

Mr. Sousath SAYAKHUMMANE  
Director General  
Department of Forestry  
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

January 31, 2019  
Ref. LA/ E20190131-03 /VS

**Sub: Response for Request for JICA Forestry Project (F-REDD II)**

Dear Mr. Sousath,

Firstly, we would like to express our sincere thanks for the cooperation between Department of Forestry (DOF), Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in forestry sector in many years, especially we appreciate the achievement and capacity development for the sustainable forest management through REDD+ readiness and its implementation in recent years. We understand that, in Lao PDR, REDD+ has a big potential to reduce carbon emissions, recovering forest cover, sustainable use of forest resources and so forth. In this regards, we're seriously considering extending our technical and institutional support to Lao government continuously.


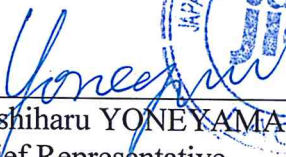
By receiving captioned letter from you, we acknowledged your request for new technical assistance by F-REDD II after completion of the present F-REDD project. We highly appreciate your ownership for the future cooperation and think that the proposed project must be very important for the further effort on sustainable forest management and REDD+ in Lao PDR. In this regards, we, JICA Laos Office have a willingness to provide continuous support to DOF.

However, please be noted that official approval for the new project will be made in the course of the protocol of the Japanese Government which will be conducted in the next Japanese Fiscal Year (2019.4-2020.3), and amount of budget and implementation schedule of the proposed project might be modified from your original request in accordance with the Japanese Government's instruction.

Again, JICA Laos Office think that we'd like to maintain a good working relationships between DOF and JICA in the future.

Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Yoshiharu YONEYAMA  
Chief Representative

Cc:

- Chief Advisor of F-REDD



Lao People's Democratic Republic  
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry  
Department of Forestry

0505-1E-  
No..... /DOF  
Vientiane, 29 JAN 2019

Mr. Yoshiharu YONEYAMA  
Chief Representative  
JICA Laos Office

**Subject: Request for JICA Forestry Project (F-REDD II)**

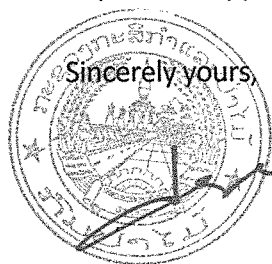
Dear Mr. YONEYAMA,

At first, please let me express our sincere thanks for the valuable and continuous support to the Lao forestry sector by JICA. JICA's technical and grant supports have been instrumental to strengthen our capacity from policy formulation, sector coordination to forest information collection/analysis, REDD+ readiness and pilot activities in Luangprabang and Oudomxay Provinces.

The Government of Laos has put great importance on the sustainable management of forest as evidenced by the Prime Minister No. 15 in 2016 and emphasis on law enforcement and strengthening forest environmental services through on-going revision of the Forestry Law and formulation of Forestry Strategy 2030, to which JICA also provides valuable support.

In view of this quickly changing roles and functions of the forest and forestry sector in Laos, we would like to request early commencement of the formulation process for next JICA's technical cooperation project (tentatively we call F-REDD II) and our proposal is attached for your consideration. It is strongly hoped that JICA will continue to provide support to the forestry sector in Lao P.D.R.

Sincerely yours,



Sousath SAYAKOUMMANE  
Director General  
Department of Forestry

APPLICATION FORM FOR JAPAN'S TECHNICAL COOPERATION

1. **Date of Entry:** Day \_\_\_\_\_ Month Jan Year 2019
2. **Applicant:** The Government of Lao PDR
3. **Project Title:** Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ Support Project Phase II (F-REDD II)
4. **Contact Point ( Implementing Agency):** Department of Forestry  
Address: That Dam, Chanthabuly District, Vientiane Capital  
Contact Person: Mr. Phouthone Sophathilath  
Tel. No.: +856-20-5814-2666 Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail: phouthonesophathilath@gmail.com
5. **Background of the Project**

*(Current conditions of the sector, Government's development policy for the sector, Issues and problems to be solved, Existing development activities in the sector, the Project's priority in the National Development Plan / Public Investment Program, etc.)*

The Government of Lao PDR (GoL) put great emphasis on sustainable forest management for environmental protection and promotion of green economy. The forest cover rate 70% is one of important goals of GoL and mentioned in the National Master Plan for Land Allocation approved by the National Assembly in May 2018 and also in drafts of revised Land Law as well as Forestry Law. GoL's commitment to sustainable forest management and governance improvement to achieve this goal has been clearly evidenced in the issuance and implementation of the Prime Minister Order No. 15 in Jun 2016, negotiations of FLEGT/VPA with EU and preparation for REDD+ from readiness to implementation esp. GCF Program for the Emission Reduction Program area being prepared by GiZ and results-based-payments (RBP) through both GCF and Carbon Fund. (Information of GCF Program for the Emission Reduction Program area is provided in Section 9 (1) below).

