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FIP PILOT COUNTRIES MEETING SUMMARY REPORT 2017

SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2017
LUANG PRABANG, LAO PDR

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INTRODUCTION

The Forest Investment Program (FIP) Pilot Countries Meeting took place from September 27-29, 2017 in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR. The meeting was generously hosted by the Government of the Lao PDR and organized by the CIF Administrative Unit in collaboration with the multilateral development banks. The World Bank and IFC Country Offices in Vientiane, Lao PDR played a key role in organizing the meeting and site visits.

The pilot countries meetings provide a platform for the FIP pilot countries to exchange experiences in the planning and implementation processes related to investments under the FIP, and more broadly under national forests and climate change initiatives undertaken by their respective governments and others in the forest sector. The central areas of focus of this pilot country meeting were: update on the status of the FIP, familiarization with the recently updated FIP monitoring and reporting toolkit, and exploration of emerging lessons learned. This allowed participants to discuss how best to draw out the results that are starting to arise from project implementation, get early thoughts from participant countries as to what lessons have been learned so far, and finally how can this body of knowledge best be shared and made use of in the future.

This years' meeting was held in collaboration with the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility's (FCPF) Committee meeting. The joint knowledge day agenda offered the opportunity for FIP and FCPF country representatives, civil society and the private sector to share views and experiences through a series of workshops, discussion panels, focus groups and a knowledge café style exchange.

OFFICIAL OPENING

The meeting was officially opened by His Excellency Mr. Thongphat Vongmany, the Lao PDR Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

MEETING PARTICIPANTS

The FIP Pilot countries meeting was attended by 92 participants (complete list of participants is included in Annex 4):

- 40 pilot country representatives
- 17 civil society representatives
- 20 from partner MDBs
- 15 from other development partners/agencies

The joint FIP-FCPF Knowledge Day was attended by more than 200 participants.

MEETING OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Pilot Countries Meeting were:

- To foster peer-to-peer learning among FIP pilot countries on practical issues related to the design and implementation of FIP investment plans and other forestry activities
- To learn from the experience of all FIP countries in implementing sustainable forest management practices
- To gather pilot country feedback on key lessons learned within the FIP family

Annex 2 provides the detailed agenda with objectives for each meeting session

The format for the sessions included presentations followed by group work, exercises and discussions and a plenary for validating and consolidating the knowledge exchanges. The presentations for each of the sessions can be found on the [CIF website](#). A synopsis of each session follows below.



His Excellency Mr. Thongphat Vongmany, the Lao PDR Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Minister delivering his opening address. Photo credit: CIF AU

UPDATE ON STATUS OF FIP

The FIP Senior Program Coordinator provided an update on the status of the FIP and the countries representatives shared some of the challenges and successes in the FIP programming so far. Key topics covered under this session included the FIP timeline, indicative resource allocation, current FIP portfolio, disbursements, pipeline management, resource availability, Dedicated Grant Mechanism, knowledge and learning, and the initial results reported. Participants shared experiences and tactics on how to get projects approved in a timely and efficient manner. There were also discussions on the future fundraising efforts for the FIP.

KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING

The Evaluation and Learning (E&L) Initiative, whose aim is to capture lessons and evidence on an ongoing basis to inform current and future climate finance investments was also discussed focusing on the FIP learning partnerships and proposals. The knowledge products will be translated into bite-sized practical learning for the FIP community and beyond. The table below lists the FIP-related E&L Initiative, and other knowledge products.

ORGANIZATION	KNOWLEDGE ACTIVITY/PRODUCT	TIMING OF DELIVERABLES
ITAD	Learning partnership on the Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous people and local communities	May 2018
IBRD	FIP - Lessons Learned from Country Investment Plans	December 2017
IBRD	Designing a mechanism to incentivize deforestation-free landscapes and value chains for green growth - Experience from FIP and Beyond	June 2018
CIF AU and Global Delivery Initiative	Ghana Case Study	2018
IIED/LTS	Evaluation and learning partnership on financing forest-related enterprises	March 2018

The CIF Administrative Unit recently published a knowledge note titled “Gender and Sustainable Forest Management: entry points for design and implementation.” The full product is available on the [CIF website](#).

FIP MONITORING AND REPORTING

This session started with a presentation on the updated FIP Monitoring and Reporting (M&R) system and zoomed in on the recently updated FIP M&R toolkit and recommendations from the stocktaking exercise

RECOMMENDATION 1

- FIP countries should continue to lead and drive the M&R process, supported by MDBs
- The FIP M&R system should be aligned with national M&E systems and should allow flexibility to FIP
- Reporting burdens and gaps of results can be alleviated by improved use of available information from MDBs.

