REDUCING FOREST DEGRADATION AND EMISSIONS THROUGH SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT (SFM) IN PENINSULAR MALAYSIA

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REDD+

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- There is global recognition of valuable services provide d by forest – both rich and poor countries

    - Store and sequester carbon
    - Conserve the diversity of life
    - Protect soil and water resources
    - Source of useful products, drug and food

- There is also global recognition of the emissions from the lost and degradation of forests particularly tropical forests

- Incentives such as REDD ensure that forest are protected and managed to enhance its sequestration potential and c storage

- CDM only provides incentives for new and additional forests (A&R)

- REDD + allow developing countries to receive some payments for the value their existing forests provide

REDD

- ❑ Deforestation & degradation contributes to a 20% of global C emissions
- ❑ It is economic to reduce global emissions through REDD
- ❑ Thus the REDD mechanism formed to provide incentives to developing countries that are able to reduce emissions from forest
- ❑ Any reductions if C emissions from BAU is eligible for REDD financing
- ❑ Malaysia is interested in REDD+ as forestry is an important sector for economic and env. reasons
- ❑ REDD+ is a voluntary scheme
- ❑ Modalities are still being negotiated

REDD+ can take the following avenues:

❑ Reducing deforestation rates

❑ Reducing forest degradation occurs in permanent production forests (no land-use change)

❑ Strengthening of sustainable management role of toward forest resources, and

❑ Strengthening of the conservation role

❑ Enhancing carbon stock through restoration and rehabilitation

Malaysia's involvement in REDD

❑ Malaysia is not part of the REDD partnership countries

❑ Almost all the ASEAN countries are in and thus have REDD+ projects with external funding and technical assistance

❑ Malaysia has started implementing REDD+

1. Developing National REDD strategy > NRE
2. Developing a monitoring system (MRV) for REDD > FRIM/FFPRI, etc

❑ Third project to start is this ITTO project

❑ Implementing REDD+ projects in Malaysia important to

- Enhance awareness
- Enhance readiness to implement REDD projects
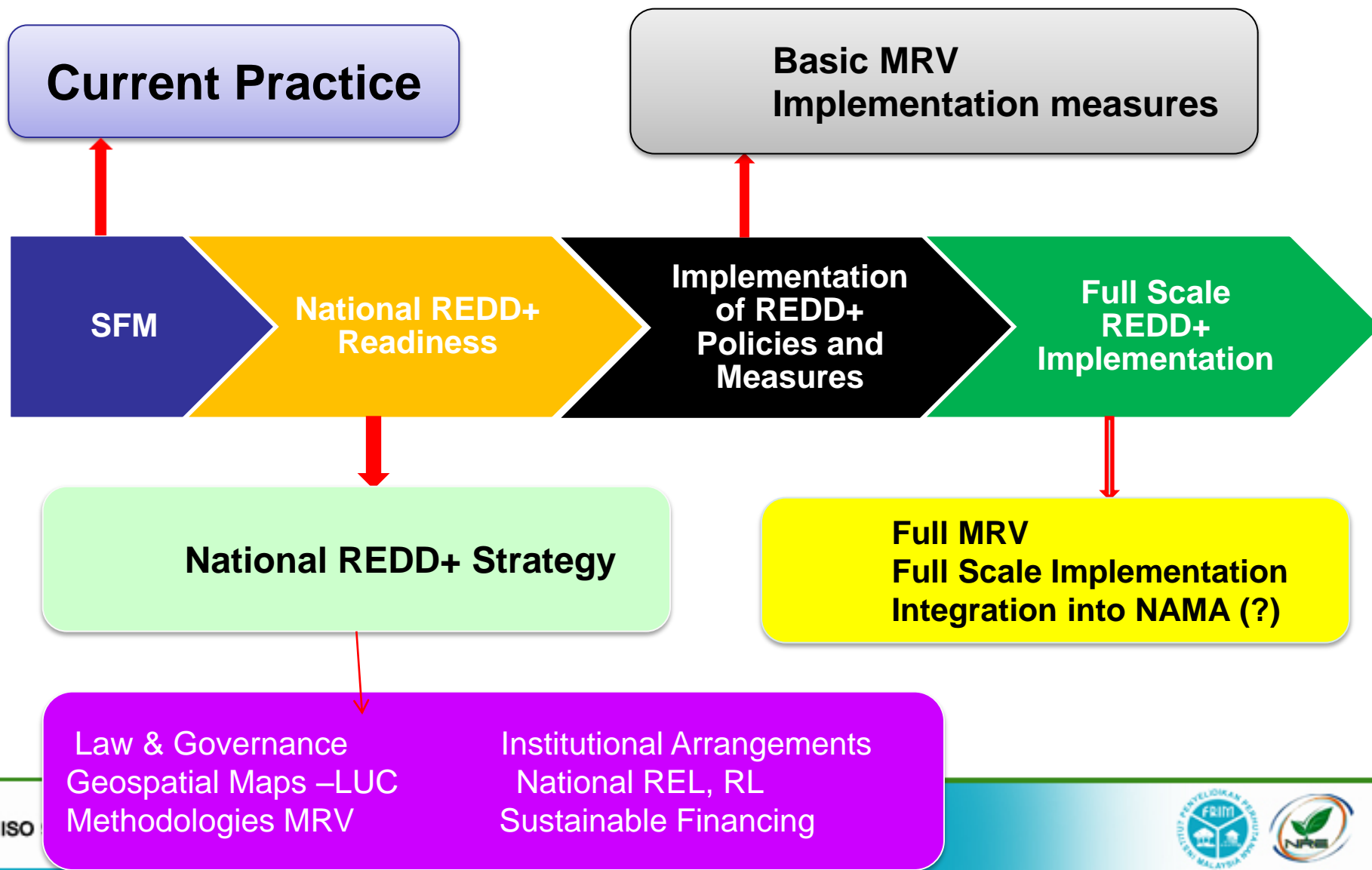- Enhance capacity > learning by doing

