

Asia-Pacific FCPF Capacity Building on REDD+ Project

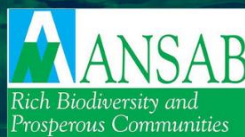
Regional Sharing Workshop

FURAMA SILOM HOTEL, BANGKOK, THAILAND

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

| | |
|----------------|---|
| <i>ACIAR</i> | Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research |
| <i>AIPP</i> | Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact |
| <i>AMAN</i> | Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara |
| <i>ANSAB</i> | Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources |
| <i>BSP</i> | Benefit Sharing Plan |
| <i>CBP</i> | Capacity Building Program |
| <i>CEMA</i> | Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs |
| <i>CFMG</i> | Community Forest Management Groups |
| <i>CFUG</i> | Community Forest User Group |
| <i>CIF</i> | Climate Investment Fund |
| <i>CRD</i> | Center for Rural Development in Central Vietnam |
| <i>CSDM</i> | Center for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas |
| <i>CSE</i> | Centre for Science and Environment |
| <i>CSO</i> | Civil Society Organizations |
| <i>DGM</i> | Dedicated Grant Mechanism |
| <i>EM</i> | Ethnic Minorities |
| <i>EnABLE</i> | Enhancing Access to Benefits while Lowering Emissions |
| <i>ERP</i> | Emission Reductions Program |
| <i>ERPA</i> | Emission Reductions Payment Agreement |
| <i>ERPD</i> | Emission Reductions Program Document |
| <i>ESF</i> | Environmental and Social Framework |
| <i>ESS</i> | Environmental Social Standard |
| <i>FAO</i> | Food and Agriculture Organization |
| <i>FBO</i> | Faith-based Organization |
| <i>FCPF</i> | Forest Carbon Partnership Facility |
| <i>FECOFUN</i> | Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal |
| <i>FGD</i> | Focused Group Discussions |
| <i>FGRM</i> | Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism |
| <i>FPIC</i> | Free, Prior and Informed Consent |
| <i>GCF</i> | Green Climate Fund |
| <i>GRM</i> | Grievance Redress Mechanism |
| <i>GTM</i> | Grace Trifam Ministry |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| <i>HIMAWANTI</i> | Himalayan Grassroots Women’s Natural Resource Management Association |
| <i>ILO</i> | International Labour Organization |
| <i>IIPFCC</i> | International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change |
| <i>IP</i> | Indigenous Peoples |
| <i>IPO</i> | Indigenous Peoples’ Organizations |
| <i>IPSSDD</i> | Indigenous Peoples' Sustainable, Self-Determined Development |
| <i>LC</i> | Local Communities |
| <i>MRV</i> | Measurement, Reporting, and Verification |
| <i>NDC</i> | Nationally Determined Contributions |
| <i>NEFIN</i> | Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities |
| <i>NORAD</i> | Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation |
| <i>PanNature</i> | People and Nature Reconciliation |
| <i>PSIDS</i> | Pacific Small Island Developing States |
| <i>RAC</i> | Regional Advisory Committee |
| <i>RBCF</i> | Results-Based Climate Finance |
| <i>RECOFTC</i> | Center for People and Forests |
| <i>REDD+</i> | Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks |
| <i>RSC</i> | Regional Steering Committee |
| <i>SCALE</i> | Scaling Climate Action by Lowering Emissions |
| <i>SIS</i> | Safeguards Information System |
| <i>SSV</i> | Soqosoqo Vakamarama iTaukei |
| <i>TAL</i> | Terai Arc Landscape |
| <i>Tebtebba</i> | Indigenous Peoples’ International Centre for Policy Research and Education |
| <i>UNCBD</i> | United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity |
| <i>UNDRIP</i> | United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples |
| <i>UNFCCC</i> | United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change |
| <i>VUSTA</i> | Vietnam Union for Science and Technology |
| <i>WB</i> | World Bank |



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I. INTRODUCTION

The Capacity Building Program (CBP) on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (REDD+), one of the building blocks of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility's (FCPF) Readiness Program, will close its third and final phase on June 30, 2023. This program funded the Asia-Pacific FCPF Capacity Building on REDD+ Project which facilitated the implementation of the activities described in this report and which closed on February 28, 2023.

This "Asia-Pacific FCPF Capacity Building on REDD+ Project Regional Sharing Workshop" is part of the activities under the 3rd phase of the CBP, Component 2. It was jointly organized by the implementing organizations (IOs) ANSAB (Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources) which focused on southern civil society organizations and local communities (CSOs and LCs) and Tebtebba (Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education) which focused on forest-dependent indigenous peoples (IPs).

The workshop objectives were to (i) Share first-hand experiences, achievements, challenges and lessons learned from the IPLC organizations implementing sub-projects on capacity building in Fiji, Nepal and Vietnam; (ii) Share country/regional level experiences on capacity building of IPLCs and their meaningful participation and inclusion in REDD+ and ERP processes, programs and projects of relevant governments and donors; and (iii) Consolidate gaps, barriers, challenges, good practices and lessons learned and draw specific and practical recommendations to improve effective participation and inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+ and Emission Reductions Program (ERP) processes, programs and projects including access to benefits.

Held on 12-14 February 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand, the workshop gathered 65 representatives from the 10¹ FCPF countries which included representatives from the IPOs and CSOs implementing the sub-projects, REDD+ focal points from ERP countries, CSO/IP FCPF observers in the region, members of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) for IPs, Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) for CSOs and LCs, regional organizations working on REDD+ and the World Bank (WB).

This summary report is based on the messages, presentations, parallel discussions, work groups as well as discussions that reemerged during questions and answers sessions throughout the workshop, which is fully documented in the proceedings attached herewith.

II. PROJECT EXPERIENCES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The WB administers the FCPF through two (2) funds: the Readiness Fund of around US\$400 million and the Carbon Fund amounting to US\$900 million. The CBP, launched in 2009, is funded under the Readiness Fund. Participants recalled that IPLCs were not involved in the formulation of REDD (as it was called earlier) which included forest lands traditionally owned and managed by IPLCs. Towards the recognition of IPLCs in REDD, thus, REDD+, IP participants particularly recalled the history of their engagements. This included several negotiations with the WB/FCPF until a dedicated allocation for capacity building for IPs was approved in 2008. In 2011, the CBP started supporting southern CSOs and other forest dwellers.

There were three (3) phases of the CBP with a total allocation of US\$9.9 million. Funds were channeled through the selected IOs, ANSAB and Tebtebba, in Phases 2 and 3. For the Phase 3 of CBP in Asia-Pacific (this project), the total allocation was US\$920,000.

A new program, Enhancing Access to Benefits while Lowering Emissions (EnABLE), also managed by the WB, is considered a successor of the CBP. Like Phase 3 of the CBP, EnABLE will initially focus on ERP countries and will finance or co-finance activities for marginalized communities, IPLCs, ethnic minorities (EMs) and disadvantaged beneficiaries. Capacity building will focus on Results-Based Climate Finance (RBCF) and Benefit Sharing Plans (BSPs) implementation. There are other funds under the WB which could benefit IPLCs, such as the Scaling Climate Action by Lowering Emissions (SCALE) fund.

The CBP Phase 3 in Asia-Pacific benefited 11 FCPF countries in the region, of which three (3), namely Fiji, Nepal, and Vietnam, were eligible for National Capacity Building and Awareness-raising Activities (Component 1). There were eight (8) organizations selected to implement capacity building activities at the national level (sub-grantees): Grace Trifam Ministry (GTM) and Soqosoqo Vakamarama iTaukei (SSV) in Fiji; Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN), Himalayan Grassroots Women's Natural Resource Management Association (HIMAWANTI), and Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN) in Nepal; and People and Nature Reconciliation (PanNature), the Center for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas (CSDM), and the Center for Rural Development in Central Vietnam (CRD) in Vietnam. Two (2) Indigenous Peoples' Organizations (IPOs), however, were not able to fully implement the sub-projects.

¹ The 11 FCPF countries are Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, Vanuatu and Vietnam but no representative from Vanuatu attended. See Annex 2. List of Participants

The CBP Phase 3 project implementation period was 17 months inclusive of the two (2) months extension (project effectiveness 30 September 2021, project closing 28 February 2023 with the extension) for IPs. It took Tebtebba four (4) months to select sub-projects and sign sub-grant agreements with selected organizations. Sub-projects for IPs were planned to be implemented from February 2022 to December 2022 with option to avail of the two (2) months extension.

For CSOs/LCs, ANSAB signed a contract with the WB on August 23, 2021. Calls for expression of interest were published in September, 2021. Sub-grant agreements with the sub-projects were signed for the implementation of sub-project activities to start in February 1, 2022. Similar to Tebtebba, ANSAB took four (4) months to select the sub-projects and sign sub-grant agreements.

A. Component 1 : National Capacity Building and Awareness Raising

The eight (8) sub-projects in Nepal, Vietnam and Fiji concentrated in the ERP areas in their respective countries. The sub-grantees provided capacity building activities to IPLCs and local governments on REDD+/ERP/BSP. These included a series of related topics such as sustainable forest use and management, customary rights/tenure on land and forest, free, prior and informed consent (FPIC), benefit sharing, social and environmental safeguards, forest carbon accounting, Emission Reductions Payment Agreement (ERPA), international instruments (e.g. UNFCCC agreements, International Labour Organization's Convention on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples-ILO169, United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples), IPLCs' and women's rights and alternative livelihoods. The sub-grantees also trained community leaders/trainers and organized dialogues between IPLCs and local, sub-national, and national-level government representatives.

Some sub-projects prepared and disseminated educational materials² in print and audio-visual forms like leaflets, posters, manuals in national and local languages. These materials were disseminated through radio, TV, social media and news articles. While all sub-projects conducted capacity building activities for both men and women, CRD and the women's organizations, HIMAWANTI and SSV, made conscious efforts to increase the participation of women and youth through women-specific consultations and leadership training activities. Sub-grantee female staff and IPLC women volunteers also led some of the activities organized by the said organizations.

Based on the feedback of some CBP training participants, the CBP increased the knowledge and was able to build the capabilities of IPLCs in understanding REDD+ and its processes through the above training activities and wide dissemination of information at the grassroots level. These activities addressed knowledge gaps among IPLCs and relevant local government offices. Before the CBP, IPLCs and local governments were unaware of REDD+ and ERP.

The CBP became an enabling factor for IPLCs to lobby for representation at national and sub-national REDD+/ERP/BSP related meetings organized by governments. Local government representatives became more willing to collaborate with CSOs/IPLCs and forest officials at local levels committed to resolve IPs' issues on representation and participation. IPLC training participants said they will use the knowledge gained in their respective communities.

² Examples of educational materials are available in [Annex 9](#)

B. Component 2 : Regional Exchange and Sharing of Lessons Learned

Under this project component are two (2) separate launch workshops, one each for the IPs and CSOs/LCs, organized by the respective IOs; this co-organized regional sharing workshop, and two (2) researches namely the “Indigenous Women and Benefit Sharing in ERP Implementation in Fiji, Indonesia and Nepal” and the “Lessons Learnt from the Implementation of REDD+ Capacity Building and Awareness Raising Activities in the Asia-Pacific Region” undertaken by Tebtebba and ANSAB, respectively. The first was funded by the IP allocation and the latter by the CSOs and LCs.

The study on Indigenous Women and Benefit Sharing in ERP Implementation in Fiji, Indonesia and Nepal found that IPs, particularly women, are primary subsistence farmers and stewards of forests. Indigenous women do not have control over forest related processes due to cultural and structural barriers. In general, it is difficult for IPs in Indonesia and Nepal to access benefits because of the inadequate recognition of indigenous peoples’ rights over their customarily held and traditionally managed lands and territories, which includes forests. The study revealed that based on current BSPs in these two (2) countries, “IPs are allocated a fraction of about 5-15 % of the benefits”³ allocated to actors on the ground compared to the 80% that goes to the national and subnational levels.

On top of their situations of time poverty and multiple burdens, indigenous women cited the lack of access to full and appropriate information on the REDD+/ERP/BSP. The technical nature of capacity building activities on this regard, further disables their effective participation.

The second study focused on the country-level activities in Fiji, Vietnam and Nepal (sub-projects) funded by the project along with a general overview of the REDD+ and Benefit Sharing Programs covering five (5) ERP countries in the Asia-Pacific region, namely, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Nepal and Vietnam. The study highlighted that IPLCs, with their historic and extensive management of forests, are the key stakeholders as well as rights holders of REDD+. The participation of IPLCs in REDD+ processes improved transparency, accountability and credibility in the REDD+ implementation processes and made governments more accountable. However, a constraint to IPLCs’ participation in the five (5) ERP countries was the lack of financial resources. These countries are in different stages of ERP implementation. Based on the study’s review of literature up to late 2021, only one (1) out of 21 funds from international donors received by the five (5) countries was related to REDD+, Indonesia REDD+ results-based payments funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The study also encouraged the WB to cooperate with the academia in the Asia-Pacific region to improve the credibility and effectiveness of REDD+.

Further, the study identified some best practices from the sub-projects implemented, such as the conduct of multistakeholder forums on REDD+ that eased the sharing of information and increased synergy between the stakeholders; development of appropriate training programs designs, and delivery of the training activities to the IPLCs in the context of appropriate time. These, according to the researcher, could increase the participation of the IPLCs in such targeted programs. At the ERP country level, in all five (5) countries, the study identified the major drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in the ERP areas, along with the major interventions, based on which, IPLCs could implement activities to benefit from the benefit-sharing programs.

³ Rovillos et al., p. 25

III. ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Despite the benefits of the CBP, there were situations, issues and concerns encountered in the sub-project implementation and from the experiences of organizations in the FCPF countries on capacity building that are worth the attention of REDD+ stakeholders.

1. A major challenge in the sub-project implementation was the *short time frame* caused by delays due to required government permits (Nepal and Vietnam for IPs/ethnic minorities).

The implementation of sub-projects for CSOs/LCs in Fiji and Vietnam were also delayed. With the change of the regulation from the National Bank of Nepal, there was difficulty in transferring funds from Nepal, where the IO is based, to other countries. The project was restructured to allow the IO to enter into a contract with the sub-grantees which allowed the WB to make direct payments to the sub-projects in Fiji and Vietnam, instead of a sub-grant agreement, to enable implementation of these sub-projects. The CSOs in the two countries implemented the national level activities from November 2022 to February 2023.

2. The *direct flow of funds* from donors to IPLCs, as suggested by the workshop participants, is two-pronged in relation to the CBP and benefits from REDD+/ERP. In Phases 2 and 3 of the CBP, the funding mechanism was through the IOs, but some participants in the workshop expressed a preference for the direct funding modality to IPLCs' organizations which are involved in implementation. While direct funding from the WB will reduce administrative costs and procedures for the IOs, the requirements for the recipient IPLCs' organization, however, will be more onerous.

In relation to the benefits from REDD+/ERP, the BSPs of the Emission Reduction Programs (ERP) outline how benefits will be distributed. The panel discussion with government representatives confirmed that BSP mechanisms are in place. In almost all cases, the benefits go first to the concerned national government agency. A workshop participant from Nepal pointed out that the share of funds that should be allocated to IPLCs, as per provision of the BSP of Nepal, were inadequate.

Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Republic of Indonesia received an advanced payment from the FCPF in August 2022 and November 2022, respectively. For Indonesia, the advanced payment amounted to US\$20.9 million from a total of US\$110 million. According to Indonesia's government representative, IPLCs receive benefits from the 65% performance cost and the 10% reward costs. Performance dues are to be paid to IPLCs who contributed to emission reductions and the reward will be paid to those who have zero deforestation in their forests. A total of 441 villages are to receive or have received payments. The country has national and local regulations and has a division in an agency in charge of verifying community data. The government required IPLCs to provide their indigenous history, proof of customary ownership and traditional governance systems to be eligible for BSP funding.

In Asia-Pacific, five (5) countries are beneficiaries of the Carbon Fund of the FCPF: Indonesia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Vietnam and Fiji. Other countries in the region are still focused on the REDD+ readiness phase and pilot projects and are not yet receiving benefits from the Carbon Fund.

3. Awareness-raising and capacity-building activities were effective tools. However, there are instances where trained IPLCs and government stakeholders left their institutions, changed positions within their institutions, or moved through different levels of the organization without

transferring the knowledge, leaving *gaps in the knowledge* of the institutions they used to belong to. Although some participants claimed that there had already been capacity building in the past, others said REDD+ is new to IPLCs. In addition, capacity building should not be for a few months or years, but should involve equipping the next generation with the knowledge and skills to take responsibility to ensure continuity and sustainability. IPLCs continue to protect their forests and educate the youth on customary practices and the value of forests. The importance of the engagement of local academic institutions in capacity building was raised.

4. The workshop participants suggested that capacity building funds should not be focused on individuals but also on *institutional support*. According to a participant from Papua New Guinea, carbon trading in the country is common place but the IPLCs do not do their own carbon assessment. Participants from Fiji expressed the need for resources for carbon monitoring.

5. The concepts of “time-bound”, “results-based” and “performance-based targets” in project design is a challenge to indigenous peoples’ concept of capacity building as a multilinear process. For IPs, building capacities should strengthen the exercise of self-determination, self-governance and cultural integrity while advancing their recognition by state in law and in practice. Results should not be gauged by the number of people trained or the number of training activities conducted but by the outcomes/changes deemed among beneficiaries, their communities and/or organizations. Capacity building, in this regard, and in the context of the REDD+/ERP and BSP, should further look into process indicators.

6. The *lack of formal recognition* by governments on the customary land/forest tenure/ownership rights of IPLCs hinders their access to these resources and from having a share of the benefits arising thereof. They are deprived of their carbon rights/ownership, from practicing their traditional livelihoods and from engaging effectively in REDD+/ERP processes. In the open discussions, a participant pointed out that carbon rights/ownership is clearly associated to tenure as stated in international documents. National laws/constitutions, however, have yet to explicitly recognize IPLCs territorial/tenure rights, including, in the context of forestry, climate change and environment. Some countries also required IPs to undergo a long process to prove their indigenous heritage and customary rights to the land/forests, particularly cited in Indonesia.

It should be noted, according to a representative from Tebtebba, that the recognition of IPs’ roles/contributions in sustainable forest management and customary ownership in Indonesia was because the IPs filed a case against the government. Indigenous peoples questioned the government’s claim over 70% of the forests and the fact that the government allowed these to be deforested by palm oil farms, logging, etc. The court decided in favor of the IPs.

7. The CSOs/IPOs receiving grants from the CBP were acknowledged by the WB and workshop participants for their contributions in delivering capacity building to IPLCs and showing leadership in global, regional, and national decision-making processes to influence programs based on their knowledge of the situations at grassroots level. *Engaging IPLCs at the grassroots in decision-making* at higher levels is still a challenge for CSOs/IPOs. The workshop revealed that IPLCs needed more capacity building to effectively raise their voices in REDD+ decision-making. There were a few grassroots IPLC representatives in the workshop. A representative from the Pakistan nomadic communities said that there was no participation from his community in national and sub-national REDD+ decision-making. In addition, CSOs or IPOs in Pakistan were not recipients of funds from the CBP.

8. The *lack of dedicated spaces for youth and women* in REDD+ decision-making processes is an aspect to consider in relation to the future of REDD+. IP women are recognized in REDD+ for their historical roles and knowledge of forests. However, the research on IP women in benefit sharing found that IP women's participation in forest decision-making has been undermined by patriarchal influences in culture and in law. Time poverty and the multiple burden among IP women should be taken into account in designing and implementing REDD+/ERP/BSP processes.

Many IPLC youth prefer to migrate out of the forest areas to cities or town centers for school and work opportunities. They are often not, seemingly, interested in taking responsibility to maintain and manage the forests sustainably. Some sub-grantees in Vietnam and Fiji faced difficulties in engaging with the youth for this reason.

9. In open discussions, representatives from the Pacific pointed out that their unique circumstances in REDD+ were not adequately addressed in the Asia-Pacific CBP. In relation to this, some countries like Fiji, Nepal, and Pakistan stressed the need for the WB/donors to support the capacity building of IPLCs living near blue carbon ecosystems.

10. The economic aspects of forestry were also shared by CRD (IPO sub-grantee in Vietnam). This was in relation to tree plantations like acacia, where the usual tree-planting period was four (4) to five (5) years. The experience showed that the longer a tree is left to grow, the profit is higher. According to the research consultant of ANSAB, harvesting trees at the average of 10 years old yielded 3.5 times more benefits than harvesting at five (5) years old, based on a study they undertook with the Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences. However, in the case of ethnic minorities (EMs) in Vietnam, the family daily sustenance was a concern often pressuring them to harvest early. Dr. Ho Le Phi Khanh of CRD said, "But if they wait for ten (10) years, then what will they provide to their children in the first nine (9) years?"

