Questions & Answers No.1

Development of a REDD+ Safeguards Information System (SIS) and Summary of Information (SOI)
for Cambodia
(Process 35-57916)

No.	Questions	Answers
1	We are concerned about the limited LOE considered (85 days) to deliver the sought outputs. Based on our experience working in other countries, in order to carry out these processes in a participatory manner and deliver the requested outputs we are looking at least at doubling that LOE. Could you kindly let us know if we are able to submit a proposal with a higher LOE, along with the justifications for it?	Offerors have option to propose their working days in the proposals based on their methodology. Please kindly note that this is a lump-sum output based contract and the evaluation will be based on the criteria as indicated in the Request for Proposal document.
2	The objectives of the assignment are to develop a SIS and a SOI. However, the ToR refers to several additional and associated outputs, which go beyond their development and in our experience require additional local experts and time allocation. These include: • Revised PLR analysis: will require engaging a national legal expert and at least consider 20 days (depending on quality of previous analysis); • Assessment of 'respect' framework, outlining institutional and implementation arrangements for relevant PLRs: will require engaging a national legal/forest/social expert and at least consider 20 days • Preliminary environmental and social impact assessment of relevant PaMs and resulting management framework: in our experience this requires engaging at least a forest and social expert, and consideration of at least 6-8 months to carry out the process in a participatory manner (workshops, events, etc).	It is envisioned that a team of expert consultants with diverse and relevant backgrounds will be applying for this RFP. The time and effort put into completing the above outputs will contribute significantly to completing the broader objectives of the RFP – the SOI and SIS. If a national legal/forest/social expert is required to complete these tasks (which we agree one would be), please include that in your bid. The same national expert could be employed to support all outputs outlined in the RFP. Regarding the last point re: 6-8 months required for the ESIA – we envision a reduced scope for this exercise – more an initial social and environmental risk screening of known PAMs – with as much detail on risks + mitigation measures as possible. But given the PAMs are still under development as part of the process to develop the Action and Investment Plan for the implementation of the national REDD+ Strategy, a full ESIA would not be possible at this point in time. The risk screening / outline of management measures is required to proceed on the next steps related to the SIS.

	• Could you kindly confirm if a SESA and a ESMF need to be prepared or are these preliminary studies? The ToR makes reference to them but does not explicitly consider it among its objectives and does not outline the key tasks/aspects the WB usually outlines on ToRs.	A full SESA/ESMF has not yet been completed, that is why we included the initial risk screening and resulting management framework in these ToRs. As mentioned above, we do not envision a full SESA/ESMF is possible at this time but would like to outline risks / mitigation measures in as much detail as possible, given current status of the PAMs.
	• SOI states we need to cover years 2015-2016, but since the REDD+ strategy was approved in 2016, we are not sure what information about the implementation of the REDD+ activities in accordance with the safeguards is expected to be provided, considering that UNFCCC requires the SOI provide information about 'respecting' throughout the implementation of REDD+ activities (when REDD+ strategy has been approved). Were there REDD+ pilot activities in 2015?	Safeguards implementation, according to UNFCCC decisions, should cover the activities referred in para 70 if decision 1/ CP. 16. These activities, in many countries including Cambodia, were already in place when the NRS was approved. The NRS comes to complement and better guide this actions. Since Cambodia will request for payments for years 2015 and 2016 these needs to be covered in the Sol. These are not pilot activities, these are the policies and measures being implemented by the country to tackle deforestation.
	Are we focusing on 'addressing' aspect in SOI?	Yes, that is why we need to update the PLR analysis, to ensure we cover addressing. The SOI should cover both addressing and respecting.
	GCF safeguard requirements and procedures are still under development. Please confirm we should consider the provisional arrangements that go beyond UNFCCC?	Yes. In this case, we would want to ensure the entire framework and all outputs are consistent with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards, which have been recognized as substantially equivalent with the GCF safeguards requirements as per the accreditation process. We will need to combine Cancun safeguards reqs with UNDP's SES to provide the baseline for safeguards reqs. UNDP has several tools that can be used, e.g. for the social and environmental

		risk screening mentioned above, templates for the ESMF, etc. that you would need to use.
	We are concerned the preparation of SESA, ESMF, SIS plus additional analysis will at least take a year.	Agreed, there is a lot of work to be done here, but a preliminary version of both SoI and SIS need to be done by September/ October 2018. These elements and the process can be further refined after this. But a draft one of both items will need to be in place by September/ October this year.
	Could you kindly confirm if the timeframes for execution of this assignment are flexible if in accordance with a clear and robust methodological approach?	Unfortunately we are unable to shift on deadlines – again, we would hope initial versions could be prepared for these outputs with the aim of further refining into next year.