



R-Package of Lao PDR

REDD+ Readiness Self-Assessment

FCPF PC25 Meeting
Washington, USA
26th – 28th March 2018





Lao PDR's international commitments

- Lao PDR joined:
 - UNFCCC in 1995; and
 - Signed the Paris Convention in April 2016.
- In 2008, Lao PDR joined the REDD+ efforts as one of the first countries to join the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF).
- Lao PDR acknowledges the importance of forestry sector on addressing climate change issues in its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

REDD+ process in Lao PDR

Phase I Readiness

Phase II
Demonstration
activities

Phase III National
REDD+ Strategy
implementation

FCPF Readiness

2011

R-PP assessment

2015

Readiness Grant

2016

Mid-term Progress
(AF)

2018

NRS (Drafted)

R-Package Assessment

Carbon Fund

Early ideas

May 2015

ER Program Idea Note
(ER-PIN)

Sept. 2015
Accepted

ER Program Doc (ERPD)

2017-2018
TAP Review

ERPA
Negotiation

2018/19 (IF)

ER Payment Agreement
(ERPA)

2019-24 (IF)

REDD+ status in Lao PDR

I. Readiness

II. Implementation

III Results-based payment

2010

2014

2018


2020


2025+

4 key REDD+ elements

National REDD+ Strategy – country vision, actions and stakeholders 

FREL/FRL – benchmark for assessing performance 

NFMS – system to monitor and report REDD+ activities 

SIS – to inform how SGs are ensured 

Measurement (M)

Reporting (R) 

Verification (V)

NOT YET!

Avoid double-payment (carbon registry)

