

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR FORESTRY PROJECTS**



**Vietnam Forest Sector Modernization and Coastal  
Resilience Enhancement Project**

**ETHNIC MINORITY PLANNING FRAMEWORK  
(EMPF)**

*Final*

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## **Preface**

The Ethnic Minority Planning Framework (EMPF) for the Forest Sector Modernization and Coastal Resilience Enhancement Project (FMCR) was prepared to comply with the requirements of the World Bank Policy on Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10.

The policy recognizes that distinct circumstances expose Ethnic Minorities (EM) to differentiated types of risks and impacts from development projects. As EMs are social groups distinct from dominant groups and their national societies, they are frequently among the most marginalized and vulnerable segments of the population. Therefore, the EMPF includes the provisions to address special considerations concerning EM, based on the results of the social assessment (SA), carried out in the project's area. The EMPF was drawn upon free, prior and informed consultations to ensure that EM's needs and concerns are addressed and to confirm the EMs broad support for the project. The EMPF describes the OP/BP 4.10 requirements and planning procedures that executing agencies will follow during the preparation and implementation of sub-projects investments.

The EMPF is also related to other project's safeguard instruments, including the Social Assessment, the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), and the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF). The EMPF will be enacted and applied to all the activities funded by the World Bank within the FMCR.

During the implementation stage, the EMPF will be updated and amended suitable to the changes in related to WB policy changes. Updating and revising the EMPF should be in consultation with the World Bank and the revised EMPF should be approved by the World Bank.

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## Abbreviation and Acronyms

AP/AH	Affected persons/households
CEM	Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs
CPC	Commune People's Committee
CWU	Commune Women's Union
DARD	Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
DMS	Detailed Measurement Survey
DOLISA	Department of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs
DONRE	Department of Natural Resources and Environment
DPC	District People's Committee
DRC	District Compensation Resettlement Committee
EM	Ethnic minorities
EMDP	Ethnic Minorities Development Plan
GOV	Government of Vietnam
HH	Households
IOL	Inventory of losses
IRP	Income recovery program
LAR	Land acquisition and resettlement
LURC	Land use rights certificates
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MBFP	Management Board for Forest Projects
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOLISA	Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs
MONRE	Ministry of Resource and Environment
PCU	Project Coordination Unit
PFMBs	Protection Forest Management Boards
PPC	Provincial People's Committee
PPMU	Provincial Project Management Unit
PRA	Participatory rural appraisal

RP	The compensation and resettlement plan
RPF	Resettlement policy framework
SAH	Seriously Affected Households
SUFs	Special Used Forests
TOR	Terms of Reference
USD	U.S. Dollar
VND	Vietnam Dong
WB	World Bank

## Definition of terms

Affected Person/ Affected Household (AP/AH/ PAP)	<p>Refers to any persons/individuals, household, firms, private or public organizations who, on account of changes that result from the Project, would have their (i) Standard of living adversely affected; (ii) Rights, ownership or interest in any houses, land (including residential, commercial, agricultural, forest, salt and/or grazing land), water resources or any other moveable or fixed assets acquired, possessed, restricted, or otherwise, adversely affected, in full or in part, permanently or temporarily; and/or (iii) Business, occupation, place of work or residence or habitat adversely affected, with or without displacement.</p> <p>In the case of affected households, the term of PAP includes all members who are residing in the same house and operating as a single economic unit, who are adversely affected by the project or any its components.</p>
Affected communities	<p>Means that villages/communities are affected by impacts as a result of: (a) land acquisition due to any the project activities, whether being relocated or not relocated; economic impacts (permanent or temporary); (b) host communities receiving displaced households, or (c) the surrounding communities, and social and cultural aspects, that would be negatively impacted by the project.</p>
Assistance and recovery	<p>Support provided by the project to affected households losing assets, employment or livelihoods sources, in addition to compensation payment for acquired assets provided, in order to restore livelihoods.</p>
Broad community support	<p>Expression by the affected EM (indigenous peoples/ ethnic minorities) collected in free, prior and informed consultations, regarding the support to the project design and activities.</p>
Collective attachment	<p>Means physical presence in and economic ties to lands and territories traditionally owned, or customarily used or occupied, by EMs concerned, including areas that hold special significance such as sacred sites. "Collective attachment" also refers to the attachment of transhumant/nomadic groups to the territory they use on a seasonal or cyclical basis.</p>
Customary rights to lands and resources	<p>Refers to patterns of long-standing community land and resource usage in accordance with EMs customary laws, values, customs, and traditions, including seasonal or cyclical use, rather than formal legal title to land and resources issued by the State.</p>
Entitlements	<p>The range of measures comprising cash or kind compensation, relocation cost, income rehabilitation assistance, transfer assistance, income substitution, and relocation which are due to PAPs, depending</p>