RECOMMENDATION 2

- The capacities of FIP focal points should be strengthened, and additional capacity building for FIP M&R should be pursued.
- Lessons learned from the FIP M&R system should continue to be exchanged, which is especially important for new FIP countries.

RECOMMENDATION 3 (TWO-TIER APPROACH)

- FIP countries will report annually with narratives on IP progress
- FIP countries and/or MDBs will report on more granular project level progress in order to capture early results. FIP countries decide whether to provide the project level progress data or let the MDBs do it.

RECOMMENDATION 4

- The toolkit will be updated to ensure its ongoing effectiveness and utility.

The presentation was followed by an open session where Mexico and Lao PDR representatives shared their experiences of implementing the new FIP M&R toolkit. The involvement of broader and larger groups of stakeholders in reporting activities and the integration of the FIP reporting system with the overall M&E system in the forest sector were highlighted as key success factors. The lessons learned from Mexico include usefulness of the FIP reporting system in providing project implementers with an articulated, broader view of the Investment Plan impact. The new narrative report system and its validation process, while challenging, helps stakeholders to jointly tell an impact story beyond the numbers.

For the open discussions, the following questions were posed:

- What do you think the main successes of using the updated FIP M&R system will be?
- What do you think the main challenges of using the updated FIP M&R system will be? How can you overcome these challenges?
- Do you think you will need any different data collection tools? How do you think that data collection will be different for the new FIP M&R system?

Participants agreed that the involvement of the youth and women in forestry-related meetings and programming is key. Representatives from Lao PDR shared their experience of using smart phone-based reporting systems. IFC is also using mobile app in Laos and Vietnam in the private sector partnerships.

The M&R session was also part of the knowledge café style of exchange during the joint FIP-FCPF knowledge day on the second day of the meeting. The cafe focused on the following key question:

- ✓ How effective are M&R systems to measure changes made on forest governance?

LESSONS LEARNED

This session explored the emerging lessons from FIP investments and identified key topics and good examples for additional knowledge sharing, what is needed to deliver on this, and the potential role of the FIP in sharing this knowledge with a wider audience. The World Bank presented the preliminary findings of the work they are doing on “FIP -Lessons Learned from Country Investment Plans” under the Evaluation and Learning Initiative. The study identified the seven key success factors for the FIP which formed the basis for the discussions for this session.

FACTORS IN FIP SUCCESS:

1. A strong Theory of Change
2. Government champions and ownership
3. Multilateral Development Banks collaboration
4. Programmatic approach: cross-sectoral approaches
5. Inclusive governance and stakeholder engagement
6. Capacity of MDBs and government
7. Private sector engagement

A mobile app was developed for this event to enhance live interactions and feedback mechanisms (see Annex 1 for details). Participants used the mobile app to select the top four factors in FIP success. In small groups, they focused on top four success factors and addressed these questions:

- What is your country's experience?
- What barriers/negative experiences did you encounter? How did you overcome or avoided these barriers?
- What were the success factors or positive experiences which can be replicated?
- What would you advise to a country that is starting the FIP process?



SUCCESS FACTORS – SOME INSIGHTS FROM THE GROUPS

- ✓ Selection of the lead MDB.
- ✓ Country ownership and government staff champions during IP development process.
- ✓ Guidance on IP development needs to continuously improve.
- ✓ National level staff involved in writing the Investment Plan.
- ✓ Capitalize on REDD+ experiences and lessons.
- ✓ Multi-ministerial collaboration and involvement, and secure stakeholder alignment
- ✓ The creation of multidisciplinary spaces, regulated, mandated by policy and that convey different groups.

- ✓ A solid stakeholder involvement plan, starting from the design of the project.
- ✓ On stakeholder engagement, it was noted that it is important to know who to engage at what stage of the project cycle.

THE GROUPS WERE ASKED TO THINK ABOUT THE NOTES THEY WOULD PROVIDE TO A SUCCESSOR

- ✓ Need to talk about forests in terms that are understandable by economists (Ministry of Finance).
- ✓ Strategic mapping of key stakeholders and a plan to sustain conversations and engagement.
- ✓ How to communicate effectively that FIP investments are being successful. Relevance and benefits need to be translated for everyone.
- ✓ Field trip visits to show early results on the ground. Showcase improved practices.
- ✓ MDB's can help with the transitions (changes in government staff), and facilitate the sharing of "legacies".
- ✓ Focus on activities and goals that can work with the given budget.
- ✓ Take advantage of existing studies and diagnostics. This can help maximize the resources.
- ✓ Design monitoring systems that are effective, that not only evaluate results, but help redefine policies.
- ✓ International funds should operate under the existing national plans, in an integrated (programmatic approach), to ensure the best possible outcome.
- ✓ Respect existing structures that are already proven to be working.