JICA has been kindly providing invaluable support through technical cooperation and Grant schemes for development and capacity building of the Lao forestry sector from policy/strategy formulation and sector coordination to forest information management leading to the FREL/REL and MRV report to UNFCCC

and Carbon Fund, and REDD+ pilot activities in Luangprabang and Oudomxay Provinces.

After completion of the on-going Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ Support Project (F-REDD) in Oct 2020, the Lao forestry sector needs continued JICA support to the emerging tasks as described above and its outline is summarized in the Section 6 below.

## 6. Outline of the Project

### (1) Overall Goal

*(Long-term objective)*

Sustainable Forest Management is promoted through full implementation of REDD+ and in coordination with the Forest Strategy 2030.

### (2) Project Purpose

*(Objective expected to be achieved by the end of the project period. Elaborate with quantitative indicators if possible)*

Capacity for Sustainable Forest Management is strengthened through implementation of REDD+ and the Forestry Strategy 2030.

### (3) Outputs

*(Objectives to be realized by the "Project Activities" in order to achieve the "Project Purpose")*

#### 1) Output and main activities

##### Output 1: Policy and sector coordination

- 1.1 Support to drafting of regulations for implementation of the revised Forestry Law
- 1.2 Support to monitoring and evaluation of implementation of the Forestry Strategy 2030 for improvement of policy and programs.
- 1.3 Support to sector coordination through Forestry Sub-sector Working Group, etc.

##### Output 2: REDD+ Institutions, Policy and Measures and Legal Framework

- 2.1 Support to establishment of the institutional and legal framework for REDD+
- 2.2 Support to the review and possible revision of the national REDD+ Strategy based on analysis of REDD+ performance
- 2.3 Support to step-wise development and operationalization of National Forest Monitoring System including Registry and Safeguard Information System.

## Output 3: Support to REDD+ RBP

- 3.1 Support to the technical assessment of Technical Annex (REDD+ performance results) of 1<sup>st</sup> BUR submitted to UNFCCC
- 3.2 Support to Measuring of REDD+ results for the Emission Reduction Program Area and preparation and submission of the Report to Carbon Fund
- 3.3 Support to technical assessment (Verification) of the Report on REDD+ results by Carbon Fund
- 3.4 Support to preparation and submission of Funding Proposal to GCF RBP Pilot Program
- 3.5 Support to a REDD+ fund management agency in planning and allocation of the Results-Based Payment from GCF and Carbon Fund through the REDD+ benefits sharing mechanism

## Output 4: Support to implementation of PRAP of LPB and UDX in collaboration with other funding sources including GCF

- 4.1 Support establishment of institutional set-up for PRAP implementation
- 4.2 Support formulation of PRAP implementation plan esp. identification of priority areas and priority activities
- 4.3 Support implementation of PRAP implementation plan including Provincial Deforestation Monitoring System

## (4) Area to be covered by the Project

*(In case the proposed project assumes a particular area, please enter the name of the target area for the project and attach a rough map to the documents submitted. The attached map should be at a scale that clearly shows the project site.)*

## Output 1-3; Whole of Lao PDR

## Output 4; Luangprabang and Oudomxay Provinces

## (5) Project Activities

*(Specific actions (including study items if project contains study activities) intended to produce each "Output" of the project by effective use of the "Input".)*

## (6) Input from the Recipient Government

*(Counterpart personnel (identify the name and position of the Project manager), support staff, office space, running expenses, vehicles, equipment, etc.)*

## (7) Input from the Japanese Government

*(The total project cost, Number and qualification of Japanese experts/consultants, equipments, contents of training (in Japan and in-country) courses, seminars and workshops, equipment, etc.)*

The tentative estimation of total contribution from JICA is at around US\$ 7 million and the co-financing to the GCF Program is US\$ 4 million out of the total.

**7. Implementation Schedule**

November 2020 ~ Oct 2025

**8. Description of Implementing Agency**

*(Budget allocated to the Agency, Number of Staff of the Agency, Department/division in charge of the project, etc.)*

Department of Forestry

**9. Related Information**

(1) Prospects of further plans and actions/ Expected funding resources for the Project:

*(If implementing agency plans to take some (future) actions in connection with this proposed project, please describe the concrete plans/action and enter the funding sources for the plans and actions.)*

## 1) Request for co-financing to the GCF Program

It is requested for JICA to co-finance the GCF Program for the Lao PDR Emission Reduction Program Area being prepared by GiZ. The proposed activities for co-financing by JICA are 3.2-3.3 and 4.1-4.3 in Section 6 above, which corresponds to Activity 1.5 under Output 1 and all activities under Output 2 and 3 for Luangprabang and Oudomxay Provinces and some of Output 4 described in 2) Outline of the GCF Program below.