on the type and degree nature of their losses, to restore their social and economic base.

Ethnic Minorities	<p>As defined by the World Bank, the term of Indigenous Peoples is used in a generic sense to refer to a cultural and social groups is possessing the following characteristics in varying degrees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) Self-identified as a member of a distinct indigenous cultural group and recognition of this identity by others;</li><li>(ii) Collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats and ancestral territories in the project area and to the natural resources in these habitats and territories;</li><li>(iii) Customary cultural, social, political institutions that are separate from those of the mainstream society or culture; or</li><li>(iv) A distinct language or dialect, often different from the official languages of the country or region in which they reside.</li></ul> <p>In Vietnam, the term indigenous refer to ethnic minorities (EMs).</p>
Free, prior and informed consultation	<p>Refers to a culturally appropriate and collective decision-making process subsequent to meaningful and good faith consultation and informed participation regarding the preparation and implementation of the project.</p>
Livelihoods	<p>Capabilities, assets and activities required to maintain the living standards and quality of life, including cash income and self-consumption.</p>
Meaningful consultation	<p>Refer to a process that (i) is early started right at beginning of the project and consecutively continued during project progress; (ii) provides timely disclosure of related project information that is understandable and easy to access by the affected people; (iii) is undertaken in an environment of no threatening and force or enforcement; (iv) is integrated and met gender sensitive issues, adjusted as per required by the disadvantaged and vulnerable groups; and (v) creates conditions to include related view points of affected people and other stakeholders into decision making process like project design, mitigation measures, sharing interest and development opportunities, and implementation issues.</p>
Plan	<p>Set of principles, objectives, procedures and budget defined in advance to ensure sound and smooth operation of the project. Quantitative targets (land, persons) in the plan foreseen targets. They will be adjusted as needed during the project design and implementation.</p>
Project impact	<p>Means positive and negative impacts on EMs caused by all project components. Adverse impacts are often consequences immediately related to the taking of a parcel of land, temporary and permanent</p>



impact on income and livelihoods, as a result of restrictions in the use of legally designated parks or protected areas. People directly affected by land acquisition may lose their home, farmland, property, business, or other means of livelihood. In other words, they lose their ownership, occupancy, or use rights, because of land involuntary acquisition or restriction of access.

The agreement of the affected EMs (indigenous) communities

For the policy application purposes, the term refers to a collective expression by the affected EMs (indigenous) communities, through individuals and/or their recognized representatives, in support of the project. There may be broad community support even when some individuals or a group of individuals disagree with activities of the project.

Vulnerable groups

Distinct groups of people who might suffer disproportionately from the loss of fixed and movable assets, other assets and production base or face the risk of being marginalized from the effects of resettlement and specifically include social development by the consequences of the loss of land or assets and other impacts of the project. Vulnerable households in Resettlement Plan (RP) are: (i) divorced or widowed femaleheaded households with dependents and low income, (ii) households with disabled or invalid persons, (iii) households with persons falling under the generally accepted indicator for poverty as defined by the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs, (iv) children and elderly households who are landless and with no other means of support, and (v) EM households.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. The project development objective is to improve coastal forest management in the project provinces. The Project Development Objectives (PDO) presents the expected contribution during the project lifetime towards the Government of Vietnam's higher objective to enhance coastal resilience to climate change (especially storms and flooding). Coastal forests in Vietnam, as per the definition in Decree No.119/2016/ND-CP are special use forests (SUFs), protection forests, land planned for planting protection forests and special-use forests in the coastal areas and islands. Coastal forests under the Project only include protection forests.

