

# Participatory Monitoring, Measuring, and Reporting (MMR) Guideline for REDD+ Activities



## What is participatory monitoring, measuring, and reporting in the context of REDD+ activities?

REDD+ is a global policy mechanism that aims to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and enhance the carbon sequestration capacity of forests. Nepal has embraced REDD+ as a potential solution and a source of funding for mitigating problems associated with climate change, deforestation, biodiversity loss, and rural poverty. However, the successful implementation of REDD+ requires the meaningful participation of all stakeholders throughout the process. Only broad and inclusive participation can ensure the sharing of responsibilities and benefits as well as the strengthening of a sense of ownership over the programme's implementation and monitoring. Various stakeholders including national and sub-national government institutions, local communities, women, and indigenous populations have particular roles to play in the successful implementation of REDD+. These roles include the development of a robust and transparent national forest

monitoring system to support monitoring, reporting, and verification. Local involvement with technical support from forest authorities is essential to the regular monitoring of carbon. In this context, participatory monitoring, measuring, and reporting (MMR) stands out as an approach for improving the vertical and horizontal institutional integration of different stakeholders in the assessment of REDD+ activities, including safeguard compliance and carbon accounting.

## Why do we need an MMR guideline?

An MMR guideline is needed to support local communities and REDD+ practitioners up to the district level in implementing REDD+ interventions effectively by enhancing their capacities to monitor, measure, and report information to the relevant authorities. Such information includes the changes in natural resources over time, implementation status of REDD+ activities, as well as benefit sharing and its social and environmental impacts. The guideline provides details on activities included in the MMR process.



## Approach

The guideline builds on existing principles, directives, and practices related to community forestry in Nepal. It avoids proposing drastically new actions. Instead, it strengthens, improves, and simplifies prevailing approaches. The preparation of this guideline followed the procedures shown in this figure:

### Review

- Published reports
- Legal documents
- REDD+ documents and peer-reviewed articles

### Consultation

- Three districts (Chitwan, Gorkha, Dolakha)
- Expert consultation
- Central-level consultation
- Focus group

### Preparation

- Draft guidelines
- Peer review
- Finalization and submission
- Approval

### District REDD+ working group

**Coordinator:** District development committee (DDC) member (agriculture, forestry, and environment)

**Members:** District forest office, district agriculture office, district livestock services office, DDC office, district soil conservation office, national parks and wildlife reserves, FECOFUN, ACOFUN, NEFIN, Dalit organizations, women's organizations, private forestry networks, district NGO federation

**Member secretary:** Forest officer

### Sector-level MMR team

**Coordinator:** Head of the sector forest office

**Members:** FECOFUN, ACOFUN, indigenous peoples (IP), female community forest user group (CFUG) members, Dalits, environmental NGOs, local resource persons (LRP)

**Member secretary:** Assistant Forestry Officer (AFO)/ranger of the respective sector forest office

### Ilaka-level MMR team

**Coordinator:** To be determined through consensus

**Members:** FECOFUN, ACOFUN, IPs, female CFUG members, Dalits, environmental NGOs, LRP

**Member secretary:** AFO/ranger of the respective ilaka forest office

### LFUG-(CF/LHF/CFM) level MMR team

- Ilaka team plus two LRPs in the group (if LRP is not available, the CFUG decides)
- Chairperson or secretary of the CFUG
- Overall supervision responsibilities will lie with the CFUG executive committee

## Local-level MMR team arrangement

The participatory MMR guideline proposes four tiers of teams at the local level. As shown in the figure, the arrangement follows the institutional setting of the district forest office. Community-level teams rank lowest followed by ilaka- and sector-level teams. District teams occupy the highest tier. All MMR teams are composed of a range of stakeholders including forestry technicians, community members, women, as well as representatives from civil society organizations.

## Conclusion

The guideline illustrates the participatory MMR process in four steps. First, it describes the planning process, including the development of an annual MMR plan, team formulation, and arrangement of resources. Next, it documents steps that need to be followed during the participatory monitoring of REDD+ interventions. The guideline then describes procedures for measuring outcomes. This section includes procedural steps for making carbon inventories, assessing non-carbon benefits, and evaluating safeguard compliance. Finally, the last section provides a comprehensive format for reporting all outcomes at the local level. In addition to what has been mentioned above, the guideline is a useful tool for monitoring and evaluating community-based forest management practices like community forestry, leasehold forestry, and collaborative forestry.



## For further information

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