tCO2e


GHG-I



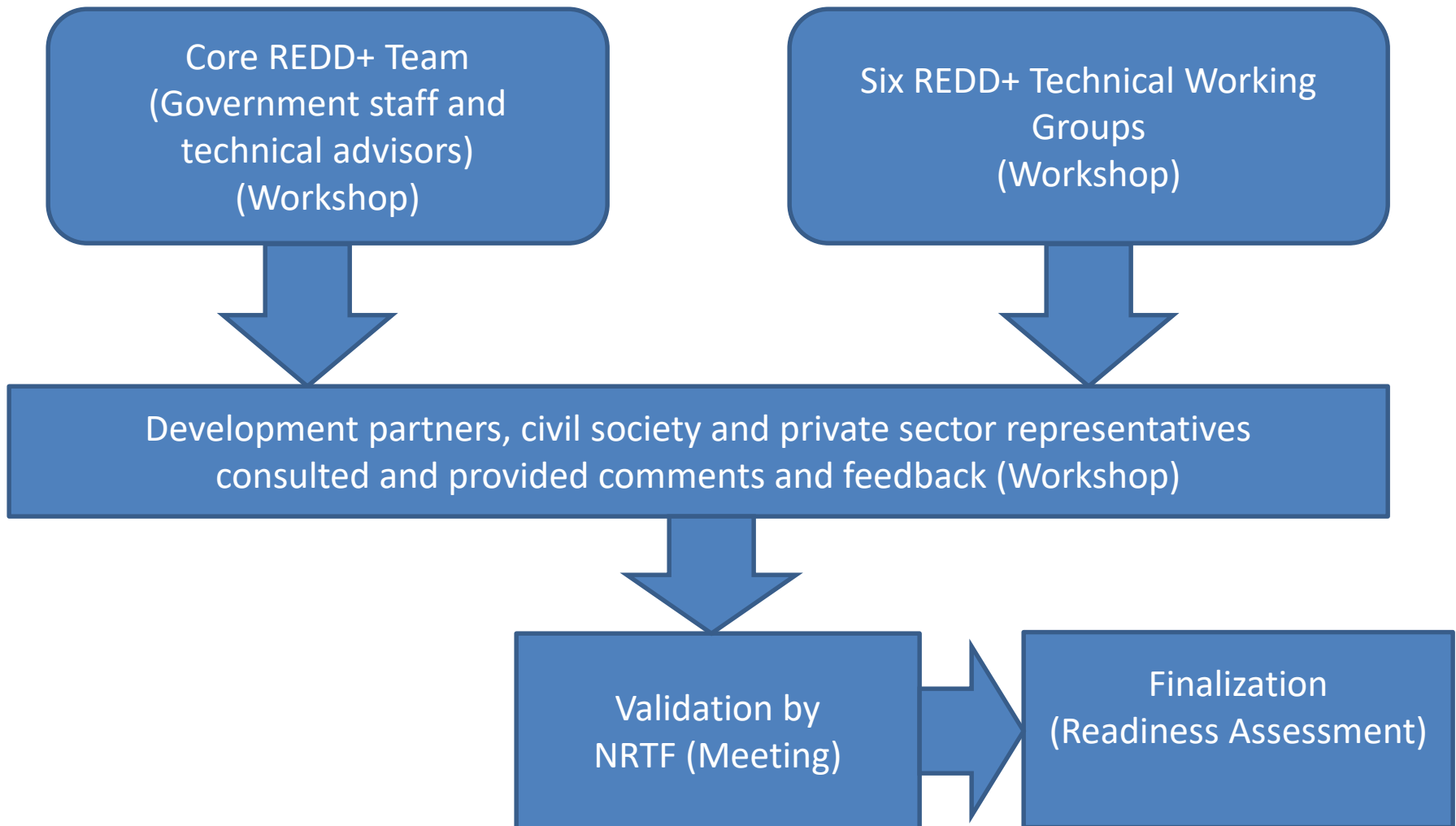
Results-based payment

Safeguard – through out the stages 

Non-carbon benefits – national development objectives 

Benefit Sharing - Effective, Efficient and Equitable 

R-Package Self-Assessment Process Lao PDR



Overall Rating of Lao REDD+ Readiness

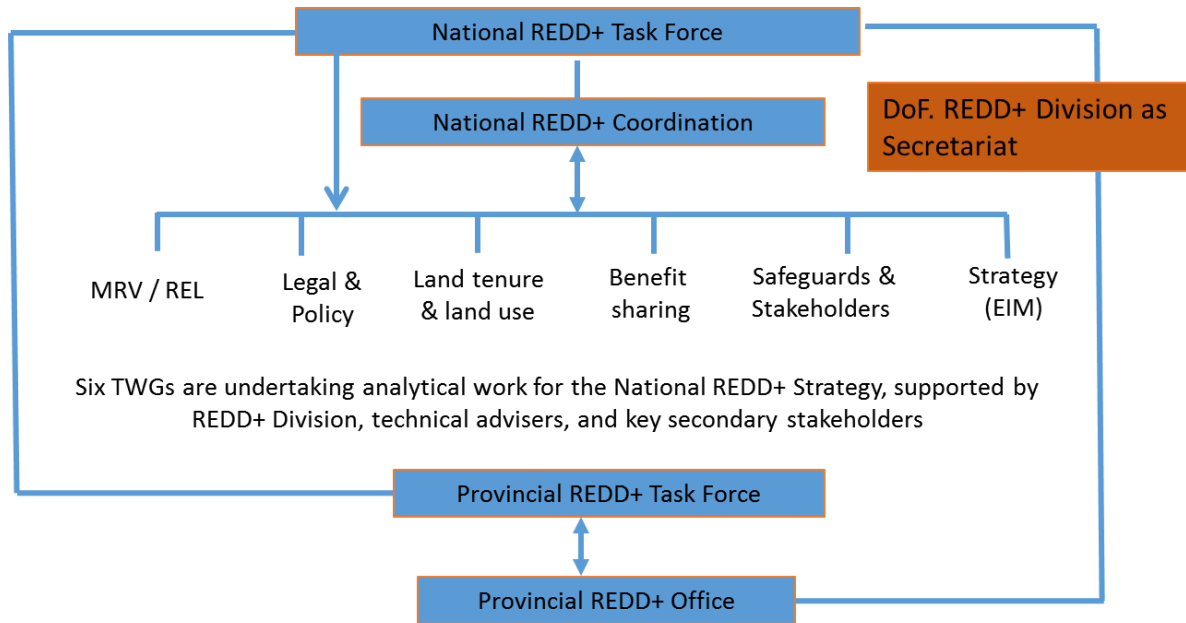
Self-assessment by Lao PDR

Component	Sub Component	Summary scores
Readiness organization and consultation	1a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements	Yellow
	1b. Consultation, participation and outreach	Yellow
REDD+ Strategy preparation	2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land-Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Green
	2b. REDD+ Strategy Options	Green
	2c. Implementation Framework	Orange
	2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	Yellow
Reference Emission Level/Reference Level	3a. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	Green
Monitoring system for forests and safeguards	4a. National Forest Monitoring	Yellow
	4b. Information System for Multiple Benefits, other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	Orange

Green	Significant progress
Yellow	Progress well, further development required
Orange	Further development required
Red	Not yet demonstrating progress