### **Project Beneficiaries**

2. The project beneficiaries are expected to include: Coastal communities, small-holder forestry households involved in sustainable forest management (SFM); Protection Forest Management Boards (PFMBs), provincial, district and commune governments, and Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Coastal communities in the targeted communes will directly benefit from the livelihood activities and support for improving their economic well-being. Government agencies at the district, provincial and central level are also beneficiaries of this project through the capacity building that will be provided to bolster their competence in administer projects, working with local stakeholders and monitoring and tracking project performance and using it to inform project implementation.

### **Project Areas**

3. The project will work in communes in 8 provinces - Quang Ninh, Hai Phong, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Thua Thien Hue. The first two provinces are in the Red River Delta (RRD); the last six provinces are coastal provinces in the north central region. These provinces have approximately 400km of coastline (12 percent of Vietnam's total coastline).

### **Project Components**

4. The project consists of 4 components, which are:

#### ***Component 1: Enabling Effective Coastal Forest Management***

5. This component will support the development and implementation of scalable procedures and tools to improve coastal forest management. The activities associated with this component will build the technical knowhow and make investments needed to modernize the approaches used to address the three key constraints – overlapping spatial plans, lack of adequate supply of quality seedlings and long-term financing for managing coastal protection forests.

6. This component has the following three subcomponents:

- Subcomponent 1.1 on modernizing coastal forest planning. This subcomponent will complement the activities financed by the Climate Change and Green Growth Development Policy Finance, and support consultancies to deliver key inputs for improving planning.
- Subcomponent 1.2 on expanding quality seedling production. This subcomponent will finance physical works, goods and equipment and technical consultancies for expanding production of quality seedlings.
- Subcomponent 1.3 on broadening payments for forest ecosystem services to coastal forests.

#### ***Component 2: Coastal Forest Development and Rehabilitation***

7. The objective of this component is to improve management of existing coastal protection

forests and expand the area of coastal protection forests in participating provinces. In each province, sites for planting, protecting and enriching coastal forests were identified based criteria that reflect local government commitment, ecological feasibility, land ownership and potential to contribute to resilience. Using the criteria, the investments are spread across 257 communes in 47 districts. In some target areas, this includes planting and managing mangroves forests along estuaries. In other areas, there will be planting and management of sandy soil forests on bluffs, terraces, dunes, and hills near the coast where the coastal communities are exposed to wind. The MARD targets for this component are:

- 50,000 ha of coastal forests protected
- 10,000 ha of coastal forests rehabilitated
- 5,000 ha of mangroves planted
- 4,000 ha of sandy soil forest planted

8. This component has two subcomponents. The first is on planting and protection target coastal forests. This subcomponent will finance works, goods and equipment, labor and consultancies needed to protect existing stands of coastal forests, and plant and tend new and degraded stands of coastal forests. It also finances the activities associated with community based forest management. The second subcomponent is on augmenting the survival and effectiveness of coastal protection forests. This subcomponent invests in physical works and supporting structures, equipment and tools, that can augment the survival and effectiveness of coastal protection forests. This subcomponent will also finance investments that assist with strengthening the monitoring and management of planting and protection activities. It will also support minor improvements of existing physical structures that complement coastal forests in protecting coastal communities.

### ***Component 3: Generating Sustainable Benefits from Coastal Forests***

9. Motivating local support for the protection of coastal forests beyond the lifetime of the project will require interventions that boost the economic benefits from coastal forests to a range of stakeholders - communities, local households, small enterprises, the communes and districts. In the Mekong Delta region, households and small enterprises have generated revenue from coastal forests through integrated aquaculture practices. Efforts to restore coastal forests in the Mekong Delta have also generated jobs and boosted sources of revenue local government helping justify the investments to the Provincial People's Committee. There also have been projects piloting payments for forest ecosystem services (PFES) from the aquaculture and tourism sector (two sectors that can contribute to PFES funds).

