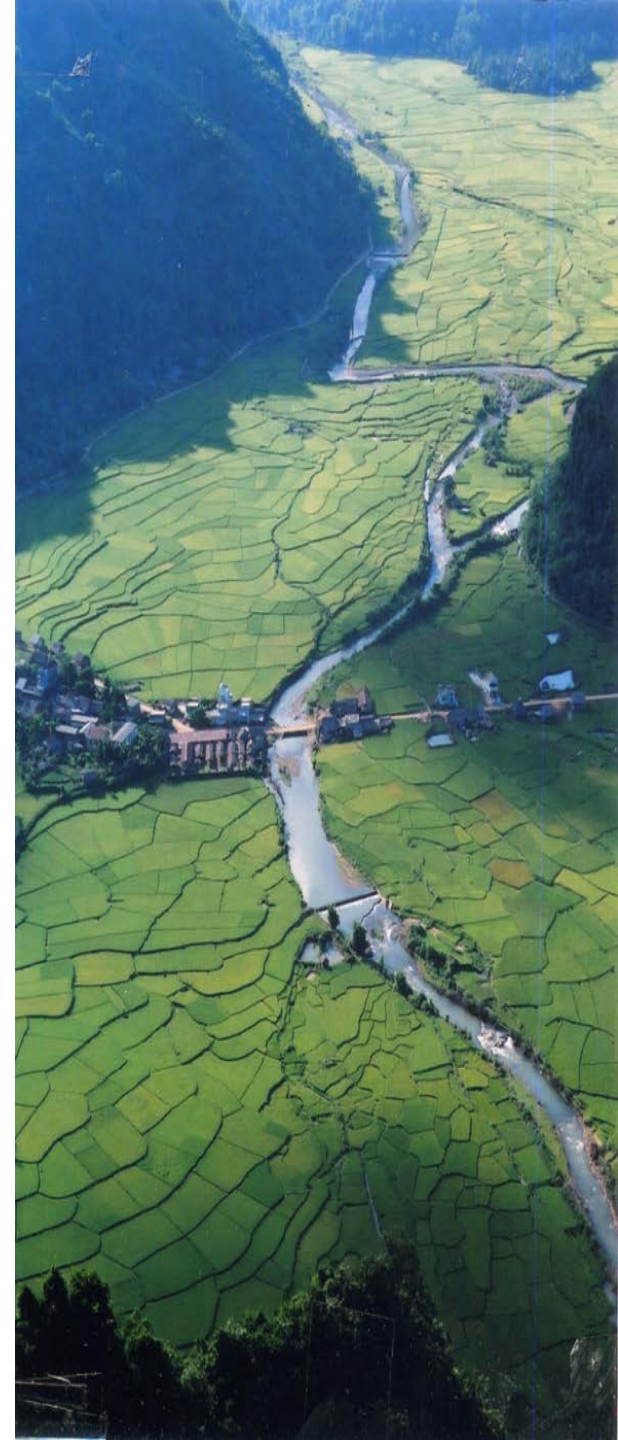
General assessment

- **Development of Reference Level** for ER-P follows **UNFCCC guidelines** (decisions 4/CP.15, 12/CP.17, 13/CP.19)
- **Clear demonstration of methodology** for RL development (forest definition; carbon pools, gases, and REDD+ activities; generation of AD, EF etc.);
- **Long history of national forest inventory programs**, providing comprehensive forest dataset for development of RL.
- **Separate emissions and removals RL** provides transparency in emissions & removals estimates



Main achievements

- **RL submitted to UNFCCC in January 2016** & modified RL in October 2016.
- **Tier 3 approach is applied for AD and Tier 2 approach** used for emissions and removal factors.
- **Nationally developed equations** for forest AGB estimations available for forest types at eco-regions and national level.
- **Forest dataset** (forest cover maps and plot measurement data) used for construction of RL are reviewed and updated for **consistency and quality enhancement and available** for a period 1990 - 2010.



Key challenges

- **Complex land uses and forest stratification** (17 types, 12 are forests) **causes misclassification** of several forest types.
- **Lack of independent spatial data** (RS images) for accuracy assessment of AD, particularly **historical forest cover maps**
- **Assessment of uncertainties** for emissions and removals estimates
- **National forest inventory programs** are not primarily designated for forest carbon purposes, therefore there is a **lack of data on deadwood, litter and soil carbon**.



Lessons learned

- **Ensuring technical capacity of the National Team** for RL development (covering multi-disciplines, i.e mapping, forest inventory, carbon/GHG, policies)
- **Close coordination** of agency in charge (VNFOREST, VRO) with National Team and line agencies for common understanding and consensus.
- **Maximize the use of best available data and information** with updates (cost-effectiveness)
- **Serve open discussions** with TA on technical pending issues for suggestions and recommendations



Thank you

Vu Tan Phuong

Vietnam Academy of Forest Science

Email: phuong.vt@vafs.gov.vn

Tel.: +844 83862 232

Fax.: +844 38389 722

Web: www.vafs.gov.vn