Component 1: READINESS ORGANIZATION AND CONSULTATION

Sub-Component 1A: *National (and sub-national) REDD+ Management Arrangement*



Collaboration and support by international projects/advisors; private sectors; CSOs; and communities

- REDD+ institutions are set-up: NRTF, TWGs, PRTF; Prov. REDD+ Offices
- Vice-minister chairs NRTF
- Forestry under MAF since 2017
- REDD+ Division has a coordination function and serves as secretariat to the NRTF
- On-going capacity building at all levels

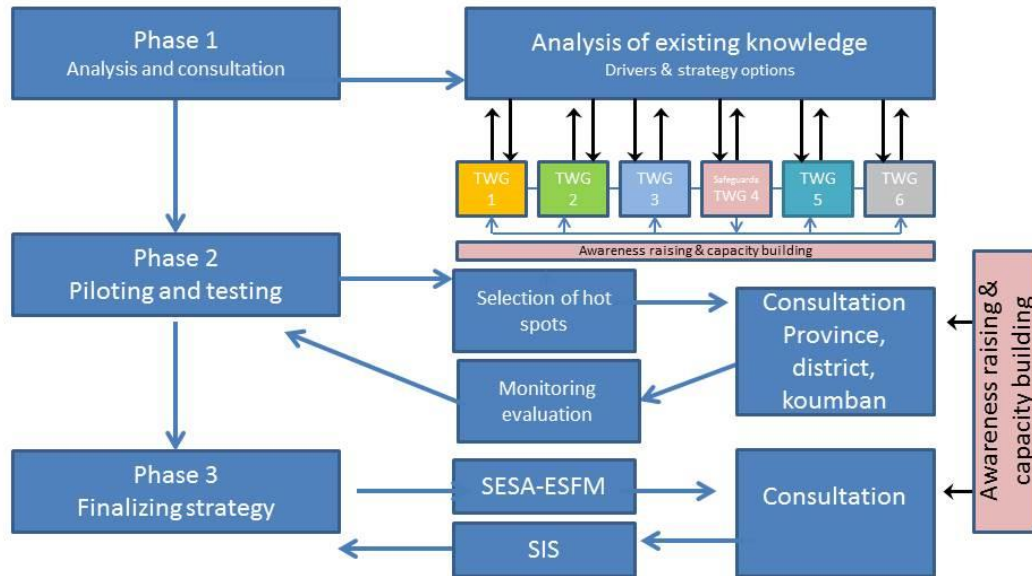
Remaining tasks:

- further technical capacity building required, especially at sub-national levels;
- strengthen cross-sectoral coordination and all levels

Component 1: READINESS ORGANIZATION AND CONSULTATION

Sub-Component 1B: Consultation, Participation, and Outreach

Stages in stakeholders engagement and knowledge sharing process



Main drivers of deforestation and forest degradation being identified:

- Expansion of agriculture land into the forests.
- Conversion of forest land for infrastructure development and mining (including resettlement, mining, hydro-power, urban expansion).
- Forest degradation from unsustainable timber harvesting and NTFP collection.
- Shifting cultivation and forest fires.
- Conversion of natural forest to commercial tree plantation areas.