11. *Other constraints* in sub-projects implementation were the general elections in Nepal, traditional holidays such as New Years and national holidays, unfavorable weather conditions, remoteness of villages, weak coordination between national and local government stakeholders, lack or low awareness of local governments on REDD+/ERP, difficulty in translating REDD+/ERP technical terms to national/local languages, and changes in leadership in governments and other stakeholder organizations without knowledge transfer among others.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

There are various recommendations coming from the subprojects, the IOs, the researches undertaken and from the open discussions. Below are the recommendations emerged from the workshop.

A. To the World Bank/other development partners/donors:

- WB/donors to increase funds and to continue supporting CBP for and aligned to the needs of IPLCs in all FCPF countries;
- In close collaboration with concerned states, WB to ensure that administrative processes do not hinder the access of IPLCs to financial resources for the timely implementation of WB/FCPF-related initiatives;
- WB to support an independent evaluation of the CBP;

- Development partners (particularly WB/FCPF) should strongly monitor state compliance and accountability to WB Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and provide technical and logistic support for independent IPLC monitoring and evaluation;
- Provide funds directly to organizations that will implement CBP projects to reduce administrative costs and procedures of IOs and allow direct project monitoring by the WB/donor;
- Projects should have longer term for implementation and higher budget allocation with more investments in formal and informal capacity building including on new developments at national and global levels (i.e., REDD+, benefit sharing, carbon rights, carbon markets, etc.) and relevant technical skills development (i.e., carbon accounting, climate smart agriculture, alternative livelihoods, etc.) of IPLCs and other stakeholders;
- Promote landscape management (Payment for Ecosystem Services) including water/watershed in the REDD+ as non-carbon benefits and protect blue carbon ecosystems;
- Create a program specific to the Pacific, separate from Asia, managed by IPLCs' organizations in the Pacific to address their unique concerns, like the "lack of homegrown organizations compared to Asian countries," as stressed by Mr. Selevasio Tagivuni, GTM.

B. To the WB, other development partners/donors and implementing agencies/governments:

- Establish and institutionalize a participatory consultation mechanism for the effective participation of IPLCs as partners, especially women and youth as well as nomadic and semi-nomadic (i.e., Pakistan) communities, to ensure their representation in REDD+ agencies and in the entire program cycle and in the development of REDD+ national policies and strategies;
- Establish a fair benefit-sharing mechanism that recognizes the carbon rights of IPLCs based on customary land use and ownership/forest tenure rights (customary or legal rights and reconsider the financial mechanism for REDD+ benefits to go directly to IPLCs who protect the forests.

C. To Governments/REDD+ policy makers:

- Ensure allocations for and ensure implementation of capacity building specific for IPLCs in national and local government budgets and not rely only on international donors;
- Provide sustained capacity building on REDD+/ERP to IPLCs, especially for women and youth and local governments/agencies, through REDD+ budget of government ministries/agencies implementing REDD+ programs; include indigenous and gender sensitivity training activities;
- Harmonize national forestry and climate related laws, and practices with international legal standards particularly ILO 169, UNDRIP, UNFCCC agreements and WB Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and report on compliance;
- Ensure intergovernmental (national to local) coordination and transparency and dissemination of new regulations and project approval procedures;
- Report on how IPs' rights, issues and concerns (including FPIC) in the ERP processes, mechanisms and benefit sharing are addressed;
- Conduct indigenous and gender-sensitivity training activities among government and non-government stakeholders.

D. To Governments and CSOs/IPOs

- Governments should recognize IPs and their rights, issues and concerns (including FPIC) in REDD+/ERP processes, mechanisms and benefit sharing and report on how these were addressed;
- Develop local or home-grown knowledge products at sub-national level and in specific sites using vernacular or local languages and other culturally appropriate materials.

E. To CSOs, IPOs and IPLCs:

- Forward to governments relevant and clear inputs to national and local plans and policies on REDD+/ ERP/BSPs;
- Coordinate actions on REDD+ and forest mechanisms from local to national levels and ensure the participation of IPLCs in regional capacity building, dialogues and knowledge sharing;
- Cooperate in the conduct of education and training activities on safeguards and benefit sharing related to REDD+/ERP implementation for IPLCs including technical capacity building (i.e., carbon accounting) at grassroots level;
- Develop synergy among CSOs/LCs and IPs and strengthen linkages and collaboration among and between grassroots projects;
- Ensure sustained capacity building for IPLC leaders, organizations and institutions;
- Ensure the sustainability of the livelihoods of IPLCs by supporting appropriate technologies and innovations;
- Allocate more financial support for research, dissemination and establishment of databases of findings and analysis related to forests or various ecosystems;
- Allocate financial support for the development and translation of appropriate materials (written, audiovisual, software) that improves the rate and quality of understanding of IPLCs on REDD+/ERP;
- Generate more resources and support for capacity building including leadership development especially for women and youth and organizational strengthening.

F. To all stakeholders:

- Include the agriculture sector in REDD+ discussions; and
- Engage academia in capacity building programs and research, ensuring allocations in this aspect.

Participants were requested to address applicable recommendations in their future plans and/or programs.

WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

I. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

The Asia-pacific FCPF Capacity Building on REDD+ project was allocated US\$920,000 for Phase 3 to the Intermediary Organizations (IOs) in the region: Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB) which focused on southern civil society organizations and local communities (CSOs & LCs), and the Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education (Tebtebba) which focused on forest-dependent indigenous peoples (IPs). The project aimed to strengthen the engagement of targeted forest-dependent beneficiaries in REDD+ processes and decision-making at the country and regional levels through National Capacity Building and Awareness-raising Activities (Component 1), and Regional Exchanges and Sharing of Lessons Learned (Component 2). The project was effective from September 30, 2021 and due to close in December 31, 2022 but was extended to February 28, 2023 (after the regional workshop).

The regional sharing workshop was jointly organized by ANSAB and Tebtebba under the Regional Exchange and Sharing of Lessons Learned (Component 2) of the project. Held February 12-14, 2023 at Bangkok, Thailand, the workshop brought together 65 representatives from the FCPF countries which included representatives from the IPOs and CSOs that implemented the sub-projects, REDD+ focal points from ERP countries, CSO/IP FCPF observers in the region, members of the regional steering committee (RSC) for IPs, regional advisory committee (RAC) for CSOs/LCs, regional organizations working on REDD+ and the World Bank (WB).

The workshop had the following objectives:

- 1) Share first-hand experiences, achievements, challenges and lessons learned from the IPLC organizations implementing sub-projects on capacity building in Fiji, Nepal and Vietnam;
- 2) Share country/regional level experiences on capacity building of IPLCs and their meaningful participation and inclusion in REDD+ and ERP processes, programs and projects of relevant government and donors; and
- 3) Consolidate gaps, barriers, challenges, good practices and lessons learned; and draw specific and practical recommendations to improve effective participation and inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+ and ERP processes, programs and projects including access to benefits.

II. WELCOME REMARKS

Four (4) representatives from their respective organizations, Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), the WB, and the IOs (ANSAB and Tebtebba), welcomed participants to the workshop. The representatives were Mr. Lakpa Nuri Sherpa, Environmental Coordinator of AIPP; Mr. Ingo Wiederhofer, Practice Manager, Social Sustainability and Inclusion, East Asia and the Pacific Region of the World Bank (WB); Dr. Bhishma P. Subedi, Executive Director of ANSAB; and Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Executive Director of Tebtebba.

Mr. Sherpa started with the findings of a recent study that less than 1%⁴ of official development assistance for climate mitigation and adaptation reached IPLCs between 2011-2020. In reference to this figure, he suggested that direct access to financial resources should be provided to IPLCs. IPLCs contributed to REDD+ on the ground and also showed leadership in climate justice at the global level. Many proposals and demands of IPs were included in the *Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework*, adopted at the 15th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD COP15). It was Mr. Sherpa's first time to hear policymakers refer to the human rights-based approach to climate change, specifically, to the full protection of environmental defenders especially women. The focus now is on implementation, the programs on biodiversity and the Kunming-Montreal framework should be together, and the rights of IPLCs and the full and effective participation of women should be at the heart of the implementation.

Mr. Wiederhofer was impressed by the energized faces in the room. He thanked ANSAB and Tebtebba for facilitating the workshop and implementing the CBP and also thanked the CSOs/IPOs in Fiji, Nepal, and Vietnam for delivering the CBP activities on the ground. In reference to the figure pointed out by Mr. Sherpa, he said that the less than 1% needs to be changed. "We are very much looking to expand that but will also make sure that those resources are used as transparently and as effectively as possible. With the closing of the CBP, this workshop is an opportunity to exchange lessons learned, plans on moving forward, and ideas built on the knowledge and experiences gained. The stakeholders are strengthened in this process," he said.

Dr. Subedi highlighted the significant perspectives of IPLCs with regard to biodiversity that gave way to REDD+. Before the CBP implementation, there were suspicions, questions, and fear from IPLCs on losing their existing access to environmental benefits. The focus of the workshop is on the social aspect but the environmental aspect is also important. It is not only about REDD+ but about biodiversity and life. The work is on the environment and bringing the benefits to IPLCs. From "No rights, No REDD" the conversation has evolved to making REDD+ more effective in addressing climate change on the ground.

Ms. Tauli-Corpuz recalled the history of the slow-moving REDD+ processes that started at the 2007 Bali COP of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). IPs raised several issues on the FCPF with the backdrop of a "No Rights, No REDD" rally. This started the partnership of the WB and IPs. IPs realized that they could not go far, unless they worked with governments. IPs engaged at the international level to secure agreements that required national governments to respect IPs' rights. These gave IPs the license to work closely with their governments to ensure that international agreements were implemented. IPLCs can leverage on these experiences to reach the impacts and vision they seek, even if the realization of those visions were for the benefit of future generations.

Ms. Tauli-Corpuz thanked the WB, other stakeholders, and IPLCs who came together to discuss how to enhance capacity building. "A lot of stories and lessons will be shared that could be used gainfully and effectively to inform and influence the future work to protect and restore the forests

⁴ Rainforest Foundation Norway. 2021. "Falling Short: Donor funding for Indigenous Peoples and local communities to secure tenure rights and manage forests in tropical countries (2011-2020)." https://d5i6is0eze552.cloudfront.net/documents/Publikasjoner/Andre-rapporter/RFN_Falling_short_2021.pdf?mtime=20210412123104

and to further improve the partnerships between multilateral bodies like the WB, governments and IPLCs,” she concluded.

The facilitator for Day 1, Ms. Helen Magata of Tebtebba, also welcomed the participants. She introduced the participants by country, the ANSAB and Tebtebba teams, and shared the workshop agenda.

III. OVERVIEW OF FCPF CBP AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR IPLCs

Ms. Maria Manuela Faria, Social Development Specialist, Social Sustainability and Inclusion East Asia & Pacific and Task Team Leader of the Asia-Pacific FCPF CBP Project on REDD+ at the WB, presented the overview of the FCPF CBP and mentioned that the workshop brought the third phase of the CBP to closure. Since 2008, the WB has administered the FCPF, a global partnership of governments, businesses, CSOs, and IPOs, through two (2) funds: the (1) Readiness Fund, which has allocated more than US\$400 million in helping countries set up the building blocks for REDD+ implementation, and the (2) Carbon Fund, which has allocated US\$900 million to pilot results-based payments to countries that have advanced through their readiness and implementation and have achieved verifiable emissions reduction in their forest and broader land use sectors.

Originally focused on IPs when it was launched in 2009, the CBP began supporting southern CSOs and other forest dwellers in 2011. The program aimed to (i) Strengthen the knowledge of targeted forest-dependent IPs, other forest dwellers, and southern CSOs on REDD+ Readiness activities at the national level and (ii) Increase knowledge exchanges at the regional level.

Ms. Faria provided the following overview of the three CBP phases:

Phase 1 (2009-2016 with <US\$2 million allocated): The WB was directly in contact with 27 projects that it supported across three (3) regions: Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America. This helped improve the participation of IPOs and CSOs in preparing their National REDD+ strategies and implementing REDD+ programs. It also helped in enhancing the participation of IPLCs in international forums on the role of REDD+ in climate change mitigation.

Phase 2 (2016-2018, US\$3 million allocated): The WB granted small Recipient Executed Trust Fund grants (RETFs) to selected regional IOs. Two (2) IOs were selected in each region to give separate focus on CSOs/IPOs. The IOs were tasked with competitively selecting sub-projects and each region had a total of six (6) projects comprising two main activities, the national level capacity building and awareness raising and the regional level exchanges and sharing of lessons learned.



Figure 1. Ms. Faria gave the overview of the FCPF CBP

Phase 3 (2019-2023, US\$5 million): Adopting a similar design as in Phase 2, the partner IOs funneled the grants to sub-grantees in the three (3) FCPF Carbon Fund countries (Fiji, Nepal, Vietnam). Exit strategy and gender inclusion were also given additional focus in this phase.

In total, the WB has funded US\$9.9m to the CBP.

EnABLE Program

According to Mr. Svend E. Jensby, Senior Social Development Specialist, Social Sustainability and Inclusion East Asia & Pacific of the WB, the WB will continue capacity building activities in its ongoing programs (i.e., the Dedicated Grant Mechanism or DGM), and a new program called Enhancing Access to Benefits while Lowering Emissions (EnABLE). The participants were also reassured on the continuation of partnerships with IPOs and CSOs following the closure of the CBP. Since the EnABLE program is the successor of the CBP, the WB hoped that the lessons learned and recommendations in the CBP were cultivated into EnABLE's design and implementation.

The specific goals of EnABLE are to:

- Enhance the enabling environment for carbon and non-carbon benefits through supporting favorable policies for, and strengthening capacities, skills, and voice of the target beneficiaries and their organizations to engage in Results-Based Climate Finance (RBCF) programs;
- Support activities that enhance benefits from RBCF to target beneficiaries through appropriately designed pilot activities which can be easily replicated and upscaled; and
- Integrate social inclusion and gender equity in the design and implementation of RBCF programs through knowledge transfer and the sharing of best practices.

Similar to Phase 3 of the CBP, EnABLE currently concentrates on ERP countries, financing national programs, regional activities, studies, knowledge management, and sharing of experiences across the eligible countries. In line with the WB's priority for social inclusivity, EnABLE beneficiaries are the marginalized communities, IPLCs, ethnic minorities, and disadvantaged beneficiaries (youth, women, and people with disabilities).

EnABLE, which recently started implementation, is also focused on financing or co-financing activities for marginalized communities and IPs in the following areas:

- Capacity building and empowerment of key beneficiaries, supporting enabling environment for inclusion in RBCF and Benefit Sharing Plans implementation;
- Activities to enhance participation in Benefit Sharing Plans (e.g., technical support to local communities, investments, etc.); and
- Analytical and advisory work and knowledge dissemination.

While EnABLE is currently focused on ERP countries and activities must be linked to Emission Reductions Programs (ERPs) and the Benefit Sharing Plans (BSPs), it is associated with the WB's new umbrella trust fund called Scaling Climate Action by Lowering Emissions (SCALE) which also prioritizes the social inclusion of IPLCs and is available to a wider scope of Climate Emission Reduction programs. This replaced the Climate Emissions Reductions Facility (CERF) fund. It is expected that EnABLE will expand its ERP focus to also support social inclusion in other areas of Results-Based Climate Finance (RBCF) under SCALE.

Q&A and Open Discussion

Ms. Grace Balawag, FCPF IP Observer and Tebtebba, Philippines: Just to be clear, the WB did not just provide the funds. It was the decision of IPs through the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC) as the IPO constituency under the UNFCCC to negotiate for this dedicated allocation for IPs. It took a series of dialogues between IPO representatives and the WB/FCPF until the CBP was approved by the WB/FCPF in 2008.

Mr. Tunga Bhadra Rai, RSC and NEFIN, Nepal: Just to bear in mind that indigenous peoples have been calling for climate finance for a long time. We should refrain from referring to those providing climate finance as “donors” because among them are those who have historically contributed to climate change. Providing climate finance, therefore, is part of their accountability and not, necessarily, contributions to the welfare and recognition of IPs’ rights.

Ms. Bharati Pathak, FCPF CSO Observer and FECOFUN, Nepal: What is the mechanism for EnABLE funds so it directly goes to IPLC women’s networks and community organizers?

Mr. Jensby, WB: There is an emphasis on involving IPLCs, NGOs, and CSOs but the institutional arrangement will depend on the particular country. In some countries, we are providing small grants of US\$2 million to US\$3 million to national NGOs and CSOs that will be implementing the grant. In some countries, there are NGOs to manage the funds. In others, like Africa, it is through the implementing agency of the ERPs who will contract NGOs/CSOs.

Dr. Rustam, Mulawarman University, Indonesia: What is the priority of WB for the next program?

Mr. Jensby, WB: To increase flexibility and adapt to each country’s context. WB is an agency that primarily provides financing to governments. Engaging directly with CSOs and NGOs is relatively new in such programs. The involvement of the government is primary and important, so the funding mechanism depends on the dialogues with the government and CSOs and IPOs.

Mr. Sopheak Som, AFD, Cambodia: Cambodia was not part of Phase 3. Is Cambodia included in the new EnABLE program?

Mr. Jensby, WB: Cambodia is not included in Phase 3 because ERP countries were the focus of financing. Cambodia is also not a Dedicated Grant Mechanism (DGM) country. The selection of DGM countries is part of the WB’s Forestry Investment Program and only Nepal and Indonesia in Asia are currently part of it.

IV. ASIA-PACIFIC FCPF CAPACITY BUILDING ON REDD+ PROJECTS

The WB granted US\$460,000 to each of the two (2) IOs in Asia and the Pacific for the implementation of Phase 3, i.e., Tebtebba and ANSAB. The project development objective (PDO) of this CBP phase was to strengthen the engagement of targeted forest-dependent beneficiaries in REDD+ processes and decision-making at the country and regional levels. Achievement of the PDO will be measured through the following indicators:

- Increased participation of direct project beneficiaries in formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions;
- Increased participation of direct project beneficiaries in Emission Reduction Programs and Benefit Sharing Plans; and

- Beneficiaries who feel project investments reflected their needs

The expected intermediate results/outputs indicators of the project are:

- Total beneficiaries with improved capacity, who directly utilize results of REDD+ activities;
- Target beneficiaries benefiting from ERP and Benefit Sharing Plan (BSP) activities at the local or national level;
- Meetings and capacity building activities held between IPLCs and national REDD+ decision making entities;
- Direct beneficiaries satisfied with activities, of which 50% are women; and
- Regional knowledge exchange among IPLCs

Component 1 (National Capacity Building and Awareness Raising) with an allocation of 60% of the budget involved capacity building activities and awareness-raising on REDD+, covering topics such as social and environmental safeguards, grievance redress mechanisms, benefit sharing arrangements, monitoring, and carbon accounting in alignment with countries' ERP priorities, etc. Eligible FCPF countries for activities under Component 1 were Fiji, Nepal, and Vietnam. Activities were funded through sub-grants and consultancy contracts.

Component 2 (Regional Exchange and Sharing of Lessons Learned) shared 28% of the budget and included a launch workshop and the regional sharing workshop described in this report. The launch workshop was implemented separately for CSOs/IPOs and the lessons learned workshop was organized jointly for the benefit of the 11 FCPF countries in the region. Additionally, the IOs conducted researches on REDD+ (see below).

In addition, 12% of the total budget was dedicated to Component 3 (Management, M&E and Reporting), including external audits.

V. PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE FCPF CAPACITY BUILDING ON REDD+ PROJECT IN ASIA-PACIFIC

Capacity building for Civil Society Organizations/Local Communities (CSOs/LCs)

Mr. Puspa L Ghimire of ANSAB presented the overview of CBP Phase 3 activities for CSOs and LCs. ANSAB received a total of 23 proposals: two (2) from Fiji, 15 from Nepal, and six (6) from Vietnam. Of the total 23 proposals, initial administrative check was done on the following four (4) eligibility requirements: a) Homegrown (not part of International Organizations); b) Registration document; c) Relevant Experience (REDD+, Forestry, Climate Change issues); and d) Completeness of Proposals (Technical/Financial). Of these, 19 proposals passed the administrative check and these were considered for further evaluation.