MAXIMIZING CIF KNOWLEDGE AND COMMUNICATIONS

The CIFs were established as a learning laboratory for scaled-up climate finance and this session focused on how the pilot countries, MDBs and the CIF Administrative Unit can capture the knowledge and tell the stories. Cameroon and DRC had the opportunity to share some images and tell the stories behind the images, after which the participants interviewed each other and recorded the sessions using their smart phones

Some of the video clips are available on the CIF YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/user/CIFaction>)



DRC

DRC1 photo - Discussion and launch of the Complaints and Recourse Management Mechanism with the participation of the customary chiefs.

DRC2 photo - Agroforestry preparation of the 2016 crop season, participatory choice on cultural speculation with communities in the Bukangalonzo site for 76 households.



CAMEROON

"The two photos highlight the process of forest exploitation by logging companies in Cameroon. The forest sector provides a regular contribution of 4% to the GDP and accounts for about 22,000 direct employment in the formal wood sector of industrial forestry. With regards to the wood processing sector, it generates about 150,000 jobs, representing 14% of the formal sector and 86% in the informal sector. Challenge remains to conciliate logging industries with REDD+." Achille B. Momo, MRV Senior Expert, REDD+ Technical Secretariat.



JOINT FIP-FCPF KNOWLEDGE DAY

For the first time the FIP partnered with the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and convened a joint FIP-FCPF Knowledge Exchange Day which allowed FIP Pilot Countries to share their experience with, and learn from, a wide range of SFM, REDD+ and rural development colleagues in public, private and civil society sectors. The full list of sessions is available in Annex 3. The following sessions were coordinated by the CIF Administrative Unit:

- Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) financing for sustainable forest management
- Successes and challenges in combating illegal logging and deforestation
- Experiences on tenure in forest programs
- Strengthening Climate Action through Stakeholder Involvement

1. SME FINANCING FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

Moderator: Isilda Nhantumbo, IIED

Panelists: Paul Speed, New Forests; Brian Schaap, Forest Trends; Michael Brady, IFC; Berenice Hernandez Toro, Mexico

- SMEs represent 80-90% of the forest industry, which accounts for some 13 million formal jobs and 41 million jobs informally. Demand for forest products is expected to increase fourfold by 2040 so there will be a need to strengthen and invest in SMEs. SMEs face many challenges but a key one is informality – operating outside of regular political and economic structures – so access to finance is difficult preventing investment and growth
- IFC's 'lead firm' approach tries to find established, often international firms and use them as the way to access SMEs, rather than going to SMEs directly. This also helps with providing a market for forest products which is often a problem. The lack of solid business planning is also a common barrier for SMEs as well as national definitions about what can be used for collateral.
- The Timberland Investment Management Organizations have over a relatively short period drawn attention from institutional investors. Although TIMOs have become commonplace in North America and Europe they are still relatively novel in the tropics. Experience is concentrated in plantation development but there is interest in broadening the scope of activities to include landscape restoration and natural forest management.

- A quarter of the 130 million ha of forest in Mexico are managed by ejidos or local communities. It is common to hear two complaints – local people have project ideas but no credit; and banks say they have money to lend but no good projects in which to invest. CONAFOR sees technical assistance as the means to bridge gap and is trying to highlight projects that are financially viable and sustainable with strong economic and social benefits. FIP support in Oaxaca is providing technical assistance and concessional funds through local organizations to provide SME's credit.

- Success stories in Lao and Peru have shown how capacity building extends to finance institutions and local banks which may have limited experience in the sector. Building on experience from the agriculture sector was seen as an easy win. The role of blended finance in attracting investors by helping address risks or extending the range of potential benefits was a topic that was just starting to be discussed in the sector with FIP giving important examples. This was particularly important as the sector starts to view other regions where risks are less well understood and are stifling investment appetite.

2. SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES IN COMBATING ILLEGAL LOGGING AND DEFORESTATION

Moderator: Robert Davis, World Bank

Panelists: Leila Fonseca, Brazil; Lee White, Gabon; Bamba Diop, AfDB; Khamfeua Sirivongs, Lao PDR

- In the case of Lao PDR, the implementation of PM Order No.15, which suspended the export of un-processed timber, had an important effect on reducing illegal logging. But the PM Order No.15 alone cannot completely stop deforestation and forest degradation; other policy instruments are needed, including instruments to promote sustainable forest management and commercialization of legal wood.
- FLEGT, SFM certification, and other good governance initiatives can be good tools for combating illegal logging only if the private sector is strengthened and if international markets commit to purchase legal and certified wood.
- In many countries, illegal logging is focused on the exportation of un-processed timber. Improved capacity for national wood processing is needed to promote the export of finished products, not just timber.
- The case of Brazil is a clear demonstration of the importance of having systems that allow monitoring of deforestation at the national and sub-national level. Use of this type of technologies, and having the information easily accessible to the public,

promotes collaboration between stakeholders (private and public) and supports the implementation of government policies.