## 2) Outline of the GCF Program

**Status;** The Concept Note, which is attached, was submitted to the GCF Secretariat in Jun 2018 and after receiving a positive response, a funding proposal is being prepared by GiZ in consultation with GoL (MPI, MAF, MONRE, etc.) and co-financing agencies including JICA. The funding proposal is planned to be submitted to the GCF in early

2019 and tabled at the 23rd GCF Board Meeting (B.23) in Jun 2019 for approval. It is expected the Program will commence activities in mid to late 2020.

**Target Area;** 6 Provinces in the Emission Reduction Program Area

**Main Output/Activities** (excerpt from the Concept Note)

Output 1: Creation of an enabling environment for REDD+

Activity 1.1 – Deep integration of REDD+ in development planning

Activity 1.2 – Regulation: Complementing the new Forest Law, this activity develops necessary regulations and guidelines to implement SFM, FLR and village forestry.

Activity 1.3 – Law enforcement: The activity supports law enforcement, including through institutional strengthening and capacity building for the Department of Forest Inspection and its sub-national line agencies.

Activity 1.4 – Land-use planning and improved tenure security: Integrated Spatial Planning (ISP) and Land Use Planning (LUP) are essential prerequisites for Sustainable Forest Monitoring, Forest Landscape Restoration and deforestation-free agriculture:

Activity 1.5 – MRV: The project supports the rollout and implementation of a newly developed National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS), including an MRV/MMR system. The project will use the NFMS to monitor activity data as well as drivers and effectiveness of interventions in the GCF project area.

Activity 1.6 – Sustainable financing for forest sector transformation.

Output 2: Implementation of deforestation-free agriculture (on 70,000 ha and targeting at least 40,000 households)

Activity 2.1 – Promotion of deforestation-free agricultural practices and technologies.

Activity 2.2 – Modernisation of small-scale irrigation infrastructure (funded and implemented by Asian Development Bank (ADB))

Activity 2.3 – Promotion of deforestation-free value chains and access to markets

Activity 2.4 – Access to finance for deforestation-free agricultural value chains

Output 3: Implementation of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR) on 330,000 ha

Activity 3.1 – Implementation of village forest management and watershed management

Activity 3.2 – Implementation of SFM in production forests

Activity 3.3 – Support of national conservation forest management (national protected areas)

### Activity 3.4 – Promotion of private sector investments in community-based agroforestry

#### Output 4: Project management, contingencies, coordination, monitoring and reporting

- Project management by the PMU and GIZ HQ, including all arrangements and activities necessary for the effective commencement and implementation of the project,
- Implementation of the Environmental & Social Management Plan and Gender Action Plan,
- Stakeholder engagement,
- Monitoring, evaluation and reporting,
- Coordination of implementation partners and development partners,
- External communication and media activities,
- Contingency budget to ensure the project remains able to react to unforeseen programmatic or financial changes during the project duration of 8 years.

#### **Budget**

Total: USD 169 million

GCF: USD 46 million

Co-finance: USD 123 million (※US\$ 4 million is included as a grant for co-financing to the GCF Program to be provided by the DOF/JICA Technical Cooperation Project)

(All numbers are indicative)

#### (2) Projects by other donor agencies, if any:

*(Please pay particular attention to the following items:*

- Whether you have requested the same project to other donors or not.*
- Whether any other donor has already started a similar project in the target area or not.*
- Presence/absence of cooperation results or plans by third-countries or international agencies for similar projects.*
- In the case that a project was conducted in the same field in the past, describe the grounds for requesting this project/study, the present status of the previous project, and the situation regarding the technology transfer.*
- Whether there are existing projects/studies regarding this requested project/study or not. (Enter the time/period, content and concerned agencies of the existing studies.))*



(3) Other relevant Projects (Activities in the sector by the recipient government and NGOs), if any:

(4) Other relevant information(Available data, information, documents, maps, etc. related to the Project)

**10. Global Issues (Gender, Poverty, Climate change, etc.)**

*(Any relevant information of the project from global issues (gender, poverty, climate change, etc.) perspective.)*

**11. Environmental and Social Considerations**

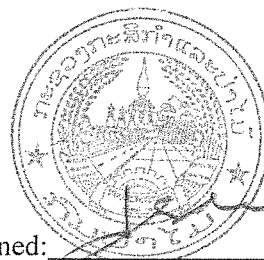
**(Please fill in the attached screening format.)**

**12. Beneficiaries**

*(Population for which positive changes are intended directly and indirectly by implementing the project and gender disaggregated data, if available)*

**13. Security Conditions**

**14. Others**



Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Organization: Sousath SAYAKOUMMANE

Date: 29 JAN 2019

## Screening Format (Environmental and Social Considerations)

Question 1 Address of a project site

Question 2 Outline of the project

2-1 Does the project come under following sectors?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please mark corresponding items.