Implementing REDD+

REDD+ implementation in Malaysia will following a phased approach:

- ✓ Readiness phase
- ✓ Implementation of REDD+ policies and measures
- ✓ Full scale REDD+ implementation

REDD+ Implementation Phases

Current Practice

Basic MRV Implementation measures

SFM

National REDD+ Readiness

Implementation of REDD+ Policies and Measures

Full Scale REDD+ Implementation

National REDD+ Strategy

Full MRV Full Scale Implementation Integration into NAMA (?)

Law & Governance
Geospatial Maps –LUC
Methodologies MRV

Institutional Arrangements
National REL, RL
Sustainable Financing

MS ISO

Implementing REDD+

Malaysia is currently developing her National REDD+ Strategy which will be provides analysis of the following component:

- National circumstances
- National baselines
- Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV)
- Institutional arrangement
- Sustainable financing

➤ This ITTO project will compliment existing efforts

MS ISO 9001: 2008

ITTO Project Summary

EXECUTING AGENCY	FRIM	
COLLABORATING AGENCY	NRE, FDPM HQ, State FD	
DURATION	36 months	
APPROXIMATE STARTING DATE	February 2012	
BUDGET SOURCES OF FINANCE:	**Source**	**Contribution in US$**
	ITTO	597, 002.00
	Government of Malaysia	238, 000.00
	Other sources	0.00
	TOTAL	**835, 002.00**

Project

- Agreement has been signed by Malaysia and ITTO.

- Project differs to existing projects as it focuses on degradation and is at the sub-national level > state

- Allow us to assess if an FMU will be able to gain from REDD+

- There are already interest by private companies to explore if states are interested to sell their carbon stocks through avoided deforestation eg Pahang & Kelantan

- Malaysia investing quite a bit on SFM to reduce forest degradation > can we get incentives from REDD+

- Improved management > reduce degradation > reduce CO_2 emissions

Objectives

- General objective > to utilize Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) as a mitigation tool in combating climate change.

  - As deforestation rate is stable in Malaysia, the emissions to be accounted for REDD mechanism would probably come from the reduction of forest degradation

- Specific Objectives

  - To improve knowledge on reduction of forest degradation and enhance payments for ecosystem services

Outputs and Activities

- **Output 1: National forest degradation estimated**

Activities

- Assessment of forest degradation drivers
  - Stakeholder consultations
- Develop tools/guidelines to account, monitor and report forest degradation

Outputs and Activities

- **Output 2: Forest degradation reduced at the forest management unit**

Activities

- Forest degradation at the forest management unit assessed
  - Assessment made using remote sensing and ground inventories
- Methods for reducing forest degradation implemented
  - Improve harvesting prescriptions assessed > log fisher, RIL, Max volume control, protection of fruit trees, etc