- Illegal logging is many times closely related to other illegal activities (for example illegal gold and trade of ivory). The considerable amount of money that can be involved in these illegal activities is one of the main challenges to fight corruption.
- The question was raised of whether it would be a more efficient use of development funds to focus on projects that deal with investigative/police/enforcement type of work, and not on traditional governance and sustainable forestry projects.
- Other challenges to combating illegal logging mentioned: most companies that engage in illegal logging are also involved in legal logging; high costs of compliance with existing regulations; in some cases, the same government organization is in charge of issuing forest permits and also of the monitoring and control.

3. EXPERIENCES ON TENURE IN FOREST PROGRAMS

Moderator: Stephen Danyo, World Bank

Panelists: Esteban Morales, Peru; Sidney Medeiros, Brazil; H.E. Kebede Yimam Dawd, Ethiopia

- Ethiopia has been working on the issue of land tenure and agriculture for many years and now this work has been expanded to cover forests. Previous work has clearly shown that providing tenure has a direct positive effect in land productivity, conservation, as well as in promoting gender equality.
- In Brazil, the work funded by FIP focuses in the Cerrado region (savannah ecosystem) where expansion of agricultural lands is the main cause of deforestation. Land tenure laws at the national level mandate that every farmer must have a cadaster and preserve 20% of their forests, but each state can have more stringent regulations. One of the main incentives to promote regularization of land tenure is the government initiative to provide tenured and legal farmers with access to grants to improve their productivity (\$66 billion / year budget).
- Indigenous peoples often live on lands governed by customary tenure and other community agreements. Formalizing land tenure rights is an essential foundation for vulnerable indigenous peoples to maintain their livelihoods; exercise their civil, social, cultural, political, and economic rights; and contribute to local, national, and global sustainable development. The Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (DGM) in Peru has as one of its main objectives the official recognition and

registration of 310 indigenous peoples' communities, and the demarcation and titling of an extra 130 by 2020. The fact that the DGM is a project led by indigenous people has empowered the indigenous peoples' organizations to engage in constant dialogue with government at the national and subnational level.

4. STRENGTHENING CLIMATE ACTION THROUGH STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

Moderator: Johnson Cerdá, Conservation International

Panelists: Archana Godbole, India; Grace Balawag, Philippines; Andrianina Rakotosoa, Madagascar

- The governance of the Climate Investment Funds (CIFs) has established a very participatory and successful system for stakeholder engagement, mainly through the nomination of observers representing the Civil Society, Indigenous People, and the Private Sector. Good examples that should be replicated by other funds are the fact that the CIF provides the observers with the opportunity to meet 1 day prior to the Sub-Committee meetings; the recent creation of the Stakeholder Advisory Network (SAN); and the requirements for stakeholder engagement throughout the design of the Investment Plans.
- Specific recommendations for the CIF included: making resources available for representatives from countries that don't have observers to participate in SC meeting in cases where specific issues will be discussed during the meeting pertaining these countries ; and to provide funding to the observers to organize 1 meeting per year to consult with their regional stakeholders.
- The main limitation for stakeholder involvement is lack or limited resources and, for engagement at the national level, the heavy dependency on funding from international sources.
- Another important barrier identified was the difficulty of finding efficient channels of communication, particularly to reach stakeholders that live in distant places. Panama shared a successful example of how they overcame this challenge: the government agreed to donate time in the national radio for the indigenous organizations to use as their main communication channel to reach their audience at the national level.
- Madagascar presented their REDD+ Platform that was created to promote intersectoral coordination, avoid conflict of interest and promote knowledge of REDD+. This multi-stakeholder platform that works at the national and regional levels has allowed strong stakeholder participation for decision making about the strategic options and activities, the institutional framework, the Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism, and the benefit-sharing mechanism and local funds.