The 19 proposals (11 from Nepal, six (6) from Vietnam, and two (2) from Fiji) were forwarded to the experts for technical evaluation, and one (1) proposal for each country that received the highest score from the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) for CSOs and LCs was prioritized. For the clarity on the activities and refinement of the proposals addressing the comments and suggestions from the evaluation members, the project team briefly discussed with the three (3) prioritized sub-project proponents. The three (3) organizations prepared the proposal with the refined activities and

outputs, and shared with ANSAB. After we received the refined proposals from the three (3) organizations, each in Fiji, Vietnam, and Nepal, they were approved for funding.

The target beneficiaries of Component 1 were CSOs and LCs. The intervention framework of capacity building of CSOs included: a) enhanced awareness and understanding of relevant policies and plans incl. ERPD, BSP, Safeguards Information System (SIS), b) raising concern and making recommendations for revision and effective implementation of BSP in favor of the IPLCs in the meetings with the government, and c) understanding and preparedness for accessing benefits from ERP. Guidelines and information materials, such as on ERP, BSP and SIS were produced by the sub-projects and used in the training activities for CSOs and LCs. Mr. Ghimire emphasized that policy documents were difficult to comprehend for the LCs and were also difficult to translate into local languages so only executive summaries of these documents were translated for use as capacity building tools of LCs.

By the end of the project, ANSAB reached over 4,000 targeted beneficiaries who were informed about ERP-related policies and processes and tools such as monitoring of forests and accessing carbon and non-carbon benefits. The sub-project activities were covered by the national and local newspapers and TV networks⁵. Over 20 articles were published on the sub-project partners' websites. In Component 2, ANSAB conducted a launch workshop, documented lessons learned from capacity building program in Asia Pacific region, and developed a dedicated webpage for REDD+.

With the change in regulations of the Central Bank of Nepal, there were issues in the transfer of funds from Nepal where ANSAB is based. It delayed the implementation of the sub-projects in Fiji and Vietnam. As a result of restructuring the funding mechanism with the WB, the completion of country-level (Component 1) activities in Fiji and Vietnam was moved from November 2022 to February 2023.

Capacity Building for Indigenous Peoples (IPs)

Ms. Helen Valdez of Tebtebba presented the overview for the IP portion. The target beneficiaries were IPs and ethnic minorities.

In Component 1, Tebtebba received eight (8) proposals after a one (1) month call for proposals. Funds were allocated to five (5) sub-projects for IPs which was more than the target of three (3). The request for the additional sub-projects was based on the average monthly fund utilization in Phase 2. Fund utilization of this component was 74% of the budget.

On the results framework, Tebtebba requested the sub-grantees to disaggregate women and youth beneficiaries in their reporting. An evaluation form was developed to be administered to participants before and after the training activities. It was also proposed that sub-grantees administer a survey among beneficiaries towards the end of the implementation period to generate results for the PDO indicators.

⁵ Examples of news/media coverage for CSO/LC sub-projects are available in [Annex 10](#)

For the output indicator on *Regional Knowledge Exchange among IPLCs*, three (3) activities were implemented: the launch workshop, this regional sharing workshop, and a research paper on *Indigenous Women and Benefit Sharing in ERP Implementation*.

Difficulties were encountered in the procurement of qualified consultants for the research under Component 2. First, the qualified research coordinator, selected in accordance with the WB’s procurement process, experienced health issues and a replacement had to be selected. The selected research consultant for Indonesia also experienced health problems so no full research was undertaken in Indonesia. Another challenge was complying with the WB’s processes, procedures and guidelines (i.e., procurement, use of online systems). Tebtebba acknowledged what it learned from the experience and hoped that these challenges will be considered in the new EnABLE program by providing face-to-face and hands-on trainings.

Table 1. Selected Subgrantees for CBP Phase 3, Component 1

| ERP country | ANSAB (CSO partners) | Tebtebba (IP partners) |
|-------------|--|--|
| Fiji | GTM Grace Trifam Ministry | SSV Soqosoqo Vakamarama iTaukei |
| Nepal | FECOFUN Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal | HIMAWANTI Himalayan Grassroots Women’s Natural Resource Management Association NEFIN Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities |
| Vietnam | PanNature People and Nature Reconciliation | CRD Centre for Rural Development in Central Vietnam CSDM Centre for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas |

Q&A and Open Discussion

Mr. David Ganz, RECOFTC, Thailand: On the low turnout of proposals, was there awareness raising and capacity building ahead of the proposal submission?

Mr. Ghimire, ANSAB, Nepal: Turnout of proposals was different depending on the sub-regions. For example, it was hard to look for good proposals in the Pacific sub-region. Extension of the duration for the call for proposals had to be done in the Pacific sub-region, and yet we only received two (2) proposals. But in Nepal, out of 15 proposals, 10 were very good but only one (1) was awarded. Very good proposals were received from Vietnam also. Even community-based organizations are doing a really good job at the community level, but they need capacity building on proposal writing and this should be part of the CBP.

Ms. Reama T. Naco, RSC and SSV, Fiji: To ensure participation of IPOs, can proposal preparation be made easier for IPs, like using a template? CSOs were exposed to a lot of training activities in terms of writing proposals but IPs were not.

Ms. Valdez, Tebtebba, Philippines: Capacity building on proposal writing is a very good idea but there are limitations on the part of IOs like budget constraints and lack of knowledge on who particularly are writing proposals until these are submitted. Regarding the ease of writing, the questions in the application template were simplified. If funds for training activities on proposal writing are available, these can be organized for IPs.

There was a request to print some of the presentations and distribute before the actual presentations for everyone to follow the discussion.

Putting everything on paper is challenging but can be sent through email for reference even after the presentations (Tebtebba). The presentations are raw and will definitely be improved and even recordings will be shared (ANSAB).

Mr. Selevasio Tagivuni, GTM, Fiji: *The connection between REDD+, ERP and policies need to be improved. Fiji has no forests, so IPLCs do not qualify as forest communities but they have mangroves, etc.*

Mr. Jensby, WB: We realized the need to strengthen this area of the CBP. The Bank has organized EnABLE training activities and tried to have a few NGOs in various regions to support national IPOs, CSOs and NGOs to develop and discuss models to be practiced. Tebtebba and ANSAB can support the WB and national organizations by providing their expertise. We are aware that more hands-on support is urgently needed for capacity building.

VI. PROGRESS OF THE EIGHT SUBPROJECTS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

In National Capacity Building and Awareness Raising (Component 1), only IPOs/NGOs in three (3) ERP countries, i.e., Fiji, Nepal, and Vietnam were eligible to submit proposals and implement sub-projects. Experts⁶ conducted a technical review of the applications based on agreed criteria and IOs selected qualified proposals and submitted these to the WB for ‘no objection’.

Experts for the selection of the sub-grantees included the regional advisory committee members, one each from the three countries. In response to ANSAB’s call for proposals, there was a proposal from a Nepali organization in which the RAC member from Nepal was affiliated. So, in order to avoid conflict of interest, an additional expert was selected who could review proposals from Nepal.

The full and effective participation of IPLC women, who are key caretakers of the forests, was mandatory in the design and implementation of the sub-projects and CBP in general. Also, because the sub-projects were implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic, the sub-grantees observed safety measures according to national and international protocols. Some sub-grantees even conducted activities to enhance the knowledge of IPLCs on COVID-19 related topics.

For the Regional Sharing Workshop, sub-grantees were requested to provide information on: i) sub-project objective/s; ii) achievements including benefits received by beneficiaries from REDD+/ERP programs and projects; iii) gaps, barriers and challenges in sub-project implementation; iv) lessons learned; and v) specific recommendations for the effective participation

⁶ For IPOs, Ms. Luong Thi Truong reviewed the proposals from Nepal; Mr. Lakpa Nuri Sherpa and Mr. Kittisak Rattanakrajangsri for the Pacific proposals; and Ms. Yesua Y.D.K. Pellokilla for the proposals from Vietnam. For CSOs, the technical review was conducted mainly by members of the Regional Advisory Committee.

and inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+, ERP, and Benefit Sharing indicating to whom the recommendation was directed.

NEPAL

The sub-projects in Nepal were focused on the IPLCs and government representatives in the country's ERP area that covers the 13 districts of the Terai Arc Landscape (TAL). These are Rautahat, Bara, Parsa, Chitwan, Nawalparasi (East of Bardaghat Susta), Nawalparasi (West of Bardaghat Susta), Rupandehi, Kapilbastu, Dang, Banke, Bardia, Kailali, and Kanchanpur. Not all sub-projects covered the entire TAL.⁷



Figure 2. A LC member from Bara undertakes FECOFUN activities

Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN), Mr. Ramesh Timalisina

The sub-project beneficiaries were the LCs of TAL. The aim was to engage with the grassroots communities and increase the participation of women and LCs.

At the national level, FECOFUN trained 25 community leaders. Through a “cascade” method, these community leaders trained a total of 1,238 direct beneficiaries, 50% of whom were women.

Mr. Timalisina said that there were more than 6,000 indirect beneficiaries. These beneficiaries increased their knowledge on how to access benefits from the ERP.

REDD+ was also promoted through local-level forums in seven (7) districts organized by FECOFUN, comprising representatives of Division Forest Offices, Local Governments, CSOs, IPOs, and women's organizations. This led to the reformation of the national REDD+ Alliance of CSOs/ IPOs, which produced a joint statement on REDD+. The discussion with the beneficiaries and local governments on safeguards led to the creation of proposed refinements to the Benefit Sharing Plan (BSP) of Nepal to include benefits for LCs. As a result, local governments were more willing to collaborate with CSOs and LCs. To enhance knowledge sharing, FECOFUN developed REDD+ and ERP basic guides in collaboration with the WB and disseminated executive summaries of REDD+ documents, mainly the ERPD and BSP in Nepali to the beneficiaries.

FECOFUN originally planned to implement from February 2022 to November 2022. Mr. Timalisina said that the technical issues in the funding mechanism with ANSAB and WB caused delays in scheduled payment, and it was one of the major challenges to conduct planned activities at the district and national levels. Periodical events such as the elections in Nepal and unfavorable weather conditions also affected the ease of implementation. To address these challenges, the sub-project closing date was extended to February 2023 to allow time to complete implementation of planned activities.

⁷ Details of the presentations are available in [Annex 3](#)

Mr. Timalsina said that FECOFUN carried out national-level activities on Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) and Safeguards Information System (SIS) for the implementation of the Benefit Sharing Plan (BSP) (which is still to be finalized). Addressing women’s participation in decision-making processes is still a gap that FECOFUN acknowledged.

Other challenges were the changes in leadership in governments and other stakeholder organizations without the proper transfer of knowledge, which was necessary. The discussions of FECOFUN with government line agencies showed that some of these local agencies (i.e., Division Forest offices) were not updated about the progress of ERP implementation and the prospects of benefit sharing.



Figure 3. Mr. Timalsina during the stakeholders meeting

FECOFUN arrived at the following recommendations for different stakeholders on the CBP: CSOs need to conduct more comprehensive needs assessments and baseline studies before developing capacity-building projects and increase the engagement of local governments and youth in such activities; governments need to fill the knowledge gaps between the federal and local agencies on REDD+ implementation; and the WB and other donors should provide larger budget/resources for formal/informal capacity building with a longer timeframe for project implementation.

Himalayan Grassroots Women’s Natural Resource Management Association (HIMAWANTI), Mr. Subesh Gupta

The direct beneficiaries of the HIMAWANTI sub-project were IPs from the municipalities of Rapti, Kalika, and Ichchhakamana in Chitwan district. The specific sub-project objectives were to enhance sustainable biodiversity for the prosperous living culture of IPs in Nepal and to increase the participation of direct beneficiaries in the formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and ERP and BSP processes.

The total number of actual beneficiaries was 459 which is slightly over the target of 425 and more than half were women. Capacity building activities focused on climate change, REDD+ key elements (safeguards, GRM, benefit sharing, monitoring, and carbon accounting); indigenous sovereign rights over land, traditional practices on forest management; and alternative and sustainable livelihoods. For women, there were specific activities to improve women’s leadership. HIMAWANTI did not reach their target for youth engagement because most of the youth have left their village for employment.

Based on the responses in the feedback/evaluation forms administered to participants in the training activities before and after the training activities, the beneficiaries were completely unaware of REDD+ until the training activities were conducted. In the same forms, beneficiaries shared that they will apply the knowledge gained in sustainable forest use and management by reducing the excessive use of forest resources (i.e., using alternative sources of energy like biogas from cows),

controlling grazing, undertaking afforestation and forest restoration, and controlling the regrowth of forest-destroying plants like *banmara*.

Aside from IPs, HIMAWANTI noted that local governments lacked knowledge on REDD+ and are also in need of capacity building especially on the recognition of IPs' rights in REDD+ processes and projects. HIMAWANTI recommended to implementing agencies at the national level to maintain communication and coordination with IPs and the local governments (i.e., providing updates on REDD+), respect the traditional and customary rights and practices of IPs, update regularly the knowledge of IPs on REDD+, and use graphics in capacity building materials.

Mr. Gupta also mentioned some challenges with the government, mainly on its long sub-project approval process. Based on this, HIMAWANTI realized that applying for government approval should be upon signing of the agreement to implement a project. Other challenges included the lack of food and accommodation facilities in remote areas

Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN), Mr. Tunga Bhadra Rai and Mr. Ashoka Pariyar

The sub-project direct beneficiaries were Tharu, Chepang, Bote, Majhi, Danuwar and Raji IPs in the 13 districts of TAL. The sub-project aimed to increase the awareness and capacity of IPs and increase their engagement with government agencies.

Through NEFIN, a total of 207 IPs engaged in subnational level meetings and a national level meeting with forest offices and government officials. Capacity building activities for IPs on how to access benefits from the ERP, FPIC, safeguards, grievance redress mechanism, customary rights and relevant existing national laws and international instruments were conducted.

Government forest officials participated in subnational workshops where they listened to the issues and recommendations of IPs on REDD+ related processes, FPIC, and customary rights to forests. As a result, the forest officials expressed commitment to resolve the lack of representation and participation of IPs in REDD+/ERP related processes.

NEFIN's beneficiaries took initiatives to participate in the BSP process, through pressing for a role in MRV at the community level and seeking equitable benefits, including non-monetary benefits within the Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs) they were in. According to Mr. Rai, IPs said they will stay updated on BSP activities and will organize initiatives to improve their access to benefits.

Before NEFIN organized the workshops, Mr. Rai said that local government agencies, forest offices, and other relevant organizations had no knowledge of ERP. Forestry programs were based on conservation models and not on IPs' rights-based approach. These models do not recognize IPs' customary institutions and tenure rights on forests. Correspondingly, the BSP of Nepal did not recognize IPs' rights in the benefit sharing plan. Mr. Rai added that IPs were "lumped in" with the CFUGs in the BSP of Nepal. There were government consultations with IPs during the development of ERPD and BSP where IPs' concerns and issues were forwarded but these were not addressed that shows a lack of stakeholders' commitment. Other challenges include IPs' limited capacity to advocate for the recognition of their rights, no information sharing by the government, lack of awareness among forest related offices on IPs' issues and rights, and the general elections.

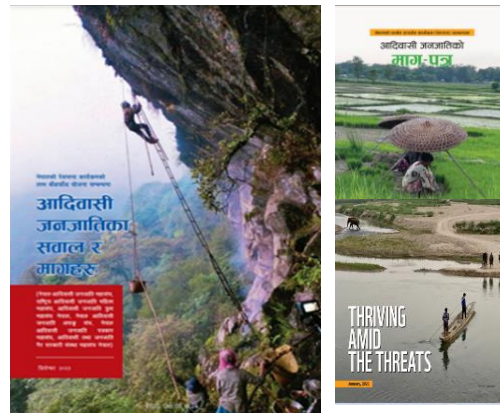


Figure 4. Publications by NEFIN

There were three (3) case studies published in Nepali or English under the title *Thriving Amid the Threats*⁸ and disseminated through NEFIN's website. The topics were on IPs' customary institutions, IP women's cooperatives, and IPs' practices and values and the challenges they faced, and the illegal activities and bad governance factors that degraded IPs' forests. Some recommendations by IPs were included in these publications and all publications have been disseminated in all events and occasions organized by or participated by NEFIN, not limited to activities supported by the FCPC CBP.

NEFIN recommended that REDD+ policy makers and implementers should harmonize national forestry and climate laws and practices with international legal standards, particularly the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention or ILO 169, United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), UNFCCC agreements, and WB Environmental and Social Standards; and address IPs' rights and concerns in the ERP process, mechanisms and benefit sharing. NEFIN also recommended that development partners (particularly WB/FCPF) should strongly monitor policy compliance and increase the support for the recognition of climate rights of IPs in Nepal; and for IPOs to have more coordinated and organized actions on REDD+ forestry mechanisms from federal to local levels, invest on leadership development, and provide strong inputs to national and local plans and policies.

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

The sub-projects were focused on the entirety of the North-Central Coast Region which comprises the provinces of Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, and Thua Thien Hue.⁹

People and Nature Reconciliation (PanNature), Mr. Trinh Le Nguyen

The direct beneficiaries were LCs and CSOs from the provinces of Quang Binh and Thua Thien Hue in North Central Vietnam. The sub-project aimed to enable and empower local communities

⁸ Available through [NEFIN](#)'s website

⁹ Details of the presentations are available in [Annex 4](#)

and CSOs to make the best use of BSP and relevant instruments designed in the ER Program to protect their benefits and contribute to REDD+ goals.

PanNature initially planned to implement the initiative on March 2022 but was delayed until November 2022 due to technical issues related to the transfer of funding from Nepal mentioned above. At the time of the regional workshop, there were ongoing activities such as training activities with CSOs, meetings with stakeholders, and online and in-person national workshops. A handbook on benefit sharing and LCs' rights and a policy brief on REDD+ benefit sharing were also being developed.

PanNature was able to organize separate meetings with communities and CSO partners, capacity building and training activities in each province for LCs, and a CSO workshop to discuss ERPA and benefit sharing. PanNature maintained publications, social media, and mailing lists for REDD+ and also produced a video report featuring LC perspectives on REDD+ and BSP which was shared on their social media.

The challenges encountered with local communities and CSO partners were mainly the lack of knowledge on REDD+ especially about the ERPA and benefit sharing due to absence of information dissemination. In Quang Binh province, challenges included the fact that community organizations for forest protection were not well in place, low investment from the government and weak coordination among relevant authorities. Women participation and IP representation was also lacking in these forest organizations.



Figure 5. PanNature held awareness raising activities

Mr. Nguyen emphasized the government's restrictions on access to forest areas. These affected the livelihood practices of LCs in forest areas. These sustainable livelihoods that have low negative impacts on forests were necessary. Knowledge on viable alternative livelihoods was lacking. Another barrier with the government was on the pending approval of the ERPA and BSP at the national level, which led to difficulties in defining the sub-project's mechanisms for implementation.

Other challenges to sub-project implementation were the short project duration as a result of the restrictions in transferring funds from Nepal, administrative procedures and holidays including Christmas and New Year.

PanNature recommended, to all stakeholders, to continue with capacity building projects and harmonize interests at various levels. To the WB and other donors, PanNature recommended that longer project duration should be considered for better coordination and implementation, invest in long-term and consistent capacity building for LCs and CSOs to keep up with changes at global and national levels on new developments in REDD+ and carbon markets, provide direct funding to CSOs which could reduce administrative procedure, and include support for CSOs in their agreement with the national government to reduce administrative burdens on CSO partners. At the end of his presentation, Mr. Nguyen showed a picture of a large forest in Vietnam with half of it denuded and warned that more forests will disappear if financial support to protect these came too slow.

Centre for Rural Development in Central Vietnam (CRD), Dr. Ho Le Phi Khanh

The aim of the sub-project was to strengthen the engagement of ethnic minorities (EMs), especially women and youth, in REDD+ decision-making processes in Vietnam under the context of climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic. The direct beneficiaries were Community Forest Management Groups (CFMGs) and EMs, such as the Katu people in the districts of A Luoi and Nam Dong in Central Vietnam.

The sub-project reached a total of 1,140 direct beneficiaries compared to their target of 1,200, which could be reached after the completion of all ongoing activities. CRD organized a planning workshop, community-based training activities, district level awareness campaigns on REDD+ and ERP processes with EMs and CFMGs, and a national workshop. Some EMs participated in an exchange visit.

Based on the feedback/evaluation, direct beneficiaries gained knowledge on sustainable community forest use and management practices, will improve forest patrolling and monitoring, maintain ecological values of forests, apply sustainable livelihood techniques in the forests, respect the rights of women and EMs, and involve women in non-timber forest products propagation and other forest activities with men.