10. This component makes investments that augment the potential for generating private income, employment and public revenue from coastal protection forests. Adapting models that have worked in the Mekong Delta region and in the agriculture sector, this component supports: (i) partnerships for generating revenue from coastal protection forests (e.g., through extensive and certified aquaculture, and nature-based tourism) and (ii) upgrading of productive infrastructure (minor infrastructure) that would enable the local areas (communes) to support revenue generation from the investments. The support will be provided through investment packages that are grants. The grants will be provided following a competitive selection process which applies a transparent selection process that is specifically designed and established to result in the selection of commercially viable productive partnerships and business plans (in subcomponent 3.1) and of the most useful productive infrastructure (in subcomponent 3.2).

#### ***Component 4: Project Management and Monitoring and Evaluation***

11. This component will include the establishment of the organizational structure for project implementation; preparation of equipment, means and technical assistance. Activities would include refurbishing accommodations for the decentralized offices, vehicles, and a fully funded monitoring and evaluation system to track project progress and impacts, and provide feedback for project improvement throughout its tenure. The component would finance specialized training for MARD, provincial, district, and commune actors on themes such as co-management, integrated spatial planning, monitoring and evaluation and safeguards. This component will also finance recurrent costs such as the government staff and operating costs.

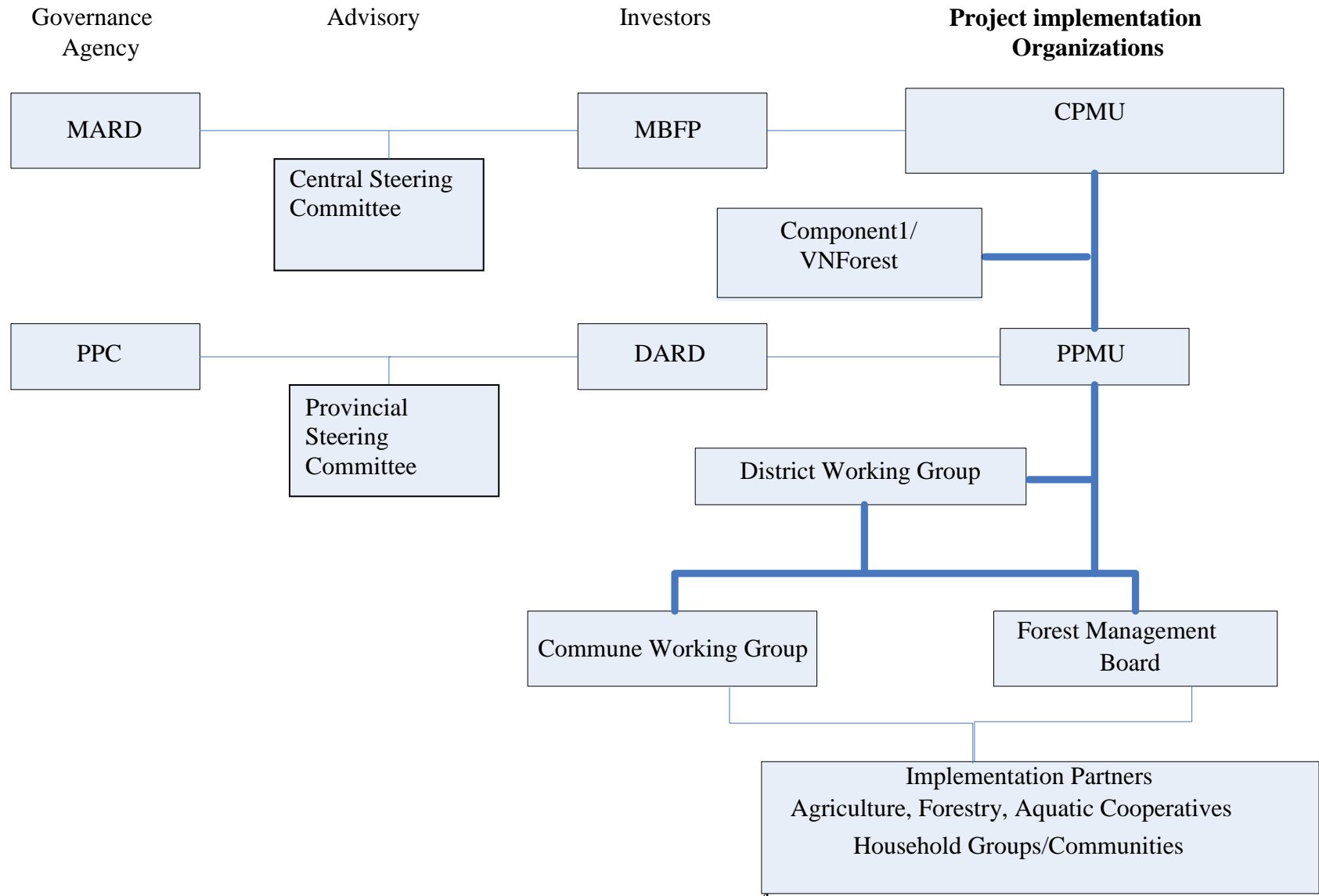
#### **Project Cost and Financing**

12. The financing for this project will largely be a US\$150 million IDA loan and US\$30 million of Government of Vietnam counterpart financing. The latter will largely cover project management costs and will be available for providing technical assistance. The counterpart funds will include contributions from the provinces.

#### **Institutional and Implementation Arrangements**

13. The institutional focal point for this project with the Management Board for Forest Projects (MBFP) within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD). MBFP will be responsible for oversee and managing the overall project. In addition to MBFP, there will be engagement of Vietnam Forests (VNForests) from MARD and also involvement of the relevant departments from within the provincial Departments of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD).

14. The bulk of project implementation is at subnational level and activities related to component 2 and 3 will be primarily implemented at a district commune level. Accordingly, the project implementation structure will involve a modest size central level project management unit (PMU), and provincial level project management units (PPMUs). The PPMUs will oversee project activities in their respective provinces. (See figure below for implementation arrangements).