FIELD TRIP TO THE PROJECT SITES

The last day of the meeting was for field trips. Participants had four choices to choose their preferred site visit

- [Kuang Xi Waterfall Forest Park](#)
- [Customary law based community forest land right of ethnic groups in Long Lan Village, Luang Prabang](#)
- [Pha Tad Kae Botanical garden](#)
- [Teak Smallholder Forestry and Wood Products, Luang Prabang Province](#)

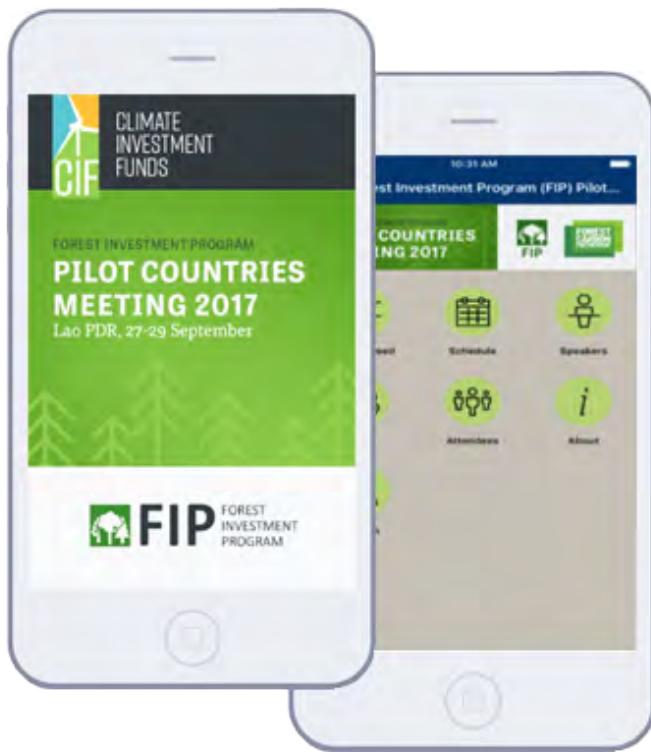


*Photo credit:
The first two are from FCPF
The last is from CIF AU*

ANNEX 1:

MEETING MOBILE-APP

A mobile-app for the event was developed and launched to enhance engagement and real-time knowledge sharing. Participants shared insights and pictures during the sessions, and utilized the interactive features of the app - the polls and survey to provide real-time feedback.



Mobile-app usage and engagement statistics

- **Users** - Total number of unique users across devices - 76
- **All Engagement** - Total number of actions taken with the app (i.e., - sessions, speakers, exhibitors... etc.) – 340
- **User Contributors** - Total number of attendee messages and social shares - 820
- **Minutes Open** - Total time spent in minutes, users used the app – 6550
- **Banner Taps** - 43
- **Navigation Icon Taps** – Total number of taps for all navigation icons – 1350

ANNEX 2:

FIP Pilot Countries Meeting September 27-29, 2017 Luang Prabang, Lao PDR

MEETING AGENDA

Introduction

The Forest Investment Program (FIP), which operates within the Climate Investment Funds (CIF), is exploring paths to enhance partnered learning and coordination. One such avenue is the FIP Pilot Countries Meeting, which brings together a mix of participants from government, private sector, civil society, indigenous peoples, and local community groups together with colleagues from the MDBs to foster peer-to-peer learning among FIP pilot countries on practical issues related to the design and implementation of FIP investment plans and other forestry activities.

Day One: Wednesday, September 27, 2017

08:30-09:30 **Opening**

Opening and welcome remarks from the host Government, CIF and MDB Country Offices.

09:30-10:00 **Update on the status of the FIP**

Overview of the meeting agenda followed by brief presentation on the status of the FIP portfolio.

10:00-10:30 Coffee break

10:30-12:30 **FIP Monitoring & Reporting**

This session will present the new updated FIP M&R toolkit. It will take the participants through a step-by-step presentation on how to use the toolkit, a practical example from a FIP country implementing it and an open round of Q&A.

12:30-13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 16:00 **Lessons Learned**

This session will explore the emerging lessons from FIP investments and help identify key topics and good examples for additional knowledge sharing, what is needed to deliver on this, and the potential role of the FIP in sharing this knowledge with a wider audience. The session will also facilitate discussion and ideas around

the CIF's ongoing agenda as it moves forward into its 10th year of action, with a particular focus on generating dialogue around the CIF@10. The session will begin with a panel discussion outlining some of the work drawing on experience in pilot countries to date and highlighting key lessons from these. Following a Q&A discussion with the panelists, participants will break into smaller groups to discuss their perspectives on key learning and knowledge sharing opportunities for the FIP and will report back in plenary discussions.

16:00-17:00

Making the most out of our knowledge and communications

FIP is a living laboratory with a mandate to communicate experience and lessons learned, to showcase what FIP has been able to achieve and build the legacy of knowledge beyond the initial FIP investments. Getting these stories and examples out of the forest and shared around the world is a responsibility for us all and as a FIP partnership we have a ready-made network. There is a range of tools and platforms available for us to do this efficiently at low cost in terms of time and resources. This session will introduce tips and tools for capturing and sharing your stories.