Women were especially engaged in the sub-project through women-focused training activities like leading a series of forums to collect community perspectives on safeguards, REDD+ and ERP and participated in dialogues with provincial and district governments.

These helped to inform the local governments on the EM-focused approach, specifically, on SIS, benefit sharing, and IPs' and women's rights in the context of REDD+. Government officials considered leveraging the information in national processes.

The challenges were largely on the lack or low awareness among local governments, forest owners, and EMs on REDD+, ERP, BSP and FPIC and low women's involvement in such processes. CRD realized the need to improve the collaboration between national and local government agencies related to forests (i.e., Department of Forest Ranger, Board of Forest Management, Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development), clarify the inconsistencies and overlaps in policies including the link between forest use rights and carbon rights which caused confusion among the communities. CRD noted that methods and tools for community participation are also lacking.



Figure 6. CRD organized EM women-led forums and dialogues

To all stakeholders, CRD recommended the establishment of an open participatory consultation mechanism with EMs, especially women and youth, in the development of national policies and strategies on REDD+ and to institutionalize the effective participation of EMs by ensuring their representation in REDD+ processes, from the design, implementation, monitoring, reporting, and evaluation stages. To the national government, CRD recommended to include the recognition of the carbon rights of EMs in the BSP of Vietnam; and to local governments and CSOs/IPOs, to conduct training activities on safeguards for EMs.

Centre for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas (CSDM), Mr. Hoang Ke Sy

The direct beneficiaries were the EMs, specifically, Thai, Kh'mu, and H'mong, from the districts of Tuong Duong, Nghe An province and Ba Thuoc, Thanh Hoa province.

Key officials at the district, commune, and village level participated in some of the training activities organized by CSDM. These officials are responsible for the formulation of REDD+ strategies and local implementation of ERP. CSDM also organized training activities where IP direct beneficiaries learned about climate smart agriculture, livelihood diversification and maintenance, and community-based livelihoods during the pandemic.

A compilation of documents in Kinh language on climate change, REDD+, IPs and women's participation in ERP and benefit sharing was completed and translated into Thai and H'mong languages.

In the evaluation forms, district officials and EMs suggested some activities they can initiate after the training activities. The district officials can disseminate knowledge about climate change and REDD+ and be proactive in proposing climate change mitigation and adaptation activities at the community level such as saving electricity and water.

EMs understood the significance of their traditional knowledge in forest protection. They wanted to organize their groups to strengthen forest protection and sustainable forest management and use the knowledge on REDD+ to communicate with their government, monitor the implementation of ERP, and access the benefits. However, EMs, who were the ground implementers, need more capacity building activities.

During implementation, some targets were not reached due to difficulties in getting national government approval. Despite establishing agreements at the local levels, the sub-project was rejected at the ministerial level with no further advisory or recommendation. Mr. Sy added that the government also rejected multiple other projects from Vietnamese NGOs in the same period. With the support of Tebtebba and Tuong Duong and Ba Thuoc district officials, the sub-project proposal was refined but it was still rejected. Only 24% of the sub-project was completed which were implemented with the approval of district officials while waiting for national government approval.

Moving forward, CSDM promised to continue collaborating with other NGOs to participate and advocate through the Vietnam Union for Science and Technology (VUSTA) for more transparency in regulations and approval procedures. They will also refine their proposals by choosing topics and projects aligned with the requirements of the state.

REPUBLIC OF FIJI

The sub-projects focused on three (3) main islands in Fiji: Viti Levu, Vanua Levu, and Taveuni. The ERP will be implemented in 11 provinces as follows: Ba, Nadroga-Navosa and Ra (Western Division); Naitasiri, Namosi, Rewa, Serua and Tailevu (Central-Eastern Division); and Bua, Cakaudrove and Macuata (Northern Division).¹⁰

Soqosoqo Vakarama iTaukei (SSV), Ms. Ana Vesikula

SSV is an IP women's organization. The direct beneficiaries for Phase 3 were IP forest owners, especially women in 11 districts of Viti Levu, Vanua Levu and Tauveni. The aim was to enable indigenous forest owners through CBP to enable their effective participation in ERP.

In total, 247 direct beneficiaries were trained over a target of 250 to 300 which would be reached if the sub-project had been fully implemented.¹¹ The activities implemented was one (1) national consultation involving government policymakers, private sector businesses, and IP representatives where they formulated capacity building strategies for communities. They also trained 36 trainers who will transfer the knowledge of REDD+ to 130 villages.

Three (3) divisional consultations were undertaken. Capacity building and awareness raising activities for IPs in 11 districts and another national consultation were planned to take place before the sub-grant agreement expired in December 31, 2022. These district level activities should have focused on Fiji's ERP, BSP, safeguards, gender and grievance redress mechanisms; and the national consultation on the lessons learned and recommendations arising from sub-project implementation.

Based on the presentation, the beneficiaries were satisfied with the initial activities but need information on the ERP, BSP, SIS, and benefit sharing.

SSV encountered challenges on mobilizing community actions. Conflicts of opinion also existed among government officials in terms of IP recognition. Ms. Vesikula said that the previous governments wanted IPs to be identified as Fijians, a situation that improved recently after the

¹⁰ Details of the presentations are available in [Annex 5](#)

¹¹ Based on the participants list submitted by SSV to the IO (Tebtebba), there were 167 direct beneficiaries over a target of 800

election. SSV also mentioned a challenge in the rigidity and inflexibility in the donor's terms and expectations (i.e., compliance to narrative and finance reporting as per the sub-grant agreement)¹².



Figure 7. Awareness raising activities of SSV women

SSV made the following recommendations: To governments, gauge the effectiveness of streamlining efforts in government ministries, conduct more research and share the findings with communities (including the academia), use local media to regularly update indigenous communities about developments in ERP and benefit sharing, raise awareness in schools through the school curriculum, and increase the participation of youth and faith-based

organizations (FBOs). To donors, SSV recommended the creation of a Pacific region separate from Asia to prevent the overshadowing of Pacific peoples' concerns, and finance or co-finance the education of IPs and relevant organizations in legal matters or in technical assistance concerning carbon trading.

Grace Trifam Ministry (GTM), Mr. Selevasio Naivala Tagivuni

GTM is a homegrown Faith-Based Organization (FBO). GTM's main objective in Phase 3 was to allow for a more transparent and inclusive participation of the direct beneficiaries and resolve their suspicions about benefit sharing, feedback and grievance redress mechanism (FGRM), and FPIC. Another objective was to allow frank discussions on hard questions such as carbon rights, and make tribal and religious leaders champions of the ERP. The direct beneficiaries were LCs in Viti Levu, Vanua Levu, and Taveuni.

Mr. Tagivuni emphasized that Fiji has mostly international NGOs and few homegrown organizations. He referred to this as a gap for Fiji, whereas Asia is abundant with homegrown organizations. He highlighted the need for collaboration between the stakeholders and FBOs which have a wide network of churches engaging with LCs in Fiji.

GTM organized consultations and increased the participation of LCs in Fiji's Readiness program through the "Talanoa" sharing of perspectives on REDD+ and ERP. They also organized face-to-face "Talanoa" meetings for CSOs, LC representatives, and national REDD+ decision making entities.

GTM helped develop and disseminate national knowledge exchange products in the local language such as the voice-over translation of 2 episodes of the WB-FCPF's *Get REDDy Radio Podcast* into iTaukei. The podcast is funded by the FCPF and EnABLE with the goal of providing remote communities information in their language to understand results-based climate finance and REDD+. GTM also maintained a facebook page¹³ for the online engagement of LCs.

¹² Several emails from Tebtebba were sent to SSV including suggesting online discussions to clarify matters related to implementation and reporting but the sub-grantee did not respond

¹³ Grace Trifam Ministry (GTM) [Facebook page](#) and [group](#)

Given the issues related to transferring funds from Nepal, mentioned above, GTM implemented the sub-project based on a contract agreement, through which GTM was reimbursed for the expenses incurred. GTM viewed this re-imbursement basis very restrictive because financing upfront cost for the small CSOs was a burden. They hoped that it will not be the long-term financing mechanism. Other challenges they encountered were the vague policies in Fiji on the carbon rights ownership of LCs; lack of women/gender inclusivity in ERP forums/consultations; and the lack of a Pacific WB/FCPF-sanctioned ERP regional forum to hear their voice.

GTM made the following recommendations: To the WB, to include Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS) in capacity building activities and build on and align the current capacity development learnings in upcoming projects; To IPOs/CSOs, to document home-grown knowledge at sub-national and site-specific levels in local language, capacitate the grassroots IPLCs on technical aspects of ERP and BSP, emphasize forest conservation and livelihoods in school curriculums from pre-school to 6th grade, improve synergy between IPOs, CSOs, and IPLCs in various REDD+ projects; To governments, to require compulsory accreditation of local teachers on climate change, REDD+ and ERP, provide consistent sensitization of commerce ministries and the private sector on REDD+ and ERP, and establish a LCs Community Trust Fund at the provincial level for livelihoods, FGRM, and safety nets.

Q&A and Open Discussion

Mr. Dil Raj Khanal, RAC, Nepal: What is the difference between women-led fora and women-led dialogue?

Dr. Khanh, CRD, Vietnam: Those are sequential steps. We need to do the forum before the dialogue. The forum is a place for EMs to discuss their experience in CBP implementation and solutions they can apply towards mitigating risks in ERP processes. The forums may involve other participants, but no decisions are made. With evidence from these forums, similar discussions will be raised in the dialogue. In the dialogue, government officials will answer to the communities and leverage the information into the implementation of REDD+.

Ms. Sonam Pem, Tarayana, Bhutan: How difficult was it to organize such a dialogue at national level? In Bhutan, we organized the first national level dialogue with grassroots communities and policymakers. We prepared for three (3) months because LC representatives were not familiar with such dialogues. We first consulted communities, selected representatives, agreed on their issues, and trained them to articulate those issues in the dialogue.

Dr. Khanh: It is not easy to organize a dialogue with EMs and women in Vietnam. First, we need to meet them and explain the importance of being involved in the dialogue. In Vietnam, we have the Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA) and Woman Union who were responsible for the lower-level organizations, the central, provincial, and district governments. In our sub-project, the group beneficiaries were EMs so we worked with the CEMA in all levels. For women, we also talked to the Woman Union. We had several discussions with those organizations about the processes. When they understood better, we went to the forum, then we had the dialogue after.

Mr. Jensby, WB: Are the written documents useful to communities that do not speak the national language? Did they need translation? Were other materials translated, like audio-video tools?

Dr. Khanh: In relation to the educational materials for EMs, I can see the problem. Our materials were in Vietnamese. The technical terms on REDD+ or ERP were difficult to explain to EMs. That is why we modified them in easier terms and utilized pictures. When we developed materials for EMs, we tried to translate into the Katu language, but the problem is the Katu people now only speak their language and are not able to read it. That is why we kept the materials in the Vietnamese language not in the dialect of local people. For community meetings, we trained influential people from the communities on REDD+, then they continued the knowledge sharing in their language.

Ms. Luong Thi Truong, RSC, Vietnam: The way we prepared materials in IP languages is that, in our center, we used H'mong and Kinh languages. For Thai languages, we have done quite many. We have translated a lot of documentation in these languages. The H'mongs have their own oral and written languages so we do not have many materials in that language. In the past five (5) years, these materials were welcomed by the local people but we do not have any agency to print out in the ethnic languages, only in some provinces. Still, people were curious when we present issues in their own writing. We have a network with 4000 members which made the dissemination easy. We have printed out the experiences on REDD+ in ethnic languages. This way, they can remember it better.

Ms. Pem: *To Tebtebba, were the challenges experienced by presenters today similar to Phase 1 and Phase 2? Were some measures performed to mitigate those previous challenges or were these beyond your control?*

Ms. Valdez, Tebtebba, Philippines: In Phase 3, constraints came from “above” in a chain, such as some things on WB procedures that needed to be followed, so it took some time. From Tebtebba and ANSAB’s side, we had the selection process and things done before agreements were signed. Most of the Phase 2 challenges were in Phase 3. But what made it worse in Nepal was the currency-related constraints. In Vietnam, a law was passed that took effect on September 2020 which was a hurdle to cross. Even if agreements were signed, Vietnam partners were still unable to proceed with implementation until the new law was complied with. For Nepal, there is the social welfare council registration requirement. These things were beyond Tebtebba and ANSAB’s control.

Call for a separate Pacific region and the carbon rights ownership in Fiji:

Ms. Valdez: We supported the separation issue of Asia and Pacific as the recommendation was carried from regional to global dialogues under the FCPF in 2019. Now, the challenge is on the side of the Pacific to push their cause. For carbon rights, it is actually reliant on national laws.

Mr. Khanal, RAC, Nepal: Actually, carbon ownership is a complex issue. However, based on three documents, the Green Climate Fund (GCF), FCPF Methodological Framework, and Environmental Social Standard (ESS), we can understand that if the tenure right belongs to IPLCs, the owner of the carbon is the IPLCs. This is clear at the international level. However, at the national level, they are defined based on contractual laws. During the development of carbon ownership documents, we have to review all relevant legal documents carefully to claim carbon titles or rights. Just a brief reflection over carbon titles which not only affects Fiji, but many countries.

Mr. Lester Govi Seri, Conservation Environment Protection Authority, Papua New Guinea: I would like to make a few observations here. One is in relation to the issue of carbon rights and ownership. It is quite a challenging issue that has to be dealt with. But largely, it depends on each individual country’s constitution. Countries can define who has the right over the carbon. In the same situation in Papua New Guinea, our constitution actually gives due recognition to customary

rights and ownership but when it gets down to the practicality of the constitution, there are varying depths on who owns carbon from the context of forestry, climate change, and environment.

On the whole issue of education and sharing of knowledge and skills, what I observed in the last decade with ANSAB and the WB on this matter is really strengthening the capacity of the communities in these countries. But I think we are taking the education component really lightly. It is not going to be just one particular few months or few years or even eight years of education that is going to make the determination in so far as generational challenges are concerned. The long-term sustainability of anything that happens is really dependent on how best we equip the next generation to take responsibility to ensure continuous sustainability.

Mr. Sherpa, AIPP, Nepal: I see the impact that was generated by the program. Despite the challenges on the ground, small achievements should be celebrated. What is next in terms of the recommendations in this last phase? Going forward, how can we sustain the progress that happened on the ground? It is a general question for everyone's reflection.

Dr. Khanh, CRD, Vietnam: A lot was discussed on EMs and women participation and even institutions. But we still need to focus more on the economic aspect of EMs.

One example, in Vietnam, EMs grow acacia but only for the short season of four (4) to five (5) years and we encouraged them to extend the business cycle to ten (10) years. They asked us, if they grew for five (5) years, they can sell quickly. But if they wait for ten (10) years, then what will they provide to their children in the first nine (9) years? Second, when we went to the forest areas of EMs, I discussed forest management with the youth and they were not keen on that because they felt it was better to move to the city for employment. They felt that protecting the forest was their parents' responsibility. How do we educate the next generation about sustainable forest management?

Mr. Rai, RSC and NEFIN, Nepal: I understand that REDD+ is a results-based payment and it is the payment against forest conservation. But one thing we have been forgetting is that extending forests is not a result that can be achieved in two (2) to five (5) years.

Another thing, IPLCs and women have contributed a lot to keep forests standing. In that regard, were the BSP or REDD+ schemes cognizant of stakeholders who have contributed in the past to keep forestlands? For example, in Nepal, the ERP forest site was supposed to receive payment this year according to the ERPD and also in 2025 but how have the forests been there for generations? IPs in Nepal were not recognized as one of the contributors to forests and owners of the payment. We need those dimensions in the discussion. Third, the FCPF uses the terms "forest dwellers" and "forest-dependent IPs". How do you define the dependency? IPs living in cities still have social, spiritual, and cultural connection with the forests. When you say those terms, then you have to make sure that social and spiritual connections are a dependency.

Mr. Bhim Prakash Khadka, FECOFUN, Nepal, translated by Dr. Shambhu Prasad Dangal, RECOFTC, Nepal: We have been hearing about managing and protecting forests. In the case of Nepal, for the last 40 years, communities managed forests. But now, we have not ensured community rights. How will those communities, who have been managing forests for the last 40 years, get the benefit of the forests? It has to be discussed in these forums, otherwise, communities will be distracted from sustainable forest management. The findings from these could be applied to policies.

Prof. Raymundo Rovillos, Tebtebba Research Consultant, Philippines: I have been hearing repeatedly the seeming disconnect between outcome and input indicators. I would like to emphasize that IPs have issues and problems with time-bound, results-based, and performance-based targets. IPs have a certain idea of time that is nonlinear and non-western. That is where the problem arises in terms of delivering the supposed outcomes and even outputs. We feel heavy, saying we are not yet there. As mentioned by one participant, it took generations to build forests, and now, we want to involve IPs and expect them to know the logic of western bureaucracy? That is alien to the IP customary institutions. We need to start thinking long-term. We cannot attain even the outcomes identified in two (2) to five (5) years as mentioned earlier.

Second, it is time to talk about process indicators instead of just output and input indicators. The sub-project reports were not talking about outcomes. It was all about numbers of people trained and numbers of seminars which were all output indicators. We cannot measure the outcome now, but we can talk about processes. Did we craft certain indicators for processes? I think those are very important for IPs, especially.

Prof. Tek Maraseni, ANSAB Research Consultant, Australia: I would like to say a couple of findings from our research, specifically, about Vietnam and other issues about permanence. Regarding the plantation of acacia, we have done research with the Vietnam Academy of Forest Sciences, supported by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). Our findings are that harvesting trees at the average of 10 years old created 3.5 times more benefit than harvesting trees at the age of five (5).

On a similar topic, in Australia, we have US\$4.5 million in ER funds. We had a permanence policy, which means that when a tree is planted, it needs to be kept for 100 years. That has an intergenerational equity issue. The Australian government has now reduced it to 25 years. We compared the 25-year permanence policy and 100-year permanence policy and came to the same results as Vietnam. In forestry, the cost of course [is an issue] in the early stage as the benefit comes only after the MRV of carbon stocks. But the benefits heavily discount the cost because \$1 today is not equivalent to US\$1 after 10 or 25 years.

VII. PARALLEL SESSION ON THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND PARTICIPATION OF IPLCS

There were two (2) groups: the **South East Asia Group** composed of Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, and Thailand participants; and the **South Asia and the Pacific Group** from Bhutan, Pakistan, and Papua New Guinea. The sub-grantees in Fiji, Nepal, and Vietnam participated as observers. The groups were requested to discuss the questions: (i) What were the contributions of IPLCs to REDD+?; (ii) How did IPLCs participate and become involved in REDD+ programs and projects including in ERP and benefit sharing and were these effective, efficient and equitable?; and (iii) What were the specific capacity building activities provided to IPLCs at country level? How will they use what they learned?

Group Presentations

South East Asia, Mr. Than Huu Vu

The group acknowledged that IPLCs who participated in dialogues and consultations provided invaluable feedback to their governments through donor-driven mechanisms. IPLCs also continue

to protect their forests and educate younger generations on the values of the forests and customary practices at community level.

Although IPLCs were engaged in consultations and there were mechanisms in place to engage them in national processes, the group concluded that there were limited opportunities to get IPLCs engaged in REDD+ processes and ERP formulation and implementation. Especially at the national level, IPLCs had limited participation in policy formulation processes and also lacked representation in decision-making bodies. In certain countries, the IPLCs felt that their rights over the forests were neither adequately addressed nor recognized by the legal systems. There were initiatives from IPLCs to organize campaigns to advocate for their participation in decision-making bodies.

At the country level, IPLCs participated in relevant capacity building and awareness raising activities on the basic concepts of climate change and REDD+. The group recommended for more training activities on safeguards and technical aspects like forest monitoring, and carbon measurements; and for governments to be firmly committed in ensuring the engagement of IPLCs in implementing national REDD+ strategies.

South Asia and the Pacific, Ms. Reama T. Naco

IPs are not recognized in Bhutan and Pakistan. In Papua New Guinea, the majority of the population are recognized as IPs and approximately 87% are customary land owners.

CSOs in Bhutan were part of the technical working group through the REDD+ Secretariat. They conducted studies, assessments, and field consultations in the rural communities and a series of awareness programs with forestry officers, extension foresters, and LCs on benefit sharing, non-carbon benefit, and carbon benefit components of REDD+ from 2014 to 2018.

IPLCs could contribute better to REDD+ if there were financial incentives, livelihood training activities, and carbon accounting training activities provided. In Bhutan, there were carbon accounting training activities conducted at the country level but the capabilities of IPLCs at the community level need to be enhanced. One of the initiatives of the REDD+ Secretariat and partner CSOs was the development of a national guideline on carbon stock calculation in collaboration with carbon accounting experts from Yale University, U.K.