Remaining tasks:

- further consultations on ER-PD including Benefit-Sharing Arrangements and Safeguards at national and sub-national levels;
- further development is required to improve engagement of the stakeholders.
- government recognizes the need to create the enabling environment for private sector participation;
- Transparent and broad information-sharing mechanisms still need to be established





Component 2: REDD+ STRATEGY PREPARATION

Sub-Components 2A and 2B: *Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance and REDD+ strategic options*

1. Comprehensive analysis and assessment of drivers of DD through;

- Land use change analysis from land use maps for 2005, 2010 and 2015
- Time series analysis of hot spots of DD
- Stump survey for estimate of emissions from logging (forest degradation)
- Stakeholder consultations from national to province, district and village levels

2. Prioritization of strategic interventions into 5 groups and detailed actions

3. Law , policy and governance

- Implementation of PMO 15 for strengthening of forest governance
- On-going negotiations on VPA/FLEGT
- On-going revision of Laws on Land and Forest for clearer resource tenure, institutionalization of PMO 15 and TLAS, etc.

Strategic Interventions in NRS
1. Development of sustainable agriculture in coordination with forest protection.
2. Infrastructure (including resettlement and urban expansion) and mining development in coordination with forest protection .
3. Sustainable timber harvesting (wood and forest products) and forest management
4. Turning pioneering shifting cultivation to sedentary cultivation, controlling forest fires and forest restoration (carbon stock enhancement) .
5. Development of sustainable commercial tree plantation.

Remaining tasks:

- Completion of law revision, feasibility assessment of interventions/actions, implementation plan of strategic interventions and actions



Component 2: REDD+ STRATEGY PREPARATION

Sub-Component 2C: *Implementation Framework*

- REDD+ institutional framework in place (NRTF; REDD+ Division; 6 TWGs; Prov RTF; Prov REDD+ Offices)
- New Party Resolution on Land (2017); Land Law and Forest Law under revision (submission to NA Oct 2018)
- Forest and Forest Resource Development Fund (FFRDF) revised – includes articles pertaining to REDD+
- 6 Provincial REDD+ Action Plans being developed (guidelines available)
- Registry initiated

Remaining tasks:

- Determining the implications of the NRS on sector policies, laws and regulations and strategic ways to mainstream REDD+
- Determining the interface between the NRS and Forestry Strategy
- Agreeing upon suitable benefit sharing mechanisms for REDD+
- Preparation of implementation guidelines and monitoring system for REDD+ activities