Outputs and Activities

- **Output 3: Incentives for carbon and ecosystems services established**

Activities

- Assessment of cost and benefits of improving forest management and reducing degradation

- Develop a scheme for payment under REDD or PES (co benefits beside C)
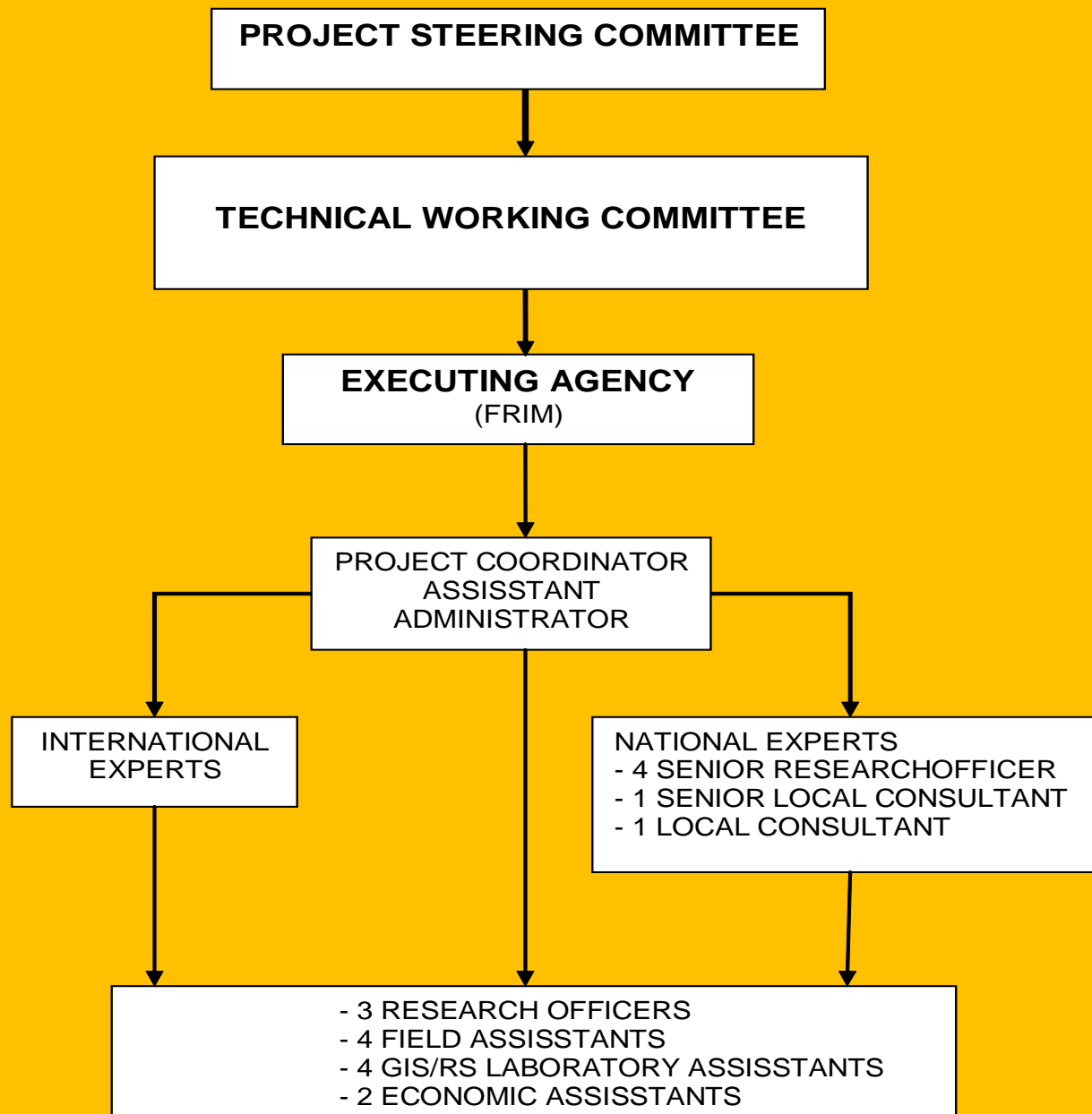
Outputs and Activities

- **Output 4: Capacity of major stakeholders and communities where relevant is strengthened**