## I. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Project objectives

15. The Forest Sector Modernization and Coastal Resilience Enhancement Project development objective is to improve coastal forest management in the project provinces. The PDO presents the expected contribution during the project lifetime towards the Government of Vietnam's higher objective to enhance coastal resilience to climate change (especially storms and flooding). Coastal forests in Vietnam, as per the definition in the Decree No.119/2016/ND-CP are special use forests (SUFs), protection forests, land planned for planting protection forests and special-use forests in the coastal areas and islands. Coastal forests under the Project only include protection forests.

16. In the PDO, improved management of coastal forests entails more than simply managing existing stands of coastal forests. It reflects the need to have in place the necessary policy measures to support effective spatial planning of where coastal forests are situated, arrangements for effectively managing the resource base, protection, planting and enrichment planting of coastal forests. It will also require incentives local households, communities, enterprises, and government to maintain and protect the resource base. Providing these incentives will require unlocking opportunities for linking protection of coastal forests with livelihood benefits and economic development.

### 1.2. Detailed area of project interventions

17. This project will be implemented in 8 provinces: Quang Ninh, Hai Phong, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue. The expected communes/districts with coastal forests and participating in the project are as follows:

Province/City	Results of evaluation
1. Quang Ninh	<b>45 project communes with an area of 24,434 ha, of which:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 51.1% is managed by CPCs</li><li>• 38.0% is managed by PFMBs</li><li>• 10.9% is managed by households and other organizations</li></ul>
2. Hai Phong	<b>12 project communes with an area of 4,993 ha, of which:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 99.0% is managed by CPCs</li><li>• 1% is managed by households</li></ul>
3. Thanh Hoa	<b>27 project communes with an area of 3,272 ha, of which:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 45.7% is managed by CPCs</li><li>• 36.5% is managed by PFMBs</li><li>• 17.8% is managed by households, communities and other organizations</li></ul>
4. Nghe An	<b>38 project communes with an area of 6,991 ha, of which:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 17.4% is managed by CPCs</li><li>• 69.7% is managed by PFMBs</li><li>• 12.8% is managed by households, communities and other organizations.</li></ul>
5. Ha Tinh	<b>46 project communes with an area of 8,861 ha, of which:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 16.3% is managed by CPCs</li></ul>