Component 2: REDD+ STRATEGY PREPARATION

Sub-Component 2D: *Social and Environmental Impacts*

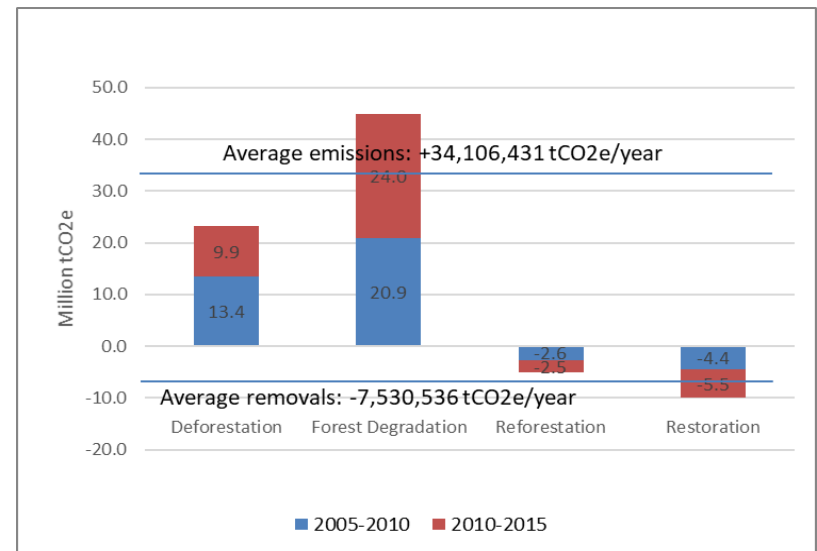
- Lao PDR has existing policies, laws, regulations, and institutions that address environmental and social safeguards in forestry operations and development activities
- DOF has drafted the national SESA (2018)
- Policies, Laws and Regulations and the UNFCCC Cancun Safeguards: Frameworks and Gaps in the Lao PDR (Report 2015)
- FPIC Guidelines developed and piloted at sub-national level
- The ESMF (draft version) and Community Engagement Framework (CEF), will serve as a basis for addressing and mitigating potential environment and social risks and impacts associated with REDD+ implementation

Remaining tasks:

- Finalizing the draft ESMF including relevant consultations
- Develop Safeguards Information System (SIS)

Component 3: REFERENCE EMISSIONS LEVEL/REFERENCE LEVEL

- National REL submitted to UNFCCC in Jan. 2018, and currently under technical assessment.
- In parallel, REL for the ER-Program under development, and currently under TAP review.
- Consistency between the two RELs has been and will be pursued to the extent possible (e.g. same dataset, methodologies, reference period).
- REL/MRV TWG in full operation to lead the process.



Remaining tasks:

- Complete the National REL and ER-Program REL
- Further technical improvement and capacity building to prepare for MRVs.

Component 4: MONITORING SYSTEMS FOR FORESTS AND SAFEGUARDS

Sub-Component 4A: *National Forest Monitoring System*

Elements related to NFMS	Status
Satellite-based forest monitoring for Activity Data.	In place
National Forest Inventory for Emission/Removal Factors + emissions from selective logging.	In place
Public access to information for transparency http://nfms.maf.gov.la:4242/nfms/	In place
Forest monitoring (near-real time monitoring of drivers)	Being developed stepwise
Data management system for National REDD+ registry (Criteria 22)	To be developed stepwise
Safeguards Information System	Need further conceptualization and development

- 1st National MRV scheduled in 2019 (to be supported by JICA)
 - Consistency, transparency, stepwise improvement
 - Conduct, review and endorse under the same institutional arrangement.
 - Close coordination with GHG Inventory and other climate change initiatives.
 - Propose to GCF Results-based payment pilot program (tbc)?

Remaining tasks:

- Prepare for the 1st MRV and results-based payment options.
- Further develop forest monitoring and REDD+ registry
- Further capacity building on the above.