17:00-17:30

Wrap up Day One

TBD

Joint FIP/FCPF Reception

Day Two: Thursday, September 28, 2017

Joint FIP-FCPF Knowledge Day: Partnership in Action

For the first time the FIP is partnering with the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility to convene a joint FIP-FCPF Knowledge Exchange Day which will include a range of events allowing FIP Pilot Countries to share their experience with and learn from a wide range of SFM, REDD+ and rural development colleagues in public, private and civil society sectors.

Day Three: Friday, September 29, 2017

Field Trip to Project sites

As usual we will have a day field trip which will allow us to experience the beautiful countryside of Lao PDR, meet some of the local communities and get to see how SFM and REDD+ initiatives are being implemented on the ground. Details of the field trip will be available shortly.

ANNEX 3:

FCPF-FIP JOINT KNOWLEDGE DAY AGENDA: SEPTEMBER, 28, 2017

SESSION 1: 8.45am – 10.15am

Room 1: Coordinating financing for large-scale climate engagement

Countries are increasingly moving toward a more integrated and strategic approach to their forest and climate engagement, yet often rely on diverse sources of funding, which address discrete but overlapping objectives. In this session, country and World Bank representatives will examine the ways countries can align these financing modalities in order to better respond to national priorities, streamline their instruments, and support overall NDC implementation.

Room 2: SME Financing for Sustainable Forest Management

The importance of combining public, private and other multi-stakeholder entities to work together in scaling up resources for sustainable forest management is well known. Getting the conditions right that will mobilize resources from a diverse range of actors is challenging. Better understanding effective financing strategies in this complex environment is key to fulfilling the contributions of forests to sustainable development and attaining the Paris agreement. The CIF's new Evaluation and Learning Partnership on Financing Forest Related Enterprises considers the challenges that many face in finding effective business models and partners for forest investments. The team from IIED and LTS will introduce early findings from the Partnership's work, followed by perspectives from a panel including MDBs, private sector investors, forest companies on examples of successes and challenges in mobilizing financial resources for sustainable forest management.

Room 3: Successes and challenges in combating illegal logging and deforestation

Illegal logging is a global issue, affecting most forested countries. Estimating the scale of illegal logging is challenging due to its illicit nature. However in-depth investigations into forestry practices from around the world, as well as research into the timber trade, all indicate that it is a substantial problem. Countries will discuss their experiences tackling this problem at the national level, and how this requires collaborative work on good forest governance, law enforcement, trade controls, secure resource rights, and sustainable resource development, etc. The panel will also discuss how to integrate voluntary efforts of the private sector, particularly from companies committed to zero deforestation in their supply chains, with public climate policies (particularly the alignment of agricultural expansion and forest conservation activities).

Room 4: Inclusive and Sustainable Forest Management

Sustainable forest management is grounded in enhancement of forest resources for ecosystem resources and forests' roles and carbon sinks, and in their productive utilization for both livelihood and income purposes by smallholders, forest-based peoples including indigenous peoples, and other actors. Changing management regimes and policy contexts entail a continuous shift in resource access and control, tenure security, non-timber forest product collection rights, and in the source and destination of value addition in forest value chains. Amidst this backdrop, the needs and interests of women and men farmers, forest dwellers, and others must be understood, and institutions and practices set up in such a way that women forest producers in particular are not disadvantaged as new governance, production and economic models come into play. This session will introduce the key challenges in the sector, and identify the main gender gaps as evidenced by research across different regions. Approaches to doing country-level analysis on gender and forests will be shared, and an interactive activity with participants will add to this knowledge base.

SESSION 2: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Room 1: Session: REDD+ Strategy Development

Countries have pursued different approaches to developing and implementing REDD+ Strategies, with these strategies often operating in the context of larger national climate and sustainable development policy frameworks. In this session, countries will share their experiences drafting these strategies, with input from multiple stakeholders across various sectors, and their successes and challenges in coordinating and implementing strategy options, particularly from an institutional perspective.

Room 2: Engaging Private Sector in forest landscape programs

Many companies, both multinational and domestic, have made commitments or expressed interest in achieving sustainable, zero net deforestation commodity production. Engaging the private sector in forest landscape programs offers a huge opportunity to scale-up program impact; however, only few country governments have been successful in exploring and advancing such partnerships with the private sector. In this session, several countries will share lessons on integrating the private sector into their programs: Ghana, in the case of eliminating deforestation from the cocoa supply chain, and Mozambique, on emerging partnerships with small and medium private sector companies around productive forest management.

Room 3: Experiences on tenure in forest programs

Forest tenure is a broad concept that includes ownership, tenancy and other arrangements for the use of forests. It is a combination of legally or customarily defined forest

ownership and of rights and arrangements to manage and use forest resources. Forest tenure determines who can use what resources, for how long and under what conditions, and is of importance for the protection of indigenous and community rights.