Province/City	Results of evaluation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 68.9% is managed by PFMBs</li> <li>• 14.8% is managed by households and communities</li> </ul>
6. Quang Binh	32 project communes with an area of 4,236 ha totally managed by CPCs (100%)
7. Quang Tri	25 project communes with an area of 7,917 ha, of which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 97.9% is managed by CPCs</li> <li>• 2.1% is managed by households, communities and other organizations</li> </ul>
8. Thua Thien Hue	<b>32 project communes with an area of 11,376 ha, of which:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 23.0% is managed by CPCs</li> <li>• 64.4% is managed by PFMB</li> <li>• 12.6% is managed by communities, households and other organizations.</li> </ul>

Sources: Management Board for Forestry Projects and DARDs, 2016

### 1.3. Beneficiaries of the project

18. The project will focus on two kinds of beneficiaries: direct beneficiaries and indirect beneficiaries.

- (i) Local people, households and communities living in the targeted coastal forest areas:
  - Number of villages, communes and households benefiting from the project: about 400 communities belonging to 257 communes (approximately 300,000 households);
  - Number of required man-days for new plantings: 2,876,720 (equivalent to 8,173 employees);
  - Number of required man-days for forest rehabilitation: 1,652,758 (equivalent to 4,696 employees);
  - Number of required man-days for forest protection: 506,220;
  - There are 18 expert positions with 55 experts and 621 man-months;
  - Number of households benefiting from livelihood development activities: 31,000 households.
- (ii) Protection forest management boards (PFMBs), forestry companies, enterprises related to forestry supply services; authorities at provincial, district and commune levels; and departments related to forest resource management.
- (iii) The number of participants in training courses is 39,514 people (of which there are 19,134 managers and 20,380 households or forest owners).
- (iv) The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the Vietnamese Government through stronger forest policies promoting forest sector reform particularly in: sustainable forest management and the issuance of forest certificates; coastal area planning; forest productivity and forest quality through improved forestry seed stock; establishment of regional association centers; forest sector monitoring; and reviewing and evaluating

major forestry policies.

## **II. ETHNIC MINORITY COMMUNITIES IN THE PROJECT AREA**

### **2.1. Ethnic minorities in Vietnam**

19. Vietnam is a multi-ethnic country with over fifty distinct groups (54 are recognized by the Government of Vietnam), each with its own language, lifestyle, and cultural heritage. The largest ethnic groups are: Kinh (Viet) 86.2%, Tày 1.9%, Thái 1.7%, Mường 7%, H'Mông (Mông) 1%, others 4.1% (1999 census). The Viet (Kinh) people mainly inhabit in the Red River delta, the central coastal delta, the Mekong delta and major cities. The other 53 ethnic minority groups, totaling over 8 million people, are scattered over mountainous and remoted areas (covering two-thirds of the country's territory) spreading from the North to the South. Among ethnic minorities, the most populated are Tày, Thái, Mường, Hoa, Khmer, Nùng, etc. with a population of around 1 million each, while the least populated are Brâu, Rơ Mâm, Ó Đu with several hundred people each.

20. A number of EMs mastered some farming techniques with rice cultivation in swamped paddy fields, which involves irrigation and other hunting, fishing, collecting practices. Through the shared struggle for defending and building of the country and a common community between the Kinh people and other EMs had been gradually established and continuously consolidated and developed.