Component 4: MONITORING SYSTEMS FOR FORESTS AND SAFEGUARDS

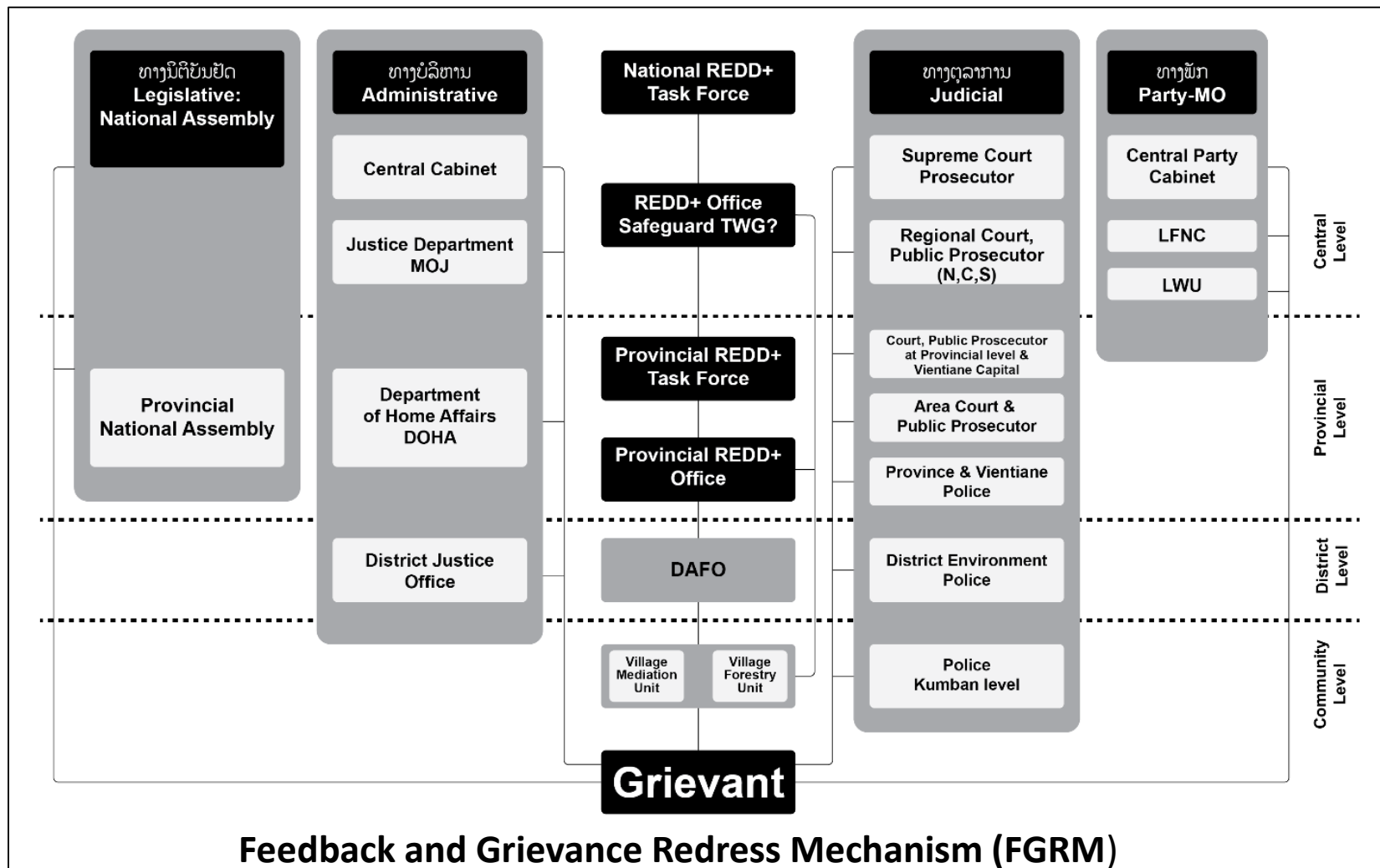
Sub-Component 4B: *Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards*

- The issues are analyzed through SESA, etc., and incorporated into the National REDD+ Strategy and ER-Program.
- Initial concept of ESMF prepared. This will be further developed to enable effective monitoring of the multiple benefits, governance and other impacts.
- Accordingly, Safeguards Information System also needs further development.
- All above will be done through collaboration among the six TWGs and stakeholders concerned.

Remaining tasks:

- Further develop ESMF to enable monitoring of multiple-benefits, governance and other impacts;
- Further develop design and arrangement of Safeguard Information System;
- Collaboration among stakeholders to be promoted through national REDD+ coordination mechanism (led by DOF)

Component 4: MONITORING SYSTEMS FOR FORESTS AND SAFEGUARDS



To be based on existing mechanisms.

