



Lao People's Democratic Republic

Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

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Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry  
Department of Forestry

No. /DOF  
Vientiane Capital 12 FEB 2019

Dear Mr. Syamphone Sengchandala, Deputy Director General Department of Climate Change, National Designated Authority (NDA) to the Green Climate Fund (GCF),

Ref: Request for no-objection for the Funding Proposal to be submitted to the GCF by GIZ regarding the project *'Implementation of the Lao PDR Emission Reductions Programme through improved governance and sustainable forest landscape management'*

As having central roles for the implementation of the Lao PDR's Emission Reduction Programme Document (ERPD), Department of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry herewith request a kind cooperation from your Department as the NDA of Lao PDR to issue a No-Objection for the Funding Proposal *'Implementation of the Lao PDR Emission Reductions Programme through improved governance and sustainable forest landscape management'* to be submitted to the GCF by GIZ as Accredited Entity by 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2019.

The funding proposal was jointly developed by Department of Forestry (DoF) and GIZ in close collaboration with partners from different line ministries and agencies in a consultative manner and in close cooperation with various co-financing partners, including ADB, JICA, BMZ and IFAD. More importantly, the funding proposal has a commitment to cover the watershed management component of the ADB project *'Sustainable Rural Infrastructure and Watershed Management Sector Project (SRIWMSP)'*.

It is important to highlight at this point is that the project has already been included into the GCF country pipeline in 2017. Besides, the project has high priority for the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) to leverage future results-based payment of approximately USD 42 million under REDD+ from the FCPF Carbon Fund into which the GoL got accepted in June 2018.

With the Emission Reductions Payment Agreement to be signed in January 2020, the country has the opportunity to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation over a period of 5 years and at this time period the proposed GCF project is the main funding source to implement the National REDD+ Strategy, the Emission Reductions Program and the Provincial REDD+ Action Plans in six northern provinces.

Furthermore, the funding proposal is in conformity with Lao PDR's national priorities, strategies and plans. It significantly contributes to the mitigation target of the Nationally



Determined Contributions (NDC), the NSEDP targets in terms of reducing deforestation and increasing the national forest cover. Therefore, it is of upmost importance for MAF to prioritize this proposal and bring it to the 23<sup>rd</sup> GCF Board Meeting in July 2019.

For this reason, we would like to request your kind consideration to notify a no-objection for this funding proposal to GCF Secretariat in due time.



Sousath Sayakoummane

Director General, Department of Forestry