Carbon accounting training activities are needed in Papua New Guinea where carbon trading activities with the international market is commonplace. However, IPLCs did not carry out their own carbon assessments and those assessments had to be conducted by the buyers or the private sector.

In Pakistan, IPLCs made contributions to REDD+ through customary practices on grazing which was proven in the prevention of wildfires and improvement of land for reforestation. They also contributed to forest patrolling and established relations with their forest offices whom they contacted in case of illegal activities in the forests. These contributions were already made without particular engagements with REDD+ stakeholders.

There was no participation from grassroots communities in decision making processes on REDD+, ERP, and benefit sharing in Pakistan, according to Mr. Muhammad Hanif Parwana, a nomadic IP from Pakistan. However, CSOs were significant in mobilizing actions for the benefit of IPLCs such

as the reappropriation of funds at the national level to include IPLCs and the promotion of CSO think tanks at the global level for projects that benefit IPLCs and REDD+.

The group recommended the need to strengthen the relationships between CSOs and IPLCs, continuous financial support for capacity building and engagement of IPLCs, and provision of livelihood and carbon accounting training activities for IPLCs.

Q&A and Open Discussion

Mr. Mathieu Van Rijn, FAO, Thailand: It was mentioned that Bhutan was overall carbon neutral or even negative but are behind compared to other countries in REDD+. What were the forest restoration activities of IPLCs?

Ms. Pem, Tarayana, Bhutan: From the CSO perspective, we do not want to be complacent. Despite not contributing to emissions, we want to be proactively engaged as CSOs because we still feel the brunt of climate change. There are proposals for activities but we are still waiting for the ministry-level transformations to be completed before we can implement.

Dr. Dangal, RECOFTC, Nepal: Different organizations were working in different countries with different methodologies and tools. In Indonesia, how were the methodologies of the organizations pursued by the respective governments? How did you address potential issues?

Dr. Karhab, REDD+ Focal Point, Indonesia: We are the largest island country in population with more than 80,000 villages. How do we manage to give the benefit to the right community? For example, in the East Kalimantan context, we have national regulations and local regulations. We also have an Empowerment Community Agency with a division for IPLC management. This division is concerned with the verification of the data of communities.

Mr. Tagivuni, GTM, Fiji: The role of academia in this process is important as it continues to extend the voice for IPLCs in this whole process. It is about time to look at the effectiveness of processes as we come away from outcomes and academia is needed in providing evidence-based advocacy to decision makers. I hope to see more participation from the academia.

Dr. Ram Chandra Kandel, REDD+ Focal Point, Nepal: I would like to reflect on the discussions that we had in the South East Asia Group. Except Indonesia, our focus has been mostly in readiness activities and pilot projects to work with the communities. Linkage with the government for policy development is very minimal with no synchronization. Congratulations to Indonesia, they have a benefit sharing mechanism in place. In others, more than 50% of forests are managed by IPLCs and we are only getting 15% of the benefits. Where are development partners focused on putting the money? We started in 2009 but we are still on pilot projects. When are we selling carbon credits and when are we getting benefits? We are still far in many countries.

Ms. Pathak, CSO Observer and FECOFUN, Nepal: Despite very nice policies, there is still a gap in implementation. Another gap is in the shifting of the funding support. In Nepal, for example, 25 years ago, there was more direct support from donors to the IPLCs. Now, the funding has shifted to leadership organizations and not the capacity building and leadership development at the grassroots level. How can we improve the policies at the global level to support the grassroots communities? At the country level, we need investments in the forest carbon monitoring system or measurement system.

Ms. Vesikula, SSV, Fiji: I went through both sessions and the gaps were many. Some countries have moved on but I am finding out whether the outputs are documents or people. Are we changing forest dependents? In our capacity building program in Fiji, we are trying to change the values of communities so they can take ownership of the program. Our customs are connected with forests. It is the knowledge of forest people that we need to respect. I would like to see IPLCs drive their own program.

VIII. PANEL DISCUSSION I WITH REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND FCPF OBSERVERS

Prof. Tek Maraseni, Environmental Science and Management Professor at the University of Southern Queensland in Australia, facilitated the first panel discussion. The subject was on strengthening the participation and capacity of IPLCs on REDD+ processes at the regional level.

The five (5) panelists were Mr. David Ganz, Executive Director of the Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific (RECOFTC); Mr. Lakpa Nuri Sherpa, Environmental Coordinator of AIPP; Mr. Matthieu Van Rijn, forest officer of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Asia and the Pacific; Ms. Bharati Kumari Pathak, Chairperson of FECOFUN and CSO observer for the FCPF; and Ms. Grace Balawag of Tebtebba, IP Observer for the FCPF and Climate Investment Fund (CIF).

Mr. Ganz started the panel sharing and introduced the work of RECOFTC in capacity building in previous decades. RECOFTC was supported by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) in training 1,300 community trainers, 50% of whom were women. Having encountered only one of those trainers in the regional workshop and the workshop comprising of mostly men, Mr. Ganz expressed some doubts on the practical outcomes of their longstanding capacity building endeavors and raised the need to discuss perspectives on why these activities were still needed at the grassroots level and why previous capacity building activities did not do more to reflect trained IPLCs in this workshop.

Both Mr. Sherpa and Ms. Pathak shared that they were actually products of trainings of trainers in 2010 and 2005, respectively. Historically, most IPs were not involved in climate agenda and the formulation of REDD as a solution, which prompted IPs to engage further into the REDD discussions because REDD concerned their lands and homes. Since then, REDD became REDD+ and a global network of IPOs and NGOs was built. Some achievements of this network were on influencing the development of national policies, safeguard systems, and the integration of IP traditional systems into the context of REDD+ at the national level.

Ms. Balawag emphasized that the work of IPLCs, as detailed above, were necessary in all levels. Even at the global level, trained IPs are leaders of technical working groups within UNFCCC processes. IPs have also been engaged at the regional level by visiting partner countries to support their national advancements in REDD+.

Mr. Sherpa credited the successes of capacity building activities to continuous knowledge transfers and exchanges between stakeholders, especially in regional exchanges where the decisions can influence the national and subnational levels. Mr. Van Rijn added that, through regional exchanges, the participants can learn from countries who are more advanced in the ERP processes. All panelists agreed on the necessity of improving the capacity of IPLCs at grassroots to engage in national and regional decision-making.

Mr. Sherpa said that the main hindrance to engaging IPLCs above the local level is the lack of understanding of their specific needs, in relation to what is funded in capacity building programs. He added, “Funding mechanisms should be based on what IPLCs need, not what donors’ need. The driving seat in decision making has to be IPLCs.” In relation to this, Ms. Pathak emphasized that women, specifically, were lacking in knowledge on REDD+ despite being traditional forest users. It was also observed that not all trainers trained were actively engaged in the long run especially at higher levels. Trained IP leaders also moved in and out of institutions, necessitating frequent knowledge transfers or the long-term sustainability of training activities for the new leaders.

Some initiatives to improve these hindrances in capacity building are already in place. Mr. Ganz and Ms. Pathak referred to institutional strengthening as sustainable capacity building methods that are needed in future activities. “We need to look away from number of people trained as an indicator. We need to look at how we strengthen institutions in the long run,” said Mr. Ganz. Ms. Balawag shared an example, the Elatia partnership of IPOs in 14 countries, which has initiated the Elatia IPSSDD Training Institute and have been capacitating trainers and second-generation IP leaders as determined by the Elatia partners.

To support the institutions that implement capacity building, Ms. Balawag raised the need for organizations to work with their respective government agencies. “Governments should be conscious to allocate dedicated funds for IPLCs at national and subnational levels because we cannot be dependent on outside donors,” she said. Negotiating and generating government support is sustainable and a long-term solution to the funding gap.

To conclude the panel session, Ms. Pathak shared her experience as a member of the REDD+ decision making body of Nepal. She said, in 2009, the Nepalese government formed the REDD+ working group with the participation of women’s groups, IPLCs, and CSOs such as FECOFUN to produce the national REDD+ strategy. In this agenda, they were able to secure an 80% share of resources for the grassroots communities. Ms. Pathak credited this result to gaining a common understanding between all stakeholders in influencing policies for the benefit of grassroots IPLCs.

Q&A and Open Discussion

Mr. Rai, NEFIN, Nepal: We should reflect the bitter reality that capacity building is a multilinear process. For IPLCs, building capacity is to exercise self-determination, self-governance, and cultural integrity. Linking that with REDD+ and forestry is not progressing a lot. I can speak of Nepal IPs in saying that their capacities have not been enhanced. Should we accept these distinct groups and identities in substance and practice and not in words or principles? Community forests are increasing in Nepal but is there extra space? In the same respect, IPs’ lands are being converted and changed into national forests and protected areas. Those are the substance that needs to be discussed. We have to reflect on those realities moving forward for better collaboration.

Ms. Truong, RSC, Vietnam, translated by Dr. Khanh, CRD, Vietnam: My question is, given that they already conducted capacity building activities, how can they take IPLCs to the regional or international meetings? I think Tebtebba and ANSAB have experiences on inviting IPLCs to these meetings, please share.

Dr. Dangal, RECOFTC, Nepal: What kinds of training are appropriate? How are they selected? How to improve?

Mr. Govi Seri, Conservation Environment Protection Authority, Papua New Guinea: When it comes to REDD+ and what it entails, what does the term capacity building mean? What capacity are we talking about? Second, the litmus test of REDD+ should be going down to the community level, checking what they are up to, and seeing how much has been achieved or how the communities have benefitted. I have not heard about this so far in the workshop.

IX. RESEARCH REPORTS

Indigenous Women and Benefit Sharing in Emission Reductions Programs Implementation, Prof. Raymundo Rovillos, Tebtebba Research Consultant, Philippines

Prof. Rovillos coordinated the research and prepared a synthesis of case studies by Ms. Pasang Dolma Sherpa in Nepal and Ms. Akanisi Tarabe in Fiji. The study was conducted through document studies, focused group discussions (FGDs), and key informant interviews. The researcher in Indonesia had health issues as mentioned in Day 1, thus, a virtual FGD was conducted in collaboration with a local chapter of the national federation of IPs in Indonesia, the *Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara* (AMAN). Prof. Rovillos informed the participants that Tebtebba was finalizing the detailed report.

The research objectives were to (i) Identify IP communities covered and/or affected, whether directly or indirectly by ERP implementation and their existing contributions to emissions reduction and barriers to sustaining these; (ii) Analyze existing opportunities, actions, mechanisms, etc. that can drive or constrain equitable benefit sharing for IPs, especially women; and (iii) Recommend how IP practices can enhance benefit sharing arrangements to reduce carbon emissions and propose a design for equitable benefit sharing to IPs with attention to indigenous women.

The research sites were the villages of Lutukina, a land area, and Vuo, a mangrove area, in Fiji; Bahia, Kanjampur and Chitwan districts where IPs in Nepal were situated; and East Kalimantan, Indonesia's ERP pilot site.

One of the major findings is that IPs, especially women, are primary subsistence farmers and caretakers of forest resources through their extensive knowledge of the flora and fauna. But due to structural limitations in their cultures, the freedom men have in controlling the processes on forests were not shared with the women. There were multiple instances where women who are members of indigenous structures, like the *Mataqali* in Fiji, were still prevented from fully accessing and enjoying the benefits derived from forest activities due to cultural practices and government requirements such as possession of land titles and bank accounts¹⁴. Based on these findings, the study deduced that despite having access, IP women have no independent control of processes on forests.

IPs were also hindered from accessing benefits due to the premise that forest lands are owned by the state and IPs are caretakers. Thus, state laws focused more on the conservation of forests and less on recognizing the rights of IPs. Given this premise, IPs are allocated a fraction of about 5% to 15%¹⁵ of the benefits in national BSPs and the actual benefits they received were mostly non-cash

¹⁴ Rovillos, R., et. al., Indigenous Women and Benefit Sharing in Emission Reductions Programs Implementation, pp. 41-42 (unpublished)

¹⁵ Rovillos, R., et. al., Indigenous Women and Benefit Sharing in Emission Reductions Programs Implementation, page 25 (unpublished)

(i.e., community capacity building and livelihood support in Fiji). Dr. Pasang Dorma Sherpa, co-author of the study, cited that in Nepal, “the BSP provision of basic allocation of 5% of the ER payment goes to forest-dependent communities who do not belong to forest-user groups” where IPs may be included. Nepal’s BSP, reportedly still being finalized, recognizes mainstream forest regimes like protected areas and community managed forests as first-level beneficiaries, but not customary forests sustained/managed by IPs.

Time poverty¹⁶ and multiple burdens are barriers to participation of IP women. They lack access to full and appropriate information on REDD+ and ERP and capacity building activities are too technical. Thus, these constraints need to be addressed before moving towards results-based ERP and other market-based mechanisms.

The general recommendations from the study were to recognize and integrate customary knowledge systems and practices in the ERP; increase the awareness of IPs, especially women, on REDD+ and ERP; adopt a culture and adult-appropriate training techniques for implementers (i.e., CSOs/IPOs); and enable IP women to articulate their needs and perspectives in various forums.

There were also specific recommendations for each country¹⁷. In Nepal, the study recommended the incorporation of livelihood uplifting activities, particularly establishing skills development enterprises based on indigenous knowledge and skills in the ERP non-monetary benefits to support socio-economically vulnerable indigenous women and to protect indigenous knowledge and cultural values and their transmission to the future generation. In Indonesia, benefits should go directly to indigenous women and their communities, not through intermediaries, as well as the development of an inclusive policy and program where the ERP must have regulations to involve/engage indigenous women and the creation of specific programs responsive to indigenous women.

Lessons Learnt from the Implementation of REDD+ Capacity Building and Awareness Raising Activities in the Asia-Pacific Region,

Prof. Tek Maraseni, ANSAB Research Consultant, Australia

Prof. Maraseni presented a summary of his research¹⁸ which focused on IPLCs in the selected key countries: Fiji, Indonesia, Vietnam, Laos and Nepal. He informed the participants that the full research paper would soon be published.

This research was conducted with a mixed methods approach, including a review and analysis of REDD+ and FCPF literature in the key countries identified through a research database called Scopus¹⁹. The professor also reviewed government policies, REDD+ strategies, Nationally-Determined Contributions (NDCs), ERP, ERPAs, GCF, BSPs, ANSAB reports, and reports and proposals by three (3) sub-projects (FECOFUN, PanNature, and GTM) in implementing national-level REDD+ capacity building activities for CSOs/LCs. He also designed and reviewed social surveys/structured questionnaires which were administered by the aforementioned sub-projects.

¹⁶ Rovillos, R., et. al., Indigenous Women and Benefit Sharing in Emission Reductions Programs Implementation, page 23 (unpublished)

¹⁷ See the full list of country-specific recommendations in [Annex 8](#)

¹⁸ A full transcription of Prof. Maraseni’s session is available in [Annex 8](#)

¹⁹ Scopus is an abstract and citation database used by over 4,000 international publishers

Based on the historic and extensive management of forests by IPLCs in the key countries, Prof. Maraseni highlighted that IPLCs in those countries were both stakeholders and rights holders of the forests. According to him, the participation of IPLCs in REDD+ will improve the transparency, accountability, and credibility of the REDD+ implementation process and make the government more accountable.

On capacity-building, he said that activities should be designed and delivered following a structured approach that includes stakeholder mapping, capacity-need assessment of the stakeholders, and design of activities to address the gaps with the development of relevant training materials for the IPLCs to make them better prepared to implement the activities and achieve results.

Prof. Maraseni encouraged the donor agencies, including the WB, to cooperate with the academia in improving the credibility and effectiveness of REDD+ in Asia-Pacific. On REDD+ literature in the five (5) countries, he said, “There were only 126 publications in these five countries. A hundred and two (102) of them were journal articles, eight (8) were conference papers, and seven (7) were book chapters.” Of these publications, Indonesia had the largest amount, followed by Vietnam and then Nepal, and these were mostly associated with Australian universities. Prof. Maraseni emphasized that academic research was important for identifying the gaps in the program, locating the resources for the training materials, and also for future assessment.²⁰

The study made a review of the existing REDD+ finances at the global level until late 2021 and an overview of the ERPs and BSPs in five (5) ERP countries in Asia-Pacific. Prof. Maraseni noted that the major bottleneck in the participation of IPLCs in REDD+ was related to resources. The study found out that of the 21 funds received from international donors by the key countries, only Indonesia’s results-based payments funded by the GCF was related to REDD+. From 2019 to 2024, the ERP program could reduce 160 million tons of carbon with a cost of around \$770 million in all countries. Out of 160 million tons, 52 million tons were purchased through the WB’s Carbon Fund at a rate of \$5 per ton.

Since 2008, only \$2.9 billion has been allocated to REDD+ activities globally, against the findings from the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences²¹ that more than \$17 billion to \$28 billion was required for developing countries to reduce deforestation and degradation by 50%. Most of the countries that benefited in the BSP in Asia Pacific had high deforestation rates such as Indonesia and Lao PDR. Prof. Maraseni concluded that the selection of high deforestation countries in REDD+ contributed to ensuring a huge carbon benefit in the future.

²⁰ The WB/FCPF has financed numerous studies on [REDD+](#) and social aspects (gender, IP, land)

²¹ A study in the [Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences](#) Vol. 105, Issue 30 found that more than US\$17 billion to US\$28 billion was required for developing countries to reduce deforestation and degradation by 50%. It should be noted that this finding was measured on a timeframe of 25 years, 2005-2030.

The study identified the major drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in the ERP program areas, along with the major interventions, based on which IPLCs could implement activities to benefit from the benefit-sharing programs. Another point was that policy interventions, such as national land use policies, were beneficial in addressing the major drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in the key areas. These drivers are mainly the conversion of forestlands to agricultural lands, for example, the conversion of forests to palm oil farms in Indonesia.



Figure 8. Prof. Maraseni and Prof. Rovillos respond to questions

In relation to agriculture, commercial agriculture is particularly responsible for 40% of the deforestation in the world. With an estimated world population of 9.1 billion in 2050, Prof. Maraseni said that agricultural production would increase by at least 70% to feed the growing population which meant more deforestation. Thus, the focus in REDD+ should be turned to the agricultural sector along with the forestry sector for increased productivity, profitability and sustainability.

In addition, the study found that the social sector promoted the active participation of IPLCs based on a case study of 105 CFUGs in Nepal where the participation of IPLCs in CFUGs was encouraged.

Q&A and Open Discussion

Ms. Corpuz, Tebtebba, Philippines: I want to emphasize the roles of IPs. In the case of Indonesia, the reason why government paid attention to IPs was because IPs filed a case against the government in 2012, questioning the government's claim over 70% of the forests and allowing it to be deforested by palm oil farms, logging, etc. The court decided in favor of IPs, finding that forests were owned and managed by IPs since time immemorial, and therefore, they should have the prerogative to decide how forests can be protected.

About agriculture, when the population reaches 9 billion, where will we get food? Emissions from food waste are more than emissions from vehicles. Saying there will be food shortage does not account for the amount of food wastage by corporations and the food industry's excessive wastage in order to maintain prices. Food wastage is also a big issue.

I would like to know how the issue of carbon rights came up in this workshop. It is also a question raised by IPs because it will have a serious implication on benefit sharing. How can IPs benefit profitably from carbon funds?

Prof. Maraseni, ANSAB Research Consultant, Australia: Food waste has been the biggest problem. We all know that, in the world, 2.6 million have died from malnutrition. More than that, 2.8 million have died from obesity. Also, 10% of the total greenhouse gas emission came from food waste. Food waste releases methane, which has 25 times more global warming potential than carbon

dioxide. By 2050, agricultural production will increase by an estimated 70% with the growing population. The good thing is that 80% will be from intensification of existing agricultural lands.

Mr. Rai, RSC and NEFIN, Nepal: On the conceptual framework, maybe one guiding framework is also the Environmental and Social Standards of the WB, especially ESS-7 and ESS-8 which talks about IPLCs and cultural heritage. Beyond the WB and FCPF, there are several other instruments that guides the rights-based approach of IPs. The BSP of Nepal was released in July or June 2022. Was the study conducted before or after the release of the document? Because it impacts what will be in the document. Also, we need to improve the use of exact or legal terminologies such as Rana Tharu and Chaudhary Tharu because Rana Tharu was recently recognized as a distinct group, but Chaudhary Tharu were generally known as Tharu.