FCPF Carbon Fund: Emission Reduction Program Summary

Promoting REDD+ through Governance, Forest Landscapes & Livelihoods in Northern Lao PDR

- Program Document (ERPD) submitted to FCPF CF in Feb. 2018 and currently under technical assessment
- **Program area:** 6 Northern provinces (BKO, HPN, LNT, LPB, ODX, SAY)
- **Duration:** 2019 (or 2020) to 2025 (ERPA: 5 or 6 years till 2024)
- **Funding:** \$136M with 1/3 GCF funds (proposed), 1/3 RBP from CF, 1/3 on-going and other donor projects in ERP area
- **Institutional arrangement:** NRTF, REDD+ Division/DOF, PRTF, PROs
- **Objectives:** to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and to enhance removals through
 - SFM,
 - Land use planning,
 - Village forestry,
 - Forest and landscape management,
 - Improved monitoring,
 - Improved governance,
 - Promotion of deforestation-free investments, forest plantations etc.

ER-Program - Scale and Location

6 Northern provinces



Justification:

- Covers approx. **35% of national territory**;
- **Poorest region**, with high rate of **shifting cultivation**;
- Accounted for **40% of all deforestation & degradation** (in area terms) in 2005-2015;
- Includes provinces with **early actions** towards results;
- REDD+ will be rolled out nationally into the future.

ER-Program - Consultations



PRAP consultations held in:
6 provinces,
50 Districts,
50 *Kumbans*



ERPD interventions

- Component 1: Enabling conditions
- Component 2: Agriculture
- Component 3: Forestry