As one of the main issues related to sustainable forest management and development, panelists in this session will share their experience of implementing tenure reforms and projects, considering the broader national context that includes governance and regulatory frameworks.

Room 4: Enhancing Equity in Community-Based Forestry and Non-Timber Forest Product Development

This session will include an introduction as to why gender integration can enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of projects and forest-related initiatives. Several country experiences with efforts to enhance women's participation in community-based forestry and non-timber forest product development will be described and discussed. The role of indigenous people's organizations in supporting women's participation in forest management will also be examined, as an example of the importance of enhancing voice and use of multi-stakeholder processes for sustainable forest management interventions over the long run. There will be an interactive exercise with participants to share their knowledge and help further develop case studies.

SESSION 3: 1.45pm -3.25pm

All rooms: Knowledge Café

Several discussion tables where a country can present a challenge or idea for fast-paced 45 min feedback discussions. There would be 2 rounds during this slot. Topics/Presenters will be demand-driven.

Round 1 (1.45pm – 2.30pm)

Table 1: Appreciating and improving Dedicated Grant Mechanisms to benefit Indigenous Peoples and local communities

Discussion Leaders: Ben Murphy and Boru Douthwaite, Monitoring and Evaluation for International Development (ITAD)

Table 2: How effective are M&R systems to measure changes in forest governance?

Discussion Leader: Rocio Sanz Cortes, FIP Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist

Table 3: Fuelwood efficiency and demonstration activities with improved cook stoves that have benefited women in Togo

Discussion Leader: Brigitte Acakop-Addra Tsanya, Director of Women's Environmental Program and President of the Women's REDD+ Consortium, Togo

Table 4: How can the private sector contribute to sustainability of REDD+ programs?

Discussion Leader: Margaret-Ann Splawn, Climate Market and Investment Association (CМИA)

Table 5: Lessons from international gender and forests research: approaches, evidence, and resources

Discussion Leader: Thuy Thu Pham, CIFOR Country Representative, Vietnam

Table 6: Challenges in involving private sector in the REDD+ process in Cameroon

Discussion Leader: Achille Momo, Senior MRV Expert, Cameroon

Table 7: Financing investment readiness for small and medium size enterprises (SMEs) to effectively engage in value chains is a costly proposition; is there another way?

Discussion Leader: Isilda Nhantumbo, Senior Researcher, International Institute for Environment and Development

Table 8: Benefit sharing mechanisms: Ethiopia's experience

Discussion Leader: Tesfaye Gonfa, Oromia Forest Landscape Program Coordinator, Ethiopia

Table 9: Gabon: HFLD issues and mapping and zoning for low-deforestation agriculture

Discussion Leader: Lee White, Director, National Park Services, Gabon

Table 10: Models for Private Sector Engagement in Country Programs

Discussion Leader: Brian Schaap, Forest Trends

Round 1 (2.40pm – 3.25pm)

Table 11: Ensuring a gender-responsive emissions reduction program in Ghana: gender analysis and action plan

Discussion Leader: Margaux Granat, Climate Policy Advisor, IUCN

Table 12: Interactive exercise relating to forest-gender gaps and the actions to address them

Discussion Leader: Patti Kristjanson, Gender Advisor, Program on Forests (PROFOR/World Bank)

Table 13: Financing investment readiness for small and medium size enterprises (SMEs) to effectively engage in value chains is a costly proposition; is there another way? (2)

Discussion Leader: Isilda Nhantumbo, Senior Researcher, International Institute for Environment and Development

Table 14: Achievements and challenges in the sustainable use of wood in Guatemala

Discussion Leader: Jocobo Cotto, Director of Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Guatemala

Table 15: Complaints and grievance mechanisms within the FIP: experiences from Democratic Republic of Congo

Discussion Leader: Alex Yenge, Social and Environment Safeguards Expert, Democratic Republic of Congo

Table 16: How collaboration between the private sector and the governments of Brazil and Indonesia are working towards reducing deforestation

Discussion Leaders: Chris Meyer, Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) and Brian Schaap, Forest Trends

Table 17: Beyond impact investment: how to mainstream private sector investments for forest carbon

Discussion Leader: Irene Wasilevsky, Coordinator of REDD+ Project, Argentina

Table 18: Landscape coordination platforms in Ethiopia

Discussion Leader: Tesfaye Gonfa, Oromia Forest Landscape Program Coordinator, Ethiopia

Table 19: Madagascar's approach to MRV

Discussion Leader: Roger-Luc Andriamanalina, Chief Technician, National REDD Coordination Bureau, Madagascar

Table 20: Progress made on biodiversity conservation from FIP: which methods work most effectively?