Activities

- Developing awareness programmes amongst policy makers and forest managers
  - Particularly at the state level > workshops, consultations etc.
- Develop capacity in REDD+ and carbon accounting
  - Assessment of different C pools > training local and international
- Cross sharing of experience and knowledge with other REDD projects in the region
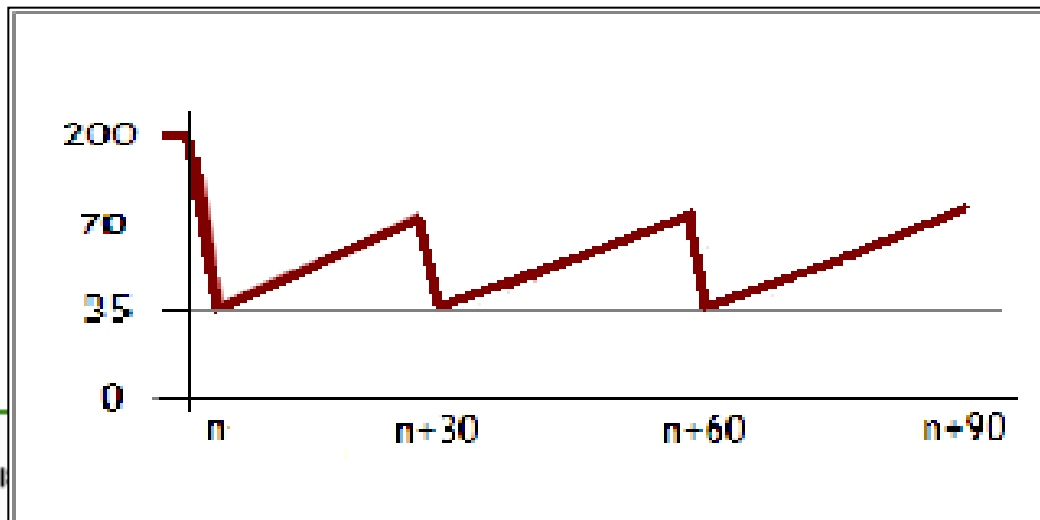 - Visits and study tours to assess REDD+ projects

Implementation approaches and methods

- Major players > FRIM, NRE, FDHQ, Pahang State FD

- Project Steering Committee > governing body to ensure project implemented accordingly based on national circumstances > multi sectoral

- Technical Working Group – address technical aspects of the project

- Project Site > Pahang
  - forestry an important economic sector
  - Has orang asli/local commuinities
  - Large protected forests > national parks, watersheds etc
  - Varrious forest type> inland, peat and mangroves

- Initial efforts to communicate with state FD on the projects initiated

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PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

TECHNICAL WORKING COMMITTEE

EXECUTING AGENCY
(FRIM)

PROJECT COORDINATOR
ASSISSTANT
ADMINISTRATOR

INTERNATIONAL
EXPERTS

NATIONAL EXPERTS
- 4 SENIOR RESEARCHOFFICER
- 1 SENIOR LOCAL CONSULTANT
- 1 LOCAL CONSULTANT

- 3 RESEARCH OFFICERS
- 4 FIELD ASSISSTANTS
- 4 GIS/RS LABORATORY ASSISSTANTS
- 2 ECONOMIC ASSISSTANTS

Some Concerns

- Core issues remains that could influence participation in REDD

- SFM in Malaysia > additionality in enhancement of carbon stocks

- Forest conservation > meeting additionality criteria

- Negotiations may take path of AR CDM > high transaction costs & low carbon value

- Excessive demand but insufficient REDD funds

Carbon stock enhancement efforts cannot be adequately compensated through low C value under redd+

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Some Concerns …

Photo by GEC

- Addressing safeguards > list of prescriptive requirements

- MRV > how elaborate

- Validation > third party?, review process

- Succes of REDD depends on transactions costs and price of carbon under REDD+

- REDD+ >Need to balance between env. Integrity and practicality

Conclusion

- Project is exciting as it provides opportunities to enhance value of forests
- It promotes SFM and supports Malaysia's commitment under the UNFCCC
- Again REDD is voluntary > if benefits are not attractive > no need to be involved
- Usually non-timber values – people ask show me the money. Under REDD real monetary payment
- Project's success depends on the support of key stakeholders > FDHQ and State FD
- Project implementation does not require mandatory changes to current state policies and forest management practices
- Support and Active participation from the beginning