Another thing is references were made on the Green Climate Fund (GCF). It will be helpful if we talked about the specific ERP area, national or subnational, because we do not know whether the funding reached, for example, the 13 districts in Nepal, which it clearly did not.

Prof. Maraseni: On the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the key message was that, out of 21 funds, only one (1) was related to REDD+ ER payments.

Ms. Faria, WB: *Prof. Maraseni mentioned that resources were the main bottleneck of capacity building, what do you mean by resources? In the previous presentation about women in benefit sharing, Prof. Rovillos mentioned that women who participated in capacity building activities said the events were not delivered in the language and terminologies they understood. Mr. Ganz referenced that many years of capacity building training activities and financial resources went into those without clear outcomes. So, what type of resources were the bottleneck?*

Prof. Maraseni: Now, on the resources, we assessed each government's quality in engaging IPLCs and one indicator was resources. Financial resources consistently received the lowest scores.

Mr. Seri, Conservation Environment Protection Authority, Papua New Guinea: *To each individual country, what was your emissions percentage contribution to the overall emissions in the world? How much of that actually helped to safeguard all those communities that were affected by climate change? Those figures would be helpful.*

Prof. Maraseni: In climate change, emissions of individual years do not count but historical emissions matter. Since the 1850s, so far, 2500 billions of carbon dioxide greenhouse gases were emitted into the atmosphere and 79% came from developed countries. Currently, around 67% is coming from developing countries. We need to balance historical emission with current annual emission. Countries with high forest coverage but low deforestation rate such as Papua New Guinea, have a comparative disadvantage in REDD+ because of the baselines.

Mr. Timalisina, FECOFUN, Nepal: *There were recent criticisms on the overestimation of the REDD+ measurement system and that the REDD+ solutions discussed were false. How did the academia feel about this?*

Mr. Khanal, RAC, Nepal: In the name of REDD+, many documents were developed at national level. Example, the National REDD+ strategy, MRV-related documents, BSP, and others related to climate change and REDD+. Based on those, the rights and decision-making process were centralized. But in the context of IPLC rights, we always favored decentralized community-based

decision-making processes. But if we review documents, it has been mostly centralized. It would be good to review the national documents on how it can adopt the rights of IPLCs in their policies.

Prof. Rovillos: Increasing the capacity of IPLCs to engage is crucial but providing IPLCs with an ecosystem of support needs to be discussed. I recently visited an indigenous community in Palawan, Philippines where I realized that it will take decades to increase the capacity of IPLCs to engage because it is a matter of human capital. It is about the number of educated IPs in the community. We have to create an ecosystem of academic, government, and organizational support. IPLCs also need an assessment before capacity building.

If we look at the way benefits were shared, it has been skewed towards the government. There was an assumption that they owned the carbon. On population growth, it is not just about the increasing population but about the equity or the distribution of wealth. The problem is that the distribution of resources has been skewed in favor of the few elites at the expense of the poor. Another crucial factor, aside from agricultural intensification, is the equitable distribution of assets and resources. I agree with Mr. Seri's observation that the current benefit sharing mechanisms is centralized and top-down. We need to look into balancing top-down approaches with participatory and cost-efficient processes.

X. PANEL DISCUSSION II WITH GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

Dr. Bhishma P. Subedi of ANSAB facilitated the second panel discussion with government representatives from the REDD+ countries.

There were five (5) government representatives, namely, Dr. Ram Chandra Kandel of Nepal; Ms. Rosarine Vukinayatu Suka Lagi of Fiji; Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu Thuy of Vietnam; Mr. Sukan Pungkul of Thailand; and Dr. Rinda Sandayani Karhab., S.Hut., M.SI of Indonesia.

The panelists responded to these questions: (i) How did your government recognize IPLCs and their contributions as important partners in REDD+ and ERP related processes? (ii) What is your country's BSP?; and (iii) What are the practical steps to be undertaken by governments and IPLCs so that IPLCs can access the benefits?

IPLCs were recognized in REDD+ and respective national ERP and BSP documents according to all five (5) government representatives. Their identification of beneficiaries in these documents varied per country. The Nepalese government identified IPLCs based on institutional factors, ER activities, degrees of forest dependency, and social justice. In Fiji, where 90% of lands were customarily owned, the beneficiaries were selected based on their legal carbon ownership, involvement in ERP implementation, and resource ownership. In Indonesia, where the first ER payment was rewarded, IPLCs went through a recognition and verification process. The Indonesian government required them to provide their indigenous history and proof of their customary properties and governance systems. In Vietnam, they did not use the term "indigenous" or emphasize on the different ethnicities. They referred to beneficiaries as EMs/LCs who were involved in forest protection and development.

Thailand's government followed the guidelines from the WB on the compulsory participation of LCs in ERP processes. Their benefit sharing plan and mechanisms were not yet detailed and they were behind in the national processes of REDD+. Mr. Pungkul said he was eager to learn from the experiences in other countries.

The four (4) other governments explained their national BSP, particularly, the distribution of monetary and non-monetary benefits in their respective countries. The Nepalese government allocated 80% as performance costs to the government entities and CFUGs including forest owner's programs. 5% in non-monetary benefits was allocated to private forest owners, 5% in monetary benefits to forest-dependent households outside of CFUGS and 10% to forest processes.

In Fiji, 5% was allocated to the performance buffer and 10% to operational costs and the remaining 85%, was allocated to the beneficiaries as follows: 5% to the provincial council, 5% to the private sector, 20% to IPLCs, 25% to farmers, and 20% to NGOs and national trusts.

Indonesia, having the fourth largest population in the world, has a large demographic of ethnic groups. The government held the responsibility of identifying which specific communities implemented ERP with results. These factors necessitated the intervention of the government in distributing the funds appropriately from funding agencies, according to Dr. Karhab. In Indonesia, 25% of the benefits were allocated to the government as responsibility costs, 65% to performance costs where IPLCs may also benefit, and 10% for IPLCs who were responsible for emission reductions.

In Vietnam, 3.5% was allocated to the central government for monitoring and policy development or refinement, 51.5% to LCs based on contracts, nearly 17% directly to LCs, and 10% to management fees at the provincial level. Ms. Thuy added that their BSP was not finalized. Dr. Subedi asked the panelists, in which all of them agreed, on whether the benefit sharing mechanisms of their country were consistent with other national forestry projects.

For the final question, the government representatives identified practical steps in supporting IPLCs in accessing the benefits of REDD+. All panelists agreed that awareness and capacity building activities should be continued for the benefit of IPLCs, particularly in sustainable forest management and technical MRV awareness. Mr. Kandel expressed gratitude to the CSOs in Nepal, namely, FECOFUN, HIMAWANTI and NEFIN, who put in the effort to engage IPLCs on the ground. Ms. Suka Lagi said that the outcome in capacity building on benefit sharing and REDD+ was an entrepreneurial mindset and behavioral change.

For Thailand, Mr. Pungkul mentioned the need to establish a local committee to be in charge of the benefits and a system to monitor the benefits that are owed to IPLCs. Ms. Thuy hoped to implement the pilot project well in Vietnam for the benefit of the government and the LCs. In addition, the Vietnamese government had capacity building activities for the LCs on climate smart agriculture and livelihood improvement.



Figure 9. Dr. Subedi of ANSAB facilitated the panel with the five (5) government representatives

Two (2) ERP countries in Asia-Pacific received advanced ER payments from the FCPF, Lao PDR in August 2022 and Indonesia in November 2022. Because no government representative from Lao PDR made it to the workshop due to the short notice, Dr. Subedi asked Dr. Karhab from Indonesia to share the government's mechanism for distributing the benefits from the ER payment of US\$20.9 million to IPLCs. IPLCs received the benefits from two components, the 65% performance cost, and the 10% reward cost. Performance dues were also paid to the IPLCs who contributed to emission reductions and the reward was paid to IPLCs who had a net zero deforestation rate in their forest communities. In total, 441 villages are to receive or have received upfront payments.

Q&A and Open Discussion

Mr. Khadka, FECOFUN, Nepal, translated by Mr. Dangal, RECOFTC, Nepal: I would like to hear more from Indonesia since they have received the payment. What is the percentage shared and process of how the money flowed to the community?

Dr. Karhab explained the detailed mechanism through a chart²² of their ER payment distribution.

Mr. Tagivuni, GTM, Fiji: I heard US\$20.9 million, Indonesia. I understand that is not the real payment. It is more than that.

Dr. Karhab, REDD+ Focal Point, Indonesia: Yes, it is the advanced payment from the US\$110 million agreed upon with the FCPF.

Prof. Maraseni, ANSAB Research Consultant, Australia: I would like to share what I found in the literature on benefit sharing for all countries involved. The BSP is developed from three (3) approaches: input-based, rights-based, and performance-based. Almost all countries have the latter two but not so much on the input-based approach. Input means cost. There are different types of cost in REDD+, implementation, opportunity and transaction, which are disproportionately distributed to different beneficiaries. That will have a sustainability implication in the future.

²² [Chart](#) of Indonesia's ER payment distribution

Second, in all BSPs, there is a condition of periodic revision. They developed the BSP based on the current information which they can refine later. All of the BSPs have not dealt with the changes in carbon price which increases with time.

Ms. Thuy, REDD+ Focal Point, Vietnam: Vietnam did not use advanced payment, so we are expecting the payment in the next few months. The implementation will end in 2025. By that time, we hope to share more details on the distribution of the benefits.

Dr. Kandel, REDD+ Focal Point, Nepal: I have concerns on the previous two days of discussion. NEFIN mentioned an inconvenience on the approval of their sub-project. I received the proposal from NEFIN a couple of months ago and, two days after, I gave a recommendation to apply for the permit. Another thing is, many of the forest areas in Nepal were converted to community forests or protected areas. I would say that IPs were beneficiaries of those community forests. They were not in any way deprived from the benefit of the forests. The establishment of protected areas were not due to the IPs, rather those who migrated from the hilly areas. In the hilly areas, people were considered a part of the protected areas because of their cultural values. They were part of the management system. The government also designed a national park regulation to ensure their benefits.

XI. WORKING SESSIONS I AND II: GAPS, BARRIERS, CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMMENDATIONS

There were three breakout groups: Fiji and Vietnam; Indonesia, Nepal, and Lao PDR; and Cambodia, Thailand, Bhutan, Pakistan, and Papua New Guinea.

The presentations combined the outputs of the two (2) working sessions. In Working Session I, participants determined the gaps, barriers, and challenges in facilitating the participation of IPLCs in REDD+ in their respective countries. In Working Session II, they discussed the success cases in capacity building and determined the practical steps for stakeholders to improve IPLC participation.

Group Presentations

Fiji and Vietnam

The good practices cited by the group were awareness and capacity building activities, M&E and feedback systems, networking through the internet, development of print and audio-visual materials, and the use of information technology in developing knowledge tools and dissemination. In terms of influence in REDD+, there was more inclusion at the local level than at national level in both countries. The group presented the following challenges:

Lack of Awareness and Access to Resources. IPLCs, especially women and youth, lacked access to information and knowledge, inclusion in decision making forums, and financial and technological resources. Materials for communication with IPLCs also needed translation.

Weak involvement of IPLCs in decision making. More efforts were needed in increasing the influence of IPLCs in decision making forums. They also shared that consultations between donors and IPLCs at the project formulation and implementation stages were lacking.

Mr. Tagivuni said, “When we conceptualize the next call for some of these sub-grants, please allow us to actually have our seat.”

Institutional challenges. The group recommended that government offices at the various levels should avoid disconnect in terms of policies. There was also a need for constant monitoring and evaluation during different stages of programs and project implementation, especially after implementation.

Mr. Tagivuni discussed the significance of appropriate timing for consultations with IPLCs. In Fiji, they conducted consultations in the evening for the harder questions such as land ownership and carbon rights ownership. In the same regard, adult-appropriate training methodologies should be applied in consultations and capacity building.

The group made the following recommendations: for governments and CSOs/IPOs, promote the participation of women and youth, translate ERP information, improve cross-country learning, link ERP with other funding programs, and improve stakeholders’ collaboration at all levels; and for the government, have a clear plan for capacity building and benefit sharing of IPLCs, delegate more roles to IPLCs in decision-making, provide information transparently, practice authenticity when dealing with CSOs, and provide resources for CSOs to pilot alternative livelihood options.

Cambodia, Thailand, Bhutan, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea

For awareness raising activities, IPLCs in the five (5) countries were engaged in seminars, events, mass media (talk shows), workshops, and popular media. Additionally, Bhutan held a climate marathon in the Himalayas to raise awareness on climate change. The group reported that IPLCs were part of consultations in the development of their National REDD+ Strategies and SIS or national-level activities, however, there was less IPLC influence at the subnational and local levels. This was also reflected in the lack of participation of IPLCs in the ground-level REDD+ implementation of Thailand, Cambodia and Pakistan. In Thailand, IPLCs lacked influence in the REDD+ Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM).

The group reported that IPLCs were highly active in terms of alternative livelihood training activities and formed agricultural cooperatives. CSOs/IPOs provided IPLCs with technical support to engage in climate resilient agriculture, community forest management, and eco-tourism. IPLC inputs on alternative livelihoods were also included in the National REDD+ Strategies and SIS. During the implementation of REDD+, the organizations learned the importance of using traditional livelihoods for the sustainability of REDD+.

The group presented the following challenges:

Lack of Awareness of IPs. IPs were not familiar with SIS. Specifically in Cambodia, not all information reached the grassroots.

Institutional challenges. Lack of understanding among stakeholder organizations (i.e., local government agencies) of the different contexts of IPLCs, geographical barriers (remoteness), cultural appropriateness of information materials, economic losses of people during consultation periods, and knowledge of COVID-19.

Access to Resources. IPLCs were difficult to reach due to the remoteness of their locations. There was also a lack of financial and technical resources for effective monitoring, thus, the monitoring

and evaluation of compliance to Cancun safeguards took some time. Financial constraints were also an issue for women and youth. In Pakistan, there is a gap for nomadic IPLCs because of the requirement for IPOs/CSOs to hold mobile consultation activities. Except for Bhutan, all countries reported challenges in developing pilot projects because funds were limited to the government and the sub-projects of the WB/FCPF for CBP Phase 3.

Weak involvement of IPLCs in implementation. In Bhutan, IPLCs were consulted but were not engaged in REDD+ implementation. Another gap was the inadequate involvement of women and youth reported by all countries.

For all stakeholders, the group recommended to make the SIS more user-friendly for IPLCs, integrate IP knowledge in REDD+, work according to the specific needs of IPLCs, ensure mechanisms are in place for the engagement of women and youth, and ensure the sustainability of traditional livelihoods. For the WB, the group recommended the continued financial support for REDD+ implementation in the Asia-Pacific countries.

Indonesia, Nepal, Lao PDR

The participation of IPLCs varied in each country. In Nepal, IPLCs lacked participation at the provincial and local level REDD+ and ERP processes. In contrast, Lao PDR reported that IPLCs lacked participation at the national level. For Indonesia, where the first ER payment has been received, Dr. Karhab said that IPLCs were active in decision-making processes and the BSP had special rewards for beneficiaries. They also had special activities for women and have established community empowerment agencies. The group presented the following challenges:

Lack of Awareness of Stakeholders. In Nepal, the complex technicality of REDD+/ERP made it difficult to inform IPLCs, especially in the case of women in the Chitwan district. The same challenges were experienced in Indonesia and Lao PDR. These problems were specifically related to language as ERP documents were not available in the local languages and information dissemination mechanisms were lacking. It was observed that government officials lacked awareness on REDD+.

Lack of Recognition of IPLCs. Getting recognition for IPLCs was a main challenge in ensuring direct access to the REDD+ benefits. IPLCs were not adequately recognized in the BSP draft of Nepal which was inconsistent with the National Strategy and ERPD. However, discussions were taking place with the government to ensure benefits for IPLCs.

Institutional challenges. In Lao PDR, the involvement of multiple mediatory organizations prolonged the finalization of benefit sharing mechanisms. Conflicts in the resulting perspectives between CSOs and governments on adequate IPLC engagement also affected the participation of IPLCs.

Weak implementation of policies. There were adequate policies to specially engage women and youth but these were not reflected in the implementation.

In addition, there was a barrier in terms of transportation to the remote areas.

For all stakeholders, the group recommended the practice of ethics in every step, to continue cross-country exchanges, to work on ensuring the participation and benefits for IPLCs, and remove brokers or mediatory organizations to improve the coordination. For governments and CSOs/IPOs,

the group recommended maintaining institutional memory and improving the knowledge transfers on REDD+ from present leadership to new leaderships, maintaining proper communication and dissemination of all the information regarding REDD+, and ensuring the institutional development of CSOs/IPOs.

After the presentations, Mr. Ghimire remarked that the knowledge from these materials can be used and adopted by other countries and suggested that participants reflect on how these experiences can be further shared and leveraged.

XII. PRESENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Ms. Grace Balawag of Tebtebba, FCPF IPO Observer, presented the consolidated recommendations. Ms. Balawag clarified that the presentation was not exhaustive but comprehensive from the reports and discussions and there could be overlaps.

For the World Bank, other development partners and donors:

1. WB/donors to increase funds and to continue supporting CBP for and aligned to the needs of IPLCs in all FCPF countries;
2. In close collaboration with concerned states, WB to ensure that administrative processes do not hinder the access of IPLCs to financial resources for the timely implementation of WB/FCPF-related initiatives;
3. WB to support an independent evaluation of the CBP;
4. Development partners (particularly WB/FCPF) should strongly monitor state compliance and accountability to World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) and provide technical and logistic support for independent IPLC monitoring and evaluation;
5. Provide funds directly to organizations that will implement CBP projects to reduce administrative costs and procedures of IOs and allow direct project monitoring by the WB/donor
6. Projects should have longer term for implementation and allocate higher budget with more investments in formal and informal capacity building including new developments at national and global levels (i.e., REDD+, benefit sharing, carbon rights, carbon markets, etc.) and relevant technical skills development (i.e., carbon accounting, climate smart agriculture, alternative livelihoods, etc.) of IPLCs and other stakeholders;
7. Promote landscape management (Payment for Ecosystem Services) including water/watershed in the REDD+ as non-carbon benefits;
8. Create a program specific to the Pacific, separate from Asia, managed by IPLCs' organizations in the Pacific to address their unique concerns, like the "lack of homegrown organizations compared to Asian countries," as stressed by Mr. Selevasio Tagivuni, GTM.

For the WB, other development partners/donors and implementing agencies/governments:

9. Establish and institutionalize a participatory consultation mechanism for the effective participation of IPLCs as partners, especially women and youth as well as nomadic and semi-nomadic (i.e., Pakistan) communities, to ensure their representation in REDD+ agencies and in the entire program cycle and in the development of REDD+ national policies and strategies;
10. Establish a fair benefit-sharing mechanism that recognizes the carbon rights of IPLCs based on customary land use and ownership/forest tenure rights (customary or legal rights); and

reconsider the financial mechanism for REDD+ benefits to go directly to IP communities who protect the forests.

For Governments/REDD+ Policy Makers:

11. Ensure allocations for and ensure implementation of capacity building specific for IPLCs in national and local government budgets (not to rely only on international donors);
12. Provide sustained capacity building on REDD+/ERP and benefit sharing to IPLCs including women, youth and local governments/agencies through REDD+ budget of government ministries or agencies which are implementing the REDD+ programs;
13. Harmonize national forestry/ climate related laws/practices with international legal standards, particularly ILO 169, UNDRIP, UNFCCC agreements and World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) and report on compliance;
14. Ensure intergovernmental coordination and be more transparent and regularly disseminate new regulations and approval procedures (related to government permits for project implementation);
15. Report on how IPs' rights, issues and concerns (including FPIC) in the ERP processes, mechanisms and benefit sharing are addressed;
16. Conduct indigenous and gender-sensitivity training activities among government and non-government stakeholders.

To Governments and CSOs/IPOs

17. Governments should recognize IPs and their rights, issues and concerns (including FPIC) in REDD+/ERP processes, mechanisms and benefit sharing and report on how these were addressed;
18. Develop local or home-grown knowledge products at sub-national level and in specific sites using vernacular or local languages and other culturally appropriate materials.