Provincial REDD+ Action Plans

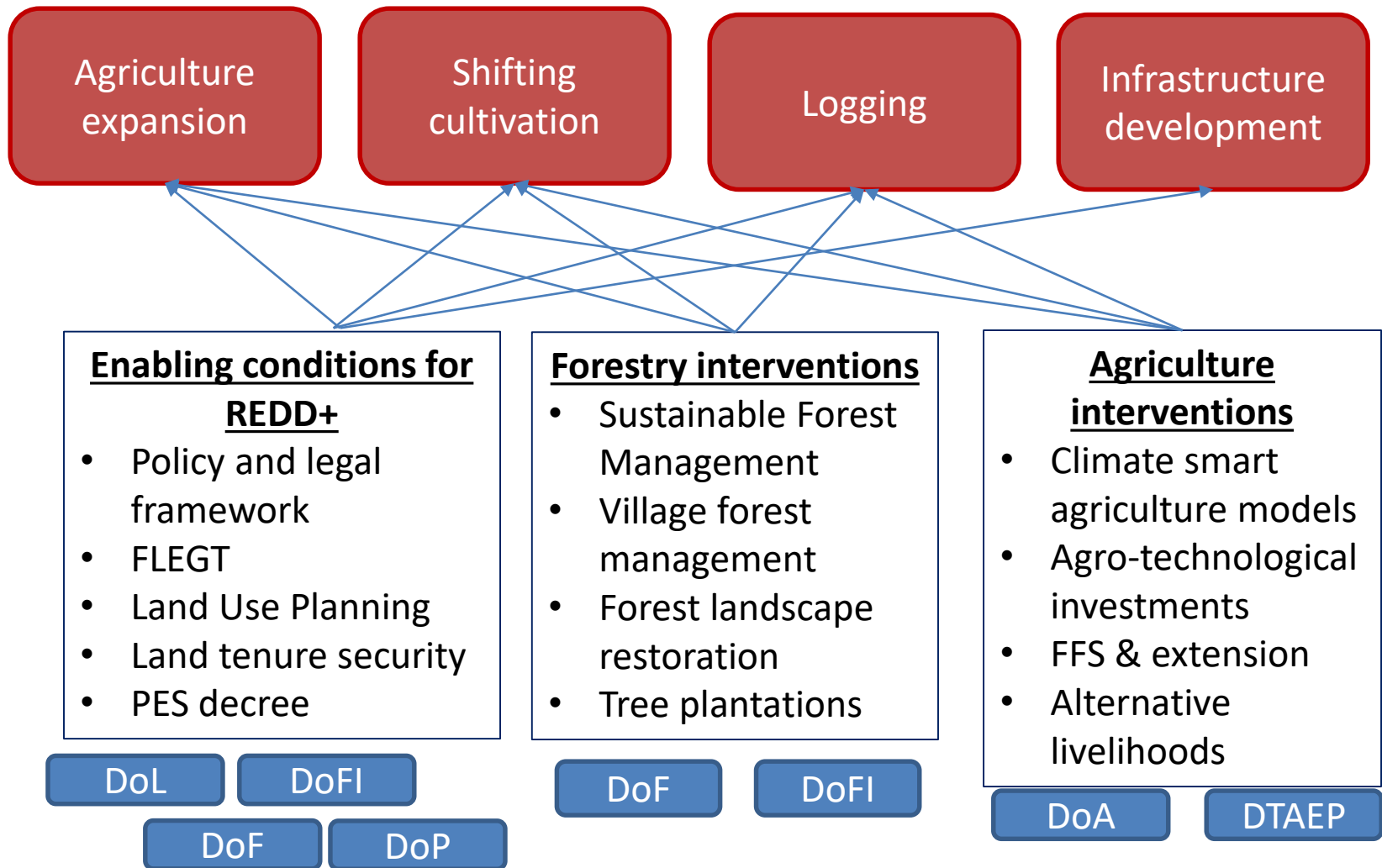
6 PRAPs

+

National level actions
(mainly in Component 1)



ER-Program - Interventions and theory of change



Additional Grant – Key Tasks for REDD+ up to 2020

- **READINESS PROCESS MANAGEMENT AND STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION**
 - Technical support and capacity building for Provincial offices for implementation of PRAPs and ER-PD interventions
 - National Stakeholder Consultations on National REDD+ Strategy and Intervention Options (across all relevant sectors as identified in the drivers analysis)
 - Technical support, capacity building/training workshops for NRTF, Cross-sector collaboration
- **REDD+ STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT**
 - Economic Analysis and Prioritization of NRS Interventions
 - National and sub-national cross sector knowledge sharing, consultation awareness raising and dissemination of REDD+ Strategy Intervention
 - Development of national monitoring system, design SIS and Benefit Sharing Framework
- **REFERENCE EMISSION LEVEL AND MONITORING SYSTEMS**
 - Support and capacity building for the National Forest Monitoring System, updating of REL, and design of national MRV system
 - Procurement of hardware and software including relevant training in spatial systems, data collection, updating and management in line IPPC and FCPF requirements



Conclusions

Refine the Lao PDR REDD+ Roadmap

- REDD+ is a continuously evolving mechanism
- Need of refined roadmap for REDD+ Readiness > Implementation > Results-based payment (RBP) - Particularly:
 - Implementation of NRS
 - Alignment of NRS and Forestry Law revision, FS2020 revision.
 - Some REDD+ instruments need further work: SIS, BSM, etc.

Enhance coordinated actions

- For REDD+ to be truly successful in Lao PDR, inter-sectorial coordination becomes more important:
 - With other sectors (agriculture, infrastructure, industry), issues (law enforcement, land-use planning, socio-economic development) and partners (private investments, NGOs) on REDD+ implementation
 - With DCC-MONRE on REDD+ on climate change related issues, including receiving and use of RBP

A large, ancient tree with a thick, gnarled trunk and a wide, spreading canopy of green leaves stands prominently in a lush, dense forest. The tree is the central focus, with its branches extending across the upper half of the frame. The forest is filled with various other trees, including palm trees and smaller deciduous trees, creating a rich, multi-layered canopy. The background shows rolling hills covered in dense forest, with a soft, hazy atmosphere. The overall scene is vibrant and full of life.

Thank you