



Federal Ministry
of Food
and Agriculture



Policy Review Framework

Consultant # 3: Legality

2nd PSC Meeting

“Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics (Teak Project Phase II)” (PP-A/54-331A)
Cambodia Component

10-12 November 2025

Specific activities

(1) Outline of the Work

The Consultant will review Cambodia's legal framework and prepare a draft country report using the agreed Excel-based framework for IGES review, revising and finalizing it based on feedback. The Consultant will also **support IGES** in liaising with government officials for interview surveys as needed.

(2) Details of implementation

a) Policy Review

- **Review national policy** using the agreed-upon policy review **framework in Excel sheet**
- Information collection will be done through both **desk reviews and interviews**.
- Interviews must be conducted with government officials and, if necessary, with other experts

a) Reporting

- The Consultant shall prepare and submit a draft country report to IGES for internal review and comments, using the agreed-upon policy review **framework in the Excel sheet**.
- The Consultant shall **revise and finalize the report based on feedback provided by IGES**.

a) Support to IGES interview survey

- Provide support to IGES in communicating with government officials as needed.

(3) Schedule

- Submit a draft country report to IGES by **10th November**
- Submit a final country report to IGES by **31st December**

(4) Details of the Output

- Country report using the agreed-upon policy review [framework in Excel sheet](#)

Progress

Sections/Policy theme	Elements	Progress
Background	Background information	Completed
Section 1: Clear policy objectives and government mechanisms Objective: Assess Policy Coherence and Integration.	Government policy existence	Completed
	Monitoring system	Completed
	Integration into higher and wider policy arenas	Completed
	High level coordination	Completed
Section 2: A clear, enforceable legal framework for timber legality, plantation management, harvest and supply chain. Objective: Assess the existence and effectiveness of legal systems that enable legal timber production and supply.	Secured and equitable land and forest tenure	Completed
	A well-defined concept of legal timber	Completed
	Consideration of different values of planted species	Completed
	Operational legality and verification mechanism in place	Completed
	Institutional Support and Capacity Building for smallholders/communities to understand and comply with legal framework and procedures	Completed

Progress

Sections/Policy theme	Elements	Progress
Section 3: Incentives for legal timber production and trade Objective: Assess the incentives for small-scale foresters to produce timber legally	Legality requirement in domestic markets	Completed
	Incentives for legal timber	Completed
Section 4: Market Access. Objective: Assess market access of smallholders.	Cooperative marketing and collective bargaining	In progress
	Access to Finance and Credit	In progress
	Policy support and monitoring to small timber business	In progress
Section 5: Traceability. Objective: Assess traceability system that enable due diligence of legal origin.	Traceability and communicating information along the supply chain	In progress
	EUDR specific	In progress