- ☐ Mining development
- ☐ Industrial development
- ☐ Thermal power (including geothermal power)
- ☐ Hydropower, dams and reservoirs
- ☐ River/erosion control
- ☐ Power transmission and distribution lines
- ☐ Roads, railways and bridges
- ☐ Airports
- ☐ Ports and harbors
- ☐ Water supply, sewage and waste treatment
- ☐ Waste management and disposal
- ☐ Agriculture involving large-scale land-clearing or irrigation
- ☐ Forestry
- ☐ Fishery
- ☐ Tourism

2-2 Does the project include the following items?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please mark following items.

- ☐ Involuntary resettlement (scale: households, persons)
- ☐ Groundwater pumping (scale: m<sup>3</sup>/year)
- ☐ Land reclamation, land development and land-clearing (scale: hectares)
- ☐ Logging (scale: hectares)

2-3 Did the proponent consider alternatives before request?

☐ Yes: Please describe outline of the alternatives

(

)

☐ No

2-4 Did the proponent have meetings with related stakeholders before request?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please mark the corresponding stakeholders.

☐ Administrative body

☐ Local residents

☐ NGO

☐ Others (

)

### Question 3

Is the project a new one or an on-going one? In case of an on-going one, have you received strong complaints etc. from local residents?

☐ New ☐ On-going (there are complaints) ☐ On-going (there are no complaints)

☐ Others {

}

### Question 4 Name of laws or guidelines:

Is Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) including Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) required for the project according to laws or guidelines in the host country?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please mark corresponding items.

☐ Required only IEE (☐ Implemented, ☐ on going, ☐ planning)

☐ Required both IEE and EIA (☐ Implemented, ☐ on going, ☐ planning)

☐ Required only EIA (☐ Implemented, ☐ on going, ☐ planning)

☐ Others: {

}

### Question 5

In case of that EIA was taken steps, was EIA approved by relevant laws in the host country?

If yes, please mark date of approval and the competent authority.

<input type="checkbox"/> Approved: without a supplementary condition	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved: with a supplementary condition	<input type="checkbox"/> Under appraisal
--	---	--

(Date of approval:

Competent authority:

)

☐ Not yet started an appraisal process

☐ Others:( )

#### Question 6

If a certificate regarding the environment and society other than EIA, is required, please indicate the title of certificate.

☐ Already certified ☐ Required a certificate but not yet done

Title of the certificate :( )

☐ Not required

☐ Others ( )

#### Question 7

Are following areas located inside or around the project site?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not identified

If yes, please mark the corresponding items.

☐ National parks, protected areas designated by the government (coast line, wetlands, reserved area for ethnic or indigenous people, cultural heritage) and areas being considered for national parks or protected areas

☐ Virgin forests, tropical forests

☐ Ecological important habitat areas (coral reef, mangrove wetland, tidal flats)

☐ Habitat of valuable species protected by domestic laws or international treaties

☐ Likely salts cumulus or soil erosion areas on a massive scale

☐ Remarkable desertification trend areas

☐ Archaeological, historical or cultural valuable areas

☐ Living areas of ethnic, indigenous people or nomads who have a traditional lifestyle, or special socially valuable area

#### Question 8

Does the project have adverse impacts on the environment and local communities?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not identified

Reason: ( )

#### Question 9

Please mark related environmental and social impacts, and describe their outlines.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air pollution  | <input type="checkbox"/> Social institutions such as social infrastructure and local decision-making institutions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water pollution                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing social infrastructures and services   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soil pollution                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> The poor, indigenous of ethnic people  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waste  | <input type="checkbox"/> Maldistribution of benefit and damage  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noise and vibration                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Local conflict of interests  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ground subsidence                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Gender   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Offensive odors                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's rights  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geographical features                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural heritage  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bottom sediment                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS etc.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biota and ecosystem                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Others ( )   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water usage  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accidents  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Global warming                                       |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Involuntary resettlement                             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local economy such as employment and livelihood etc. |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land use and utilization of local resources          |   |

Outline of related impacts:

Question 10

Information disclosure and meetings with stakeholders

10-1 If the environmental and social considerations are required, does the proponent agree on information disclosure and meetings with stakeholders in accordance with JICA Guidelines for Environmental and Social Considerations?

☐ Yes

☐ No

10-2 If no, please describe reasons below.

[ ]