For CSOs, IPOs, and IPLCs:

19. IPLC leaders/networks should coordinate actions on REDD+/forestry mechanisms from local to national levels; there should be regional capacity building, dialogues and knowledge sharing;
20. IPLCs should cooperate and conduct education and training activities on safeguards and benefit sharing related to REDD+/ERP implementation for IPLCs including technical capacity building (i.e., carbon accounting) at the grassroots level;
21. Ensure sustained capacity building for IPLC leaders, organizations and institutions to develop community ownership and accountability on project plans and implementation processes
22. Generate more support for capacity building, leadership development, and organizational strengthening including for women and youth;
23. Forward relevant and clear inputs into national and local plans and policies of REDD+/ERP and benefit sharing;
24. Allocate more support for research and establishment of database of findings and analysis related to forest or various ecosystems to be shared;
25. Develop synergy between CSOs, LCs and IPOs to strengthen linkages and collaboration among and between grassroots projects;
26. Develop local or home ground knowledge management products at subnational and specific sites (use vernacular or local language) and other culturally appropriate materials;
27. Ensure sustainability of forest dependent livelihoods by providing training activities on appropriate technologies and innovations.

To all stakeholders:

28. Include the agriculture sector in REDD+ discussions; and

29. Engage academia in capacity building programs and research, ensuring allocations in this aspect.

Q&A and Open Discussion

Dr. Kanwar Muhammad Javed Iqbal, Sustainable Development Center, Pakistan:

What do we mean about regularly disseminating new regulations? Do we require a promulgation of new and acceptable to all regulations, particularly for such kinds of projects that should be more transparent or regular? I think we need to review the text, but the recommendation is valid.

Ms. Balawag: Definitely. This was specifically cited by our Vietnam partners. There was a new regulation enforced without their knowledge that caused the suspension of their projects. That's one case.

Mr. Rai, RSC and NEFIN, Nepal: One of my additions would be, if it is possible, a third-party evaluation to be funded by the WB on our work in the CBP and ERP in each country. It would be helpful because we have our professional or disciplinary biases. The second point is to add equal emphasis on the substance of the meetings of the capacity building initiatives. We are focusing more on inclusion of IPLCs, youth, government and so forth. But we forget to set the agenda in order to capture the real issues of those groups. There should be equal emphasis on both the process and also the substance.

Ms. Balawag: Yes, that was cited in one of the slides as well. It was mentioned that there should be an independent evaluation process that should be supported for IPLCs to do their own evaluation.

Mr. Seri, Conservation Environment Protection Authority, Papua New Guinea: *Now, we are making recommendations with the request for additional support into the future. Which comes first, an evaluation to establish some understanding of what has happened over the years and determine priority areas? Or do we go on to establish a dialogue with the donors to determine what would be done or what would not be done? I'm just requesting some clarity in the process.*

Ms. Balawag: Part of our responsibility with ANSAB is we have been making a full report on what had transpired. We also requested the sub-grantees on the ground to provide their own reports. This knowledge sharing workshop is partly an evaluation of what we have been doing all along.

Mr. Seri: *Is there a long-term strategy for the whole group into the future? Also, will this be circulated for individual partners to actually make inputs?*

Ms. Balawag: These are the recommendations moving forward. Each organization can make their own strategies to integrate this. It is up to the specific stakeholders to plan their future work in response to these recommendations. Yes, we will be circulating this through email to all of the participants here.

Mr. Tagivuni, GTM, Fiji: *Three reflections. One is from the Pacific that I asked the other day. It is both a question and a plea. How can we drive that through? I think Ms. Helen Valdez mentioned that it is up to us. But I think the issue here is that, in November of every year, me and my good friend here from Papua New Guinea push it through Vanuatu for us to prepare a concept note. I*

just want to merge that with how can we elevate it here also? What is the next step from our level here? Southeast and South Asia?

Second, I am so thankful that our friend from Kashmir is here. We know the issues between the two nations (referring to India and Pakistan). How can we smartly narrate that? The effects of military confrontation that trickles down to the IPLCs. Third, the issue of extractive industries, which is a craze in Fiji right now. How can we improve that? Thank you.

Ms. Valdez, Tebtebba, Philippines: Regarding the Pacific region, this was the same recommendation we had four (4) years ago. Maybe you have to do some concrete steps in coming up with a position paper to forward to the WB, signed by your network of organizations in the Pacific.

Mr. Sherpa, RSC and AIPP, Thailand: One of the gaps that came out very strongly in most of the presentations was the realization of the need to provide more dedicated spaces for youth and indigenous women. I think this can go to all the actors, the government or even IPLCs organizations. We need to provide dedicated spaces to women and youth from our communities.

Another thing that also came out strongly in all the presentations was that local authorities did not have access to all the information available at the national level. Some of them were saying that there was no coordination happening even between different agencies of the government. Some of the partners were also saying that the flow of information from the national to provincial to local and vice versa was not effective. I think we can consider putting those as recommendations to the government and also how to involve different agencies in monitoring.

Ms. Pathak, CSO Observer and FECOFUN, Nepal: I recommend to highlight women's role also in our recommendation more powerfully. Another thing is you highlighted IPLCs here, but we need to equally engage every IPLC. In the case of women in Nepal who worked in the CFUGs, there were multiple representation inside the community, the IPs and the ethnic groups.

Dr. Khanh, CRD, Vietnam: Since we are focused on improving the capacities of IPs, I think that each country should have a standard curriculum for capacity building. We need to identify specific topics, people involved in the training, and how often we do the training because IPs are not students from the university or something like that. We need to design a special curriculum. Second, governments should have a clear roadmap for capacity building. We should also assess our training materials to decide on a standard which is the most suitable for IPs.

Ms. Pem, Tarayana, Bhutan: As part of the recommendations to the bank, I would like to request the bank to continue supporting CBP of the IPs and programs similar to EnABLE because a lot has already been invested and the momentum is there. Also, if we non-ERP countries can also be included in these opportunities that are coming out.

Mr. Khadka, FECOFUN, Nepal. Translated by Dr. Dangal, RECOFTC, Nepal: I would like to highlight that most of the forests in Nepal have been managed by the community which is not a single ethnic group. What is the mechanism so that the payment goes directly to the communities with less transaction costs?

Before the WB made their response, Ms. Valdez informed the participants that only recommendations from the workshop were documented. She requested the participants to send additional recommendations through email.

RESPONSE FROM THE WORLD BANK

Mr. Jensby delivered the response of the World Bank. He acknowledged the good recommendations and encouraged participants to follow Ms. Valdez' request to submit additional recommendations, including particular recommendations for the WB. The recommendations were important for all stakeholders in improving the mechanisms for the participation and benefit of IPLCs and relevant organizations.

The WB plans to continue both direct funding for national and subnational levels and support for the enhancement of benefit sharing and the inclusion of IPLCs. The EnABLE trust fund will have opportunities for financing regional activities for capacity building and it also planned to be broadened in the future supporting activities financed by the SCALE trust fund which will finance activities beyond the forest sector and the Carbon Fund of ERP.

Mr. Jensby apologized for the lack of time given in Phase 3 caused by unforeseen challenges. "When we prepare these things, we understand that timing is important in particular when working with Indigenous Peoples' organizations," he said.

Concerning recommendations for third-party monitoring, he mentioned that this is often included in Bank-financed projects and provided for in the Bank's Environmental and Social Framework. An independent evaluation of the CBP could be considered.

For the comment on more focus on the Pacific, the WB has a Country Management Unit dedicated to the Pacific with specific regional activities already in discussion. A Pacific CBP, not specifically on climate change, is in preparation through the Social Development Unit of the WB.

Mr. Jensby also advised that recommendations need to be concrete to be useful. In terms of the CBP, all stakeholders should make their own evaluation of their experiences and think about how these can be useful to their partner organizations. Moving forward, the WB will carefully consider proposals to continue the networking from CBP Phase 3 into EnABLE.

He thanked the participants, expressed his desire to continue the collaboration, and closed the session.

XIII. CLOSING REMARKS

Ms. Magata of Tebtebba formally closed the three-day regional sharing workshop and invited the representatives of the WB, Tebtebba and ANSAB to give their closing remarks.

Mr. Jensby of the WB expressed that the partnership will continue and thanked all the participants. "On behalf of the bank, I would like to thank Tebtebba and ANSAB. You have done a great job. I think this is much more effective when we work through organizations like Tebtebba and ANSAB rather than the World Bank doing this directly," he said.

Dr. Subedi expressed contentment on the productivity of the workshop and hoped the participants agreed with him. He thanked all the organizations present from the IPLCs to the government for providing their time and perspectives. He also highlighted the significance of working together in harmony, despite the multiple backgrounds.

He continued, “I think we learned through this workshop that we need these kinds of things and we, Tebtebba, ANSAB, and the World Bank, will definitely try our best to support you and will hopefully continue working with you.”

Ms. Corpuz agreed that the workshop was a great example of working together. She elaborated on three things, learning something new every day, working together and focusing on a low-carbon future in relation to harmoniously solving the challenges faced by IPLCs in terms of climate threats and its effects on livelihood and the broader context of biodiversity.

She thanked the government representatives, the WB, the CSO and IP participants and ANSAB. “I thank you all for spending time with us and we look forward to getting the recommendations and using this for the future work that we are going to do” she concluded.

Ms. Magata discussed the distribution of certificates for the workshop participants and also thanked the workshop contributors. “Thank you, our interpreters, our videographers, our documenters, our professors for the research, our researchers, our brothers and sisters from the IPLCs, our government representatives, our colleagues from the WB, our colleague from the UNFCCC. Of course, we want to thank also the Furama Hotel for taking care of us these past three days. Thank you very much, everyone,” she said.

This concluded the workshop. The participants regrouped for a solidarity reception in the evening of Day 3 and continued with their business.

ANNEXES

Annex 1. Concept Note and Agenda

Background and Objective:

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) is a global partnership that has been assisting 48 tropical countries in Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and Caribbean (LCR) regions in their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation; support forest carbon stock conservation; sustainably manage forests; and enhance forest carbon stocks or REDD+. It consists of representatives of REDD+ countries, financial contributors, private sector, southern civil society organizations (CSOs), and forest-dependent indigenous peoples (IPs). The FCPF through a Capacity Building Program (CBP) has been channeling funds to provide forest-dependent IPs, local communities (LCs), other forest dwellers and southern CSOs with information, knowledge and awareness on REDD+ in order to enhance their understanding of key principles and processes, and improve their capability to engage more meaningfully in the implementation of REDD+-related activities and programs.

The CBP has had three phases of funding starting in 2009. Starting Phase 2, representative IPs' organizations (IPOs) and CSOs from the Asia-Pacific, Africa and Latin America and Caribbean regions have been selected as Intermediary Organizations (IOs) to distribute financial and technical support to southern CSOs and IPOs in their respective regions. The IOs in the Asia-Pacific Region are Tebtebba (Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education, focusing on forest-dependent IPs) and ANSAB (Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources, focusing on southern CSOs & LCs).

In phase 3, the FCPF Capacity Building on REDD+ Project in Asia Pacific covered 11 FCPF countries namely Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Cambodia, Thailand, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Vietnam, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu. Country level CBP activities are focused on 3 Emissions Reduction Program (ERP) countries namely Fiji, Nepal and Vietnam. This phase is set to be closed in February 2023. Capacity building initiatives ranged from awareness raising on REDD+ in general, ERPs and Benefit Sharing. In this context, ANSAB and Tebtebba, as the IOs of the Project are convening the Regional Sharing Workshop to be held from February 12 to 14, 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The regional workshop will bring together representatives of the sub-projects in Fiji, Nepal and Vietnam, selected representatives of IPLCs in the other FCPF countries, REDD+ focal points from the governments of ERP countries, CSO/IP FCPF observers in the region, regional advisory/steering committee members, and regional organizations working on REDD+.

It aims to stimulate a constructive dialogue among stakeholders in the region to:

- Share first-hand experiences, achievements, challenges and lessons learned from the IPLC organizations implementing sub-projects on capacity building in Fiji, Nepal and Vietnam;
- Share country/regional level experiences on capacity building of IPLCs and their meaningful participation and inclusion in REDD+ and ERP processes, programs and projects of relevant government and donors;

- Consolidate gaps, barriers, challenges, good practices and lessons learned; and draw specific and practical recommendations to improve effective participation and inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+ and ERP processes, programs and projects including access to benefits.

Agenda:

| Time | Activity | Roles |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| February 11, 2023 | | |
| 14:00 – 17:00 | Arrival of participants, workshop venue setting | Tebtebba and ANSAB |
| Day 1: February 12, 2023 | | |
| Facilitator – Tebtebba | | |
| 8:30 - 9:00 | Registration | Tebtebba and ANSAB |
| 9:00 - 10:30 | Words of welcome | Mr. Lakpa Nuri Sherpa, <i>Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)</i> ; Mr. Sukan Pungkul, <i>Thailand REDD+ focal point</i> ; Mr. Ingo Wiederhofer, <i>Practice Manager, Social Sustainability & Inclusion East Asia & the Pacific, World Bank</i> ; |
| | Introductions and objectives of the workshop | ANSAB and Tebtebba Facilitator |
| | Overview of the FCPF REDD+ capacity building in REDD+ program and other opportunities for IPLCs Group photo | Ms. Maria Manuela Faria, <i>Senior Development Specialist, Sustainability & Inclusion East Asia & Pacific and Task Team Leader Asia-Pacific FCPF CBP, World Bank</i> ; and Mr. Svend Jensby, <i>Senior Development Specialist, Sustainability & Inclusion East Asia & Pacific</i> |
| 10:30 –11:00 | Tea/Coffee | |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | Presentation of the summary of the progress and achievements of the FCPF Capacity Building on REDD+ Project in Asia-Pacific <i>REDD+ Capacity Building Project for LCs & CSOs</i> <i>REDD+ Capacity Building Project for IPOs</i> Q &A after the presentations | ANSAB Tebtebba |
| 11:30 – 12:45 | Presentations by sub-projects (15 minutes each followed by Q&A after each presentation) <i>i) objectives, ii) achievements including benefits received by beneficiaries from REDD+/ERP programs and projects, iii) gaps, barriers and challenges in sub-project implementation, iv) v) lessons learned and vi) specific recommendations for the effective participation and inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+, ERP and Benefit Sharing indicating to whom the recommendation is directed</i> | Nepal Mr. Ramesh Timalsina, <i>FECOFUN</i> Mr. Subesh Gupta, <i>HIMAWANTI</i> Mr. Ashoka Pariyar, <i>NEFIN</i> |
| 12:45 - 13:45 | Lunch | |

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| 13:45 – 15:00 | Presentations by sub-projects (Contd.) | Vietnam Mr. Trinh Le Nguyen, <i>PanNature</i> Dr. Ho Le Phi Khanh, <i>CRD</i> Mr. Hoang Ke Sy, <i>CSDM</i> |
| 15:00 – 15:30 | Tea/Coffee | |
| 15:30 – 16:45 | Presentations by sub-projects (Contd.) | Fiji Mr. Selevasio Tagivuni, <i>GTM</i> Ms. Ana Vesikula, <i>SSV</i> |
| 16:45 – 17:00 | Announcements | Tebtebba and ANSAB |
| 19:00 | Reception | Tebtebba |
| Day 2: February 13, 2023 | | Facilitator- ANSAB |
| 9:00 – 9:10 | Recap of Day 1 | |
| 9:10 – 12:00 | <p>2 Parallel Sessions: Country level sharing by IPLCs</p> <p><i>(2 parallel groups including IPLC participants from other 8 countries: 1 for East Asia and 1 for South Asia and Pacific)</i></p> <p><i>What are the contributions of IPLCs to REDD+? How did IPLCs participate and were included in REDD+ programs and projects including in ERP and benefit sharing? Were these effective, efficient and equitable?</i></p> <p><i>What were the specific capacity building activities provided to IPLCs at country level? How will you use what you learned?</i></p> <p>Parallel session A: East Asia (Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR & Thailand)</p> <p>Parallel session B: (Bhutan, Pakistan, PNG & Vanuatu)</p> | <p>IPLC participants from Nepal, Fiji and Vietnam participate as observer during presentation from other IPLC participants, and they participate in the discussion</p> <p>Tea/Coffee will be served during the parallel session</p> |
| 12:00 – 13:00 | Presentation from parallel sessions at plenary and discussion | Parallel session representatives |
| 13:00 -14:00 | Lunch | |
| 14:00 -15:00 | <p>Panel Discussion 1: Participation and capacity of IPLC on REDD+ processes at regional level</p> <p><i>Guide questions:</i> <i>How to further strengthen the capacity of IPLCs in REDD+ and ERP related process, programs and projects at the regional level, and provide opportunities for their effective and meaningful participation?</i> <i>Specific suggestions/recommendations and practical steps that can be undertaken by regional organizations, donors, governments and IPLCs</i></p> | <p>Representatives from regional organizations: Mr. David Ganz -RECOFTC, Mr. Lakpa Nuri Sherpa - AIPP, Mr. Mathieu Van Rijn - FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific; and</p> <p>Regional CSO/IP FCPF observers: Ms. Bharati Pathak and Ms. Grace Balawag</p> <p>Facilitator: Prof. Dr. Tek Maraseni</p> |
| 15:00 – 17:00 | <p>Working Session 1: Gaps, barriers, challenges and good practices on participation of IPLCs in REDD+ and ERP</p> <p><i>Suggested points for discussion:</i> <i>What are the REDD+ and ERP related processes,</i></p> | <p>IPLCs, government representatives, RAC/RSC members:</p> <p>Fiji and Vietnam Indonesia, Nepal and Lao PDR</p> |

| | | |
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| | <p><i>programs and projects, in which IPLCs (incl. women & youth) are aware about and have participated?</i></p> <p><i>Forms of participation and roles played by them?</i></p> <p><i>To what extent IPLCs were able to influence country processes - list down achievements and good practices, if any.</i></p> <p><i>What are the gaps, barriers, major challenges in effective participation and inclusion in REDD+ and ERP related processes, programs and projects including access to benefits</i></p> <p><i>What are the specific issues and challenges for women and youth?</i></p> <p><i>Each group will also prepare for a presentation, which will be combined with the output of Working Session 2 and presented at plenary on day 3.</i></p> | <p>IPLCs from Cambodia, Thailand, Bhutan, Pakistan, Vanuatu, PNG</p> <p>Tea/Coffee will be served during the parallel session</p> <p>NOTE: Participants from regional organizations, FCPF observers, WB Team, ANSAB and Tebtebba to select which group to join</p> |
| Day 3: February 14, 2023 | | ANSAB and Tebtebba |
| 9:00 – 9:10 | Recap of Day 2 | Facilitator: ANSAB |
| 9:10 – 10:10 | <p>Presentation – Research and Outcome Evaluation (20 minutes each followed by Q&A)</p> <p><i>IP Women and Benefit Sharing in ERP implementation</i></p> <p><i>Outcomes and lessons from CBP for CSOs and LCs</i></p> | <p>Prof. Raymundo D. Rovillos, Ph.D., Research Coordinator</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Tek Maraseni, Researcher - ANSAB</p> |
| 10:10 – 11:15 | <p>Panel Discussion 2: Participation and capacity of IPLC on REDD+ processes, programs and projects (incl. ERP & BSP) at national level - Government perspectives</p> <p><i>Guiding question:</i></p> <p><i>How did your government recognize IPLCs and their contributions to and as important partners in REDD+ and ERP related processes, programs & projects and securing their access to benefits:</i></p> <p><i>Can you share your country's benefit sharing plan highlighting the major benefits, criteria for identification/selection of beneficiaries, proportionate share of benefits</i></p> <p><i>What are the practical steps to be undertaken by governments and IPLCs so that IPLCs can access the benefits</i></p> | <p>REDD+/ERP Focal Points/Representatives</p> <p>Nepal: Dr. Ram Chandra Kandel</p> <p>Fiji: Mrs. Rosarine Vukinayatu Suka Lagi</p> <p>Vietnam: Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu Thuy</p> <p>Thailand: Mr. Sukan Pungkul</p> <p>Indonesia: Dr. Rinda Sandayani Karhab., S.Hut., M.Si</p> <p>Facilitator: Dr. Bhishma Subedi, ANSAB</p> |
| 11:15–13:00 | <p>Working Session 2: Lessons learned and recommendations on effective participation of IPLCs in REDD+ and ERP</p> <p><i>Suggested points for discussion</i></p> <p><i>What lessons can be learned? What are lessons and success cases of the capacity building, benefit sharing and social inclusion in REDD+ and ERP that can be useful?</i></p> <p><i>What are the practical steps that could be undertaken by donors, governments and IPLCs that could enhance meaningful participation and</i></p> | The same 3 parallel groups of Working Session 1 will continue |

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| | <p><i>inclusion of IPLCs including women and youth in REDD+ and ERP and access to benefits?</i></p> <p><i>Presentation from each groups combined with the outputs of Working Session 1</i></p> | |
| 13:00-14:00 | Lunch | |
| 14:00-16:00 | <p>Agreement on key recommendations on future capacity building initiatives and effective participation and inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+ processes, emission reduction programs and projects and access to benefits</p> <p>Response from the World Bank</p> | Ms. Grace Balawag, Tebtebba |
| 16:00-16:30 | Closing | Tebtebba, ANSAB, World Bank |