Progress

Policy theme	Purpose	Elements	Guiding questions	Policy Assessment (questions to be answered by consultants)			
				Policy existence	Design	Implementation mechanism	Implementation challenges
Clear policy objectives and government mechanisms	Assess Policy Coherence and Integration	Government policy existence	Does the policy/national plan exist that explicitly aims to support and promote legal timber production and trade among smallholders and communities?	<p>●Name of the policy/strategy/national action plan, year of enactment, and year of implementation</p> <p>Responses: Name: Pentagonal Strategy - Phase I for Growth, Employment, Equity, Efficiency, and Sustainability: Building the Foundation Towards Realizing the Cambodia Vision 2050; Year of enactment: August 2023; Year of Implementation: 2023-2028.</p>	<p>●What are the objectives of this policy/national action plan?</p> <p>●What challenges does this policy/national action plan address?</p> <p>●Does the policy framework institutionalize mechanisms for the participation and consultation of smallholders and local communities in policy formulation and implementation?</p> <p>Responses: Objectives: The core of the Pentagonal Strategy focuses on governance and institutional modernization of state institutions making them modern, competent, strong, smart and clean through which political, economic, and administrative power can be exercised to govern and manage the national affairs, particularly to ensure the continuity of the roles and functions of the public administration, in line with people-centric interests, nation-building, and the strengthening of the rule of law, aimed at securing support for an inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development. In this context, the RGC continues to focus on the following: 1) institutional reforms and strengthening; 2) improvements of human resources and work efficiency; 3) enhancement and strengthening of accountability and integrity in public administration; 4) enhancement and strengthening of the effectiveness of laws and justice system; and 5) strengthening of governance of private sector and businesses.</p> <p>Pentagon 3: Development of Private Sector and Employment. Side 2: Promotion of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises, Startups, Entrepreneurship, and Development of Informal Economy): The strategic objectives are to further promote the development of an enabling environment for micro, small, and medium enterprises, and startups, to grow and to be resilient and innovative, contributing to economic growth and job creation, as well as promoting the transition of informal economy into formal economy. One of the strategies is increasing the access to finance for potential micro, small, and medium enterprises, and startups, through the development of new financial products in the credit and financial markets, providing grants and</p>		
		Monitoring system	Is there a monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in place to assess the status and progress of timber production and trade of smallholder and community plantations?	<p>●Name the policy or its plans explicitly mention a monitoring framework</p> <p>Responses: Name: National Development Strategic Plan (7th legislature of National Assembly), for Growth, Employment, Equity, Efficiency, and Sustainability: Building the Foundation Towards Realizing the Cambodia Vision 2050. Year of enactment: 12 June 2025; Year of Implementation: 2023-2028.</p>	<p>●Are there national targets (e.g., KPIs or benchmarks) and monitoring mechanisms in place to track progress in promoting legal timber production and trade by smallholders and local communities?</p> <p>●If so, what measurable objectives and indicators are used for monitoring (e.g., production volume, area under management, species harvested, sales, prices, market access, compliance with legality requirements)?</p> <p>Responses: National Targets (KPIs): There is no any explicit target for legal timber production and trade by smallholders and local communities, which is stated in the national policy/plan, but there is a national target for maintaining forestland including natural and planted forests.</p> <p>One of the key national targets for Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, Cultural Heritages, and Tourism is strengthening the management, conservation, protection and development of Cambodia's key ecosystems in a harmonious and sustainable manner through continued management of forest and wildlife resources by maintaining forest cover at over 60% of the country's land area (by 2030), reforestation, prevention and timely response to forest fires and conservation of degraded land, promoting environmentally friendly and sustainable plantation development, reducing reliance on sustainable extraction of forest by-products, preventing encroachment on forest land and nature protection area land, promoting the conservation of nature protection areas, forests and wildlife, and suppressing forest crimes, wildlife trafficking and natural resource crimes.</p> <p>Benchmark: National Forest Cover 2018 (46.86% of total country land).</p> <p>Annual target for forest restoration: 100,000 ha in 2023, and 200,000 ha/year (2024-2028). These include all restorations within natural forests and through</p>	<p>●How is data collected—by whom, at what administrative level, and since when has this data collection been in place?</p> <p>Response: The success of the Implementation of this National Development Strategic Plan (NDSP) requires a skilful, dynamic, proactive and interactive coordination in taking timely and flexible measures to respond to changes in the actual situation, along with the joint responsibility as a single actor of the Royal Government and the responsibility according to the competence of each ministry and institution. In this regard, the Royal Government designates the Ministry of Planning as the Royal Government's headquarters to lead and coordinate the summarization, progress, monitoring, supervision and evaluation of the implementation of this National Development Strategy, with full cooperation from all relevant ministries and institutions in accordance with the "vitality of the single actor system". In the monitoring, supervision and evaluation framework of the NDSP, the measurement of results shall be carried out by the Ministry of Planning at the level of Outcomes and Outputs. In particular, in the framework for monitoring, supervision and evaluation of the implementation of the Pentagon Strategy, Phase 1, the Monitoring, Supervision and Evaluation Committee for the Implementation of the Pentagon</p>	<p>●What are the challenges to implementing the monitoring system?</p> <p>Responses: The data and data quality used as a basis for calculating the indicators of achievement of the NDSP are still limited. Although most statistics and data have been collected and compiled, some statistics and data are outdated, not annualized, and not yet complete enough to be used as a basis for monitoring and evaluation.</p>
		Integration into higher and wider policy arenas	Are the promotion of smallholder and community plantations integrated into broader policy objectives and policy frameworks related to rural development, climate change, biodiversity conservation, and other key areas?	<p>●Name of policies/strategies/national plans, year of enactment and year of implementation.</p> <p>Responses: Name: Cambodia's Third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0). Year of enactment: July 2025; Establishment Year:</p>	<p>●Do national or sectoral policies (e.g., agriculture, climate, biodiversity, land-use, rural development and poverty alleviation) explicitly include smallholder/community plantations as a strategy?</p> <p>Responses: Cambodia's NDC 3.0 include smallholders and local community plantations as strategy (at least seven of the 49 mitigation strategies). The baseline of Greenhouse Gas Emission Rate (GHG ER) is 2020. However, it does not distinguish the figure contributed by net smallholder and local communities.</p>	<p>●Have integrated targets been set (e.g., X hectares of community plantations contributing to NDC)?</p> <p>Responses: Cambodia's NDC 3.0 sets that the Forest and Other Land Uses (FOLU) sector, historically accounting for the majority of Cambodia's GHG emissions, is aiming to achieve deforestation rate by 2030 through</p>	<p>●What are the challenges to integrate smallholder and community plantation into higher and wider policy arenas?</p> <p>Responses: NGOs and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) play a crucial role in shaping and supporting climate policy. Their involvement ensures that climate action is not only effective but also</p>
		High level coordination	Is the high-level coordination mechanism in place to promote legal timber production and trade from plantations of smallholders and communities?	<p>●Name of Coordination Mechanism, Establishment Year</p> <p>Responses: 1) Forestry Law Year of enactment: 30 July 2002; 2) Name: Cambodia's Third Nationally</p>	<p>●Is there a formal mandate or policy framework that guides the coordination mechanism, with defined objectives, roles, and accountability for promoting legal smallholder and community timber production and trade?</p> <p>Responses: 1) Forestry Law - Chapter 7 (Article 24-27): Permits and Authorizations.</p>	<p>●Does the coordination mechanism include regular communication and collaboration among relevant ministries (e.g., forestry, agriculture, environment, trade) and with non-government stakeholders?</p> <p>Responses: coordination mechanisms that include regular communication and collaboration among relevant ministries (e.g., forestry, agriculture,</p>	

Schedule

- Submit a draft country report to IGES by **14th November**
- Submit a final country report to IGES by **31st December**

Support to IGES interview survey

- Provide support to IGES in communicating with government officials as needed

Thank You