Discussion Leader: Rocio Sanz Cortes, FIP M&E Specialist

Table 21: Appreciating and improving Dedicated Grant Mechanisms to benefit Indigenous Peoples and local communities (2)

Discussion Leaders: Ben Murphy and Boru Douthwaite, Monitoring and Evaluation for International Development (ITAD)

SESSION 4: 3.40pm -5.10pm

Room 1: Learning Clinic on FCPF ER-Program development

The FCPF is piloting results-based payments for emission reductions at the landscape level, with 19 countries having been selected into the pipeline of the Carbon Fund and having signed Letters of Intent to negotiate an agreement for a carbon finance transaction—an ER Payment Agreement (ERPA). Before ERPA negotiations can commence, countries must present detailed program proposals which are assessed by a technical advisory panel for compliance with the Carbon Fund's Methodological Framework. In this session, countries that are further along in their progression through these steps will share experiences on the process. In addition, Carbon Fund Participants will also share their perspectives.

Room 2: Training Session: Communicating on REDD+

Every time you talk to a journalist, post on social media, or make a conference presentation about your REDD+ efforts, you have the opportunity to build your reputation as a great communicator. This session will focus on how to most effectively communicate about REDD+ in a variety of contexts. Potential topics include: developing strong and concise messages that convey the strengths of your program/organization to key audiences, understanding how reporters work in preparing and reporting news, skillfully addressing difficult questions, and effectively conveying information across media platforms.

Room 3: Strengthening Climate Action through Stakeholder Involvement

The incorporation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities into SFM and REDD+ activities is crucial to achieve both climate and development goals. The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the Forest Investment

Program's Dedicated Grant Mechanism offer two approaches to build capacity and empower Indigenous Peoples and local communities for sustainable forest management.

Join a panel of government, civil society and MDB colleagues involved in designing and implementing these programs discuss how their unique design offers opportunities and challenges; how do you bring together indigenous peoples, multilateral development banks, CSOs and donor and recipient governments; and, what are the key lessons from implementing these initiatives in a complex and ever-changing environment?

Room 4: Strategic Alignment and Policy Engagement: What works to make it more inclusive?

This session will include an introduction as to why gender integration can enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of projects and forest-related initiatives. Next, the FIP and FCPF programs are set amidst a larger policy context in-country of forest, climate, poverty and gender processes, as well as formal dialogue and conventions on these topics at the national and international levels (the 'how'). This session will draw from the experience of governments, donors and international CSOs to elucidate lessons from these processes. First, IUCN will discuss how countries worked with IUCN to develop gender-focused REDD+ Roadmaps and how these were able to be taken up as resources in other policy processes and programs. Second, there will be a case study presented where experiences with gender integration at multiple scales (tying together policy efforts, agency gender mainstreaming, and direct field support to female and male farmers) to advance gender-responsive sustainable forest management will be shared. Finally, representatives from FIP and FCPF will discuss with participant entry points for enhanced gender integration through these programs' investment plans and projects at country level.

Joint FIP - FCPF Knowledge Day:

Laos, September 28, 2017

Session coordinators:

FIP

FCPF

FCPF & FIP Communications

FCPF & FIP Gender

Time	Session	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4
8:30-8:45	Transition to sessions				
8:45-10:15	Session 1 (90 min)	Coordinating financing for large-scale climate engagement	SME Financing for Sustainable Forest Management	Successes and Challenges in combating illegal logging and deforestation:	Inclusive and Sustainable Forest Management
10:15-10:30	Transition to next sessions				
10:30-12:00	Session 2 (90 min)	REDD+ Strategy development	Engaging Private Sector in forest landscape programs	Experiences on tenure in forest programs	Enhancing Equity in Community-Based Forestry and Non-Timber Forest Product Development
12:00-1:45	Lunch				
1:45-3:25	Session 3 (90 min)	Knowledge Café: Several discussion tables where a country can present a challenge or idea for fast-paced 45 min feedback discussions. There would be 2 rounds during this slot.			
3:25-3:40	Transition to next sessions				
3:40-5:10	Session 4 (90 min)	Learning Clinic on FCPF ER-Program development	Communicating on REDD+	Strengthening Climate Action through Stakeholder Involvement	Strategic Alignment and Policy Engagement: What works to make it more inclusive?
5:10-5:15	Instructions for Field Trip				

ANNEX 4:

FIP PILOT COUNTRIES MEETING, SEPTEMBER 27, LUANG PRABANG, LAO PDR LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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REPORT 2017**

SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2017
LUANG PRABANG, LAO PDR