Annex 2. List of Participants

| Name | Country | Role/Affiliation |
|---|------------------|--|
| Subgrantees | | |
| Mr. Ashoka Pariyar | Nepal | Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities |
| Ms. Ana Vesikula | Fiji | Sogosoqo Vakamarama iTaukei |
| Dr. Ho Le Phi Khanh | Vietnam | Centre for Rural Development in Central |
| Mr. Hoang Ke Sy | Vietnam | Centre for Sustainable in Mountainous Areas |
| Mr. Ramesh Timilsina | Nepal | FECOFUN |
| Mr. Selevasio Naivala Tagivuni | Fiji | Grace TriFam Ministry |
| Mr. Subesh Gupta | Nepal | Himalayan Grassroots Women's Natural Resource Management Association |
| Mr. Trinh Le Nguyen | Vietnam | Center for People and Nature Reconciliation (PanNature) |
| CSO representatives – other FCPF countries | | |
| Dr. Phimonphan Sakitram | Thailand | Huk Muang Nan Foundation |
| Mr. Sopheak Som | Cambodia | Action For Development |
| Dr. Rustam | Indonesia | Faculty of Forestry Mulawarman University, Kampus Unmul Gunung Kelua, Jln. Penajam No. 1, Kelurahan Gunung Kelua, Samarinda, East Kalimantan |
| Mrs. Khambang Thippavong | Lao PDR | Lao CSO FLEGT |
| Ms. Safaira Vere Tagivuni | Fiji | Grace TriFam Ministry |
| Mr. Nguyen Duc To Luu | Vietnam | Center for People and Nature Reconciliation (PanNature) |
| Mr. Ramesh Timilsina | Nepal | FECOFUN |
| Ms. Sonam Pem | Bhutan | Tarayana |
| Dr. Kanwar Muhammad Javed Iqbal | Pakistan | Sustainable Development Center |
| Mr. Lester Govi Seri | Papua New Guinea | Conservation Environment Protection Authority |
| IPO representatives – other FCPF countries | | |
| Mr. Koem Ly | Cambodia | Indigenous Rights Active Member (IRAM), |
| Ms. Yurni Sadariah | Indonesia | Indigenous Peoples Migi Saing Puak |
| Ms. Ilma Joyce Siriga | Papua New Guinea | |
| Mr. Muhammad Hanif Parwana | Pakistan | |
| Mr. Tsheten Dorji | Bhutan | Royal Society for Protection of Nature |
| Mr. Douangchanh Douangphachanh | Lao PDR | Community Association for Mobilizing Knowledge in Development (CAMKID) |
| Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Members | | |
| Mr. Dil Raj Khanal | Nepal | |
| Mr. Vu Huu Than | Vietnam | |
| Regional Steering Committee (RSC) Members | | |
| Mr. Lakpa Nuri Sherpa | Thailand | AIPP |
| Ms. Luong Thi Truong | Vietnam | |
| Mr. Tunga Bhadra Rai | Nepal | NEFIN |
| Ms. Reama T. Naco | Fiji | SSV |
| CSO FCPF Observer | | |
| Ms. Bharati Kumari Pathak | Nepal | FECOFUN |
| IP FCPF Observer | | |

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| Ms. Grace Balawag | Philippines | Tebtebba |
| REDD+ Focal Point | | |
| Ms. Rosarine Vukinayatu Suka Lagi | Fiji | |
| Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu Thuy | Vietnam | Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development |
| Dr. Ram Chandra Kandel | Nepal | Ministry of Forests and Environment |
| Dr. Rinda Sandayani Karhab.,S.Hut., M.Si | Indonesia | |
| Mr. Sukan Pungkul | Thailand | |
| Regional Organizations | | |
| Dr. David Ganz | Thailand | RECOFTC |
| Dr. Shambhu Prasad Dangal | Nepal | RECOFTC |
| Mr. Mathieu Van Rijn | Thailand | FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific |
| Research Consultants | | |
| Dr. Tek Narayan Maraseni | Australia | University of Southern Queensland |
| Dr. Raymundo D. Rovillos | Philippines | University of the Philippines |
| Videographer | | |
| Mr. Sushil Mainali | Nepal | Global Himalaya Media Network P. Ltd. |
| ANSAB Team | | |
| Dr. Bhishma P. Subedi | Nepal | ANSAB |
| Mr. Puspa L. Ghimire | Nepal | ANSAB |
| Mr. Sudarshan C. Khanal | Nepal | ANSAB |
| Mr. Basudev Neupane | Nepal | ANSAB |
| Ms. Aakriti Poudel | Nepal | ANSAB |
| Dr. Nabin Raj Joshi | Nepal | ANSAB |
| Tebtebba Team | | |
| Ms. Victoria Lucia Tauli-Corpuz | Philippines | |
| Mr. Catalino L. Corpuz, Jr. | Philippines | |
| Mr. Leon Ambatcan | Philippines | |
| Ms. Helen Magata | Philippines | |
| Mr. Paul Michael Nera | Philippines | |
| Ms. Lea Patugad | Philippines | |
| Ms. Helen Valdez | Philippines | |
| Interpreters | | |
| Mr. Tung Nguyen Thanh | Vietnam | |
| Frits H. Pangemanan, Ph.D. | Indonesia | |
| Dr. Imtiaz Ahmed | Pakistan | |
| Mr. Sokunthea Nun | Cambodia | |
| Documenters | | |
| Ms. Doris Borna Mae H. Esteban | Philippines | |
| Ms. Angelica Maye L. Yap-eo | Philippines | |
| World Bank | | |
| Mr. Ingo Wiederhofer | | Practice Manager, Social Sustainability and Inclusion in East Asia and the Pacific (SEAS1) |
| Ms. Maria Manuela Faria | | Social Development Specialist, Social Sustainability and Inclusion in East Asia and the Pacific (SEAS1); TTL for the FCPF Capacity Building Program |
| Mr. Svend E. Jensby | | Senior Social Development Specialist, Social Sustainability and Inclusion in East Asia and the Pacific (SEAS1) |

| | | |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Ms. Anika Fletcher | | Consultant, Social Sustainability and Inclusion in South Asia (SSAS1) |
|--------------------|--|---|

Annex 3. [Nepal Subprojects](#)

The following presentations are linked in the title of this annex:

- Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN)
- Himalayan Grassroots Women’s Natural Resource Management Association (HIMAWANTI)
- Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN)

Annex 4. [Vietnam Subprojects](#)

The following presentations are linked in the title of this annex:

- People and Nature Reconciliation (PanNature)
- Centre for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas (CSDM)
- Center for Rural Development (CRD)

Annex 5. [Fiji Subprojects](#)

The following presentations are linked in the title of this annex:

- Soqosoqo Vakamarama Itaukei (SSV)
- Grace Trifam Ministry (GTM)

Annex 6. [Parallel Sessions Outputs](#)

The group presentations are linked in the title of this annex:

East Asia Group

Cambodia

| Contributions of IPLCs to REDD+ | Participation and Inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+, ERP, and Benefit Sharing | Country level CBP activities for IPLCs |
|---|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IPLCs participated in forest protection as tradition and way of life 2. They collect forest resources and use the forest for customary livelihood practices, such as rotational farming 3. They patrol the forests as part of protection | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communities are aware of the benefits of forest resources 2. Some IPLCs received infrastructure development from RED Joint Wells, Red Paved Road (Keo Seima) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preventing deforestation in protected areas and participate in protecting the environment 2. Participation in dissemination of forest laws and policies 3. Training on REDD+ program for community forestry, fishing community, community area, natural bar 4. Developed the REDD+ 2017 strategy to 2026 5. Develop a national strategic plan for the management of protected |

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| | | <p>areas (Ministry of Environment 2017)</p> <p>6. The Ministry of Environment have visited villages for CB and awareness raising on REDD+</p> <p>Context: The bulk of financing is spent at the national level and a small fraction at the community level.</p> |
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Indonesia

| Contributions of IPLCs to REDD+ | Participation and Inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+, ERP, and Benefit Sharing | Country level CBP activities for IPLCs |
|---|---|---|
| Collaborated with NGOs through the FCPF carbon fund | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the BSP, IPLCs with zero deforestation implementation, based on the 2006 Land Use data, will receive 10% of benefit sharing 2. There are ongoing processes for the recognition of IPs <p>Context:</p> <p>Information on REDD+ is not distributed to communities, hence they do not know much about how to access the benefits of the project</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Implementation of Climate Village (FPIC Process) 2. Operational and support of production facilities for indigenous and customary peoples 3. Support for production and operational facilities and infrastructure for non-palm oil farmer groups 4. Operational activities of the Fire Prevention Farmer Group 5. Increased capacity for cultivation, harvesting and post-harvesting of non-palm plantation commodities 6. Support for production and operational facilities and infrastructure for fishing 7. Implementation of environmentally friendly ponds 8. Increased capacity for cultivation, harvesting and post-harvesting of non-pond aquaculture commodities 9. Operational and facility support for Fire Prevention Farmer Group 10. Operational activities for Forest Farmers Groups and/or Social Forestry Institutions 11. Implementation of forest patrols |

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| | | 12. Support for non-timber forest product production facilities and/or environmental services |
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Lao PDR

| Contributions of IPLCs to REDD+ | Participation and Inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+, ERP, and Benefit Sharing | Country level CBP activities for IPLCs |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Protection of forest resources 2. Implementation of FLR activities, including the establishment of agroforestry systems and mixed-species plantations including native species 3. Implementation of management plans to support sustainable natural forest management activities 4. Investments were made in native tree species plantations, agroforestry systems, enrichment of natural degraded forests | <p>FPIC mechanisms are enforced, thus consent of LCs is required in relation to private sector investors coming in with relation to REDD+</p> <p>Context: The mechanism for benefit sharing is not yet established.</p> <p>IPLCs did not participate in the preparation of ERP, due to lack of knowledge about REDD+</p> | 1. They have a national project that enhances the capacity at local levels to manage, monitor, inspect, and report on the implementation of existing laws and regulations in the use of forests and forest management to ensure sustainable development and investment 2. They cater CBP to communities, including village institutions, farmer groups, cooperatives, and women enterprise groups. <p>Context: CSOs conduct CB activities with the communities in relation to forest, but not in relation to REDD+ because they have not been active in REDD+ processes</p> |

Thailand

| Contributions of IPLCs to REDD+ | Participation and Inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+, ERP, and Benefit Sharing | Country level CBP activities for IPLCs |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Collaboration with CSOs 2. IPLCs could provide help in obtaining carbon data but they don't know carbon credit and its use, so CSOs/ IPOs had to | 1. CSOs attended some IPLCs asked for feedback and how we evolved in the process 2. For the CSOs and IPs, they conducted a "Karareo" event in communities that understand REDD+ | The association of EMs and IPs participated at the national level REDD+ discussions in the beginning, but their participation has decreased because of lack of time |

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| perform these tasks for them. | Context: Some laws on forests do not recognize the laws of local communities hence, they are focusing on the right of IPLCs to lands and land management. | |
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How will you use what you learned?

It would be good if we could work together with the government, CSOs, and IPs, and use their network to conduct discussion and create an association for REDD+.

South Asia and the Pacific

Kingdom of Bhutan

| Contributions of IPLCs to REDD+ | Participation and Inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+, ERP, and Benefit Sharing | Country level CBP activities for IPLCs |
|---|--|---|
| Communities can contribute to carbon accounting | <p>From 2014 to 2018, CSOs conducted a series of awareness programs with forestry officers, extension foresters, and also the communities on the benefit sharing, non-carbon benefit, and carbon benefit components of REDD+.</p> <p>Context: There are no policies regarding the identification of IPs in this country. The only distinctions are urban and rural communities and REDD+ CBP is catered to the latter.</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Secretariat of REDD+ were creating awareness at the local and district levels, but they managed to reach grassroots communities through the CSOs 2. CB in exploration of livelihood improvements 3. Encouragement of communities and women to participate 4. Carbon accounting training activities 5. Development of national guideline on carbon stock calculation in collaboration with experts in Yale University, U.K. <p>Context: Engagement with the government was at halt due to transformations in the government ministries. Right from beginning, governments engaged with CSOs and were given the role to perform assessments of the biodiversity on the ground.</p> |

How will you use what you learned?

They learned that CB needs to continue in Bhutan and financial incentives will be a motivation for IPLCs. While advocacies and awareness raising activities are important, without training activities

on the livelihood aspect, it will not work for the LCs. As a carbon neutral country, they will continue collaboration with other countries to share their best practices.

Pakistan

| Contributions of IPLCs to REDD+ | Participation and Inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+, ERP, and Benefit Sharing | Country level CBP activities for IPLCs |
|--|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Saving forests from local communities who cut and burn forests 2. They established relations with forest offices and act as forest patrollers, using their cellphones to contact forest officers who can stop illegal activities when they see it 3. IP customary practices on grazing helps to prevent wildfire and improves the quality of the land for forest raising 4. Engagement with CSOs in contributing to REDD+, namely, the Sustainable Development Policy Institute, SUKHI, IUCN, and WWF Pakistan | <p>Context:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There are no communities organized by the UN System that can be recognized as IPs in Pakistan, so there are no participation or engagement of such groups. 2. There are concerns in relation to benefit sharing and money distribution. If there is no money and funding, IPLCs can't be engaged in the long term. They request more transparency from the government on the fund flow. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National REDD+ policies are in place and CB workshop were ran through the government as part of the Readiness project, but there is a problem on the part of implementation 2. CSOs implemented CB provided input to that enabled the mainstream processes in REDD+ <p>Context: REDD+ and ERP studies are there, but the actual problem is in implementation, in Pakistan and the rest of the region. Progress cannot be measured without implementation and funding is required to do that.</p> <p>Recommendation: Money should be spent on raising forests, not on offices</p> |

How will you use what you learned?

CSOs are significant in mobilizing actions for IPLCs. They have advocated for the reappropriation of FCPF and UNREDD funds, especially unutilized funds, to channel these funds to IPLC activities in REDD+. They have also advocated for other potential areas for REDD+ in Pakistan, particularly their mangrove forests.

Papua New Guinea

| Contributions of IPLCs to REDD+ | Participation and Inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+, ERP, and Benefit Sharing | Country level CBP activities for IPLCs |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
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| <p>1. Most forest lands are under the custody of IPs. They contribute to the caring of land and forest</p> <p>2. Development of national policies in relation to REDD+</p> <p>Context: IPs compose 87% of the population, which means most actions related to REDD+, even in policymaking, are contributions of IPLCs</p> <p>IPLCs faced logging-related challenges in their forest areas. The government promised to stop log exports by 2025. A moratorium was already in place for companies that engaged in logging.</p> | <p>1. IPLC landowners who sign a carbon trading agreement with international businesses are informed on rights and agreements</p> <p>2. The FPIC process is legislated and is a basic requirement in any active engagement of IPLCs</p> <p>Context: The benefit sharing mechanism for IPLCs is unclear.</p> <p>There are challenges in building the knowledge of the population on climate change and its impact. Particularly, in PNG, where climate change poses a threat to IPLCs living on the coastline, who face displacement.</p> | <p>1. Awareness and education on REDD+ and carbon trading to provide communities with opportunity to understand the impacts of climate change and how REDD+ activities can support them and mitigate effects of climate change</p> <p>2. The bulk of REDD+ activities are preformed through voluntary carbon trading operations, mostly with the private sector, which has been accepted in the government</p> <p>Recommendations: More support should be concentrated in the provincial level, where the forest land is, warranting technical people to be with IPLCs. The government should think of decentralizing national based CB activities down to the provinces.</p> <p>There is a challenge in the enforcement of laws in REDD+ carbon trading. There is a lack of technical capacity require to evaluate and ensure the compliance to these laws.</p> |
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How will you use what you learned?s

Carbon stock assessment is performed by corporations. There should be a technical CB of IPLCs to be able to takeover on these assessments.

Annex 7. Working Sessions I and II Presentations

The following group presentations are linked in the title of this annex:
 Fiji and Vietnam
 Cambodia, Thailand, Bhutan, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea
 Indonesia, Nepal, Lao PDR

Annex 8. Research reports

The following research presentations are linked in the title of this annex:

1. Indigenous Women in benefit sharing in the ERP
2. Lessons Learnt from the Implementation of REDD+ Capacity Building and Awareness Raising Activities in the Asia-Pacific Region

[Transcription of the research session by Prof. Maraseni](#)

The link above provides a transcription of the Research Report session on “Lessons Learnt from the Implementation of REDD+ Capacity Building and Awareness Raising Activities in the Asia-Pacific Region”. Unclarified points in this process documentation are detailed in the final research report of the researcher.

Annex 9. Local REDD+ knowledge materials developed by the sub-projects

This section provides links to some educational materials related to REDD+ developed and disseminated by some of the sub-grantees during the sub-project implementation of CBP Phase 3:

FECOFUN:

FECOFUN translated episodes of the WB/FCPF [GetREDDy radio podcast](#) into Nepali

NEFIN:

[NEFIN publications](#), including *Thriving amid the threats*

PanNature:

[PanNature publications](#)

PanNature’s [Youtube channel](#) and [Facebook page](#), where the ongoing translation of video episodes for the WB/FCPF GetREDDy radio podcast are published: [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)

GTM:

GTM translated and produced two voiceover (2) episodes of the WB/FCPF [GetREDDy radio podcast](#) into iTaukei (not yet broadcasted)

Annex 10. Media and News coverage for CSO/LC subprojects (c/o ANSAB)

I. National/local media coverage:

A. Nepal

[National](#) news

Local news:

1. Bardiya
 - a. <https://www.facebook.com/profile/100015160810020/search/?q=%E0%A4%B0%E0%A5%87%E0%A4%A1>
 - b. <https://www.facebook.com/100063804786231/videos/1219820985434799>
 - c. <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=3232961847021642>
2. Nawalpur
 - a. <https://www.devchulikhabar.com/2022/08/4106.html>
 - b. <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2123472611170270>
 - c. <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=4869508679815348>
3. Nawalparasi
 - a. <https://www.gothalokhabar.com/story/45461/>
 - b. <https://safalpost.com/archives/15320>

- c. <https://www.gothalokhabar.com/story/44631/>

B. Vietnam

[Quân đội Nhân Dân Online News Paper](#)

[Thừa Thiên Huế Online NewsPaper](#)

II. Events in Partners' website and social media:

A. Vietnam

On the training workshop in Huong Nguyen commune and Workshop in A Luoi district, Thua Thien Hue province:

The news on PanNature's Facebook page:

1. [Meeting with Forest Protection and Development Fund of Thua Thien Hue Province on 20/12/2022](#)
2. [The training WS on 21/12/2022 at Huong Nguyen commune](#)
3. [The training workshop on 22/12/2022 at Huong Nguyen commune](#)
4. [The workshop on 23/12/2022 at A Luoi district](#)

The news on PanNature's website:

1. <https://nature.org.vn/vn/2022/12/pannature-lam-viec-voi-quy-bvptr-hue/>
2. <https://nature.org.vn/vn/2022/12/tap-huan-erpa-huong-nguyen/>
3. <https://nature.org.vn/vn/2022/12/hoi-thao-erpa-a-luoi/>

On the training workshop in Kim Hoa commune and Workshop in Tuyen Hoa district, Quang Binh:

The news on PanNature's Facebook page:

1. [The training Workshop 4 January 2023 at Kim Hoa](#)
2. [The training Workshop 5 January 2023 at Kim Hoa](#)
3. [The workshop 6 January 2023 in Tuyen Hoa, district](#)

The news on PanNature's website:

1. <https://nature.org.vn/vn/2023/01/tap-huan-cong-dong-kim-hoa/>
2. <https://nature.org.vn/vn/2023/01/hoi-thao-erpa-tuyen-hoa/>

III. On the CSO workshops on REDD+ benefit sharing:

A. Vietnam

Posts on PanNature's Facebook page:

1. [Photos and Information about the Event](#)
2. [Livestream Part 1](#)
3. [Livestream Part 2](#)

Posts on PanNature's [Website](#)

B. Fiji

Posts on GTM's Facebook page:

1. https://www.facebook.com/groups/1382939591966502/?multi_permalinks=3470180026575771&ref=share
2. https://www.facebook.com/groups/1382939591966502/?multi_permalinks=3433266746933766&ref=share

C. Nepal

Post on FECOFUN's [Facebook](#)