21. Vietnam's policy of not discriminating against EMs is evidenced by the establishment of Council for Ethnic Minority Affairs, which belonging to the National Assembly. The Constitution (2013) provides adequate legal and institutional frameworks to protect EMs and ratifies their distinct languages as one of the aspects of cultural diversity and identity. The Committee of Ethnic Minorities Affairs (CEMA - a ministerial level agency) is responsible for all activities related to EM people to ensure equal access and participation to Government policies and investments. This has been the case when for example EMs received preferential treatment for accessing college admission and to benefit from other social programs and subsidies (e.g. cooking oil, provision of iodized salt, among others).

22. The government, multilateral and bilateral agencies, and NGOs have organized numerous development and special assistance programs that target EMs. Yet EMs in Vietnam are severely disadvantaged if compared with the rest of the country. The poorest EMs remaining are harder to reach; facing challenges due to isolation, limited assets, low levels of education, poor health status. EM poverty is a growing and persistent challenge. According to the latest poverty line data, 66.3 percent of EMs are poor compared to only 12.9 percent of Kinh population (WB, 2012). There are many reasons for the pervasive poverty of EM groups in Vietnam. Such as dealing with population growth, depletion of natural resources, and cultural dislocation resulting from decades of imposed change.

### **2.2. Ethnic minorities in the project provinces areas**

23. The largest EM populations are found in the two provinces of Thanh Hoa and Nghe An and Quang Ninh are respectively 17.20%, 11.41% and 5.82%. Smaller EM populations live in other provinces (less than 1% of the total province's population). Ethnic minority groups of the project provinces are mostly Tay, Thai, Dao, Muong and Tho, with Muong people in Thanh Hoa province quite significant (341,359 persons) in particular.



**Table 1: Population and EMs in the project provinces in 2015***Unit: Person*

No	Provinces	Population	Ethnic minorities		Composition of majority EM groups					Other
			Total	Rate	Tay	Thai	Dao	Muong	Tho	
1	Quang Ninh	1,200,300	69,874	5.82	3,501	450	59,156	535	52	6,180
2	Hai Phong	1,963,300	3,204	0.16	1,050	243	65	323	19	1,504
3	Thanh Hoa	3,514,200	601,074	17.02	795	225,336	5,465	341,359	9,652	15,467
4	Nghe An	3,063,900	349,705	11.41	744	259,132	39	688	59,579	29,523
5	Ha Tinh	1,261,300	1,529	0.12	280	500	84	549	37	79
6	Quang Binh	872,900	630	0.07	81	332	4	126	21	66
7	Quang Tri	619,900	335	0.05	42	79	2	68	10	134
8	Thua Thien Hue	1,140,700	1,556	0.14	145	577	9	238	50	537
	<b>Total</b>	<b>13,636,500</b>	<b>1,027,907</b>	<b>7.54</b>	<b>6,638</b>	<b>522,649</b>	<b>64,824</b>	<b>343,886</b>	<b>69,420</b>	<b>53,490</b>

Source: Statistical Yearbook of the provinces in 2015 and the Institute of Ethnology

24. The EM groups are largely settled the mountainous districts and communes, which hold the higher percentages of land classified as forest. The exception to this is Thanh Hoa where, with Muong and Thai populations (essentially paddy cultivators often occupying the midlands rather than highlands where they are not highly concentrated in few districts or communes (as is the case in Quang Binh, parts of Quang Tri and Thua Thien Hue).

**Table 2: Ethnic composition of the 8 project provinces***Unit: Person*

Province/ City	Quang Ninh	Hai Phong	Thanh Hoa	Nghe An	Ha Tinh	Quang Binh	Quang Tri	TT Hue	Total
Tày	3,501	1,050	795	744	280	81	42	145	<b>6,638</b>
Thái	450	243	225,336	295,132	500	332	79	577	<b>522,649</b>
Mường	535	323	341,359	688	549	126	68	238	<b>343,886</b>
Khmer	19	7	93	60	11	10	5	26	<b>231</b>
Hoa	4,375	1,171	288	156	15	22	90	429	<b>6,546</b>
Nùng	1,246	308	275	312	49	28	36	57	<b>2,311</b>
Mông	460	12	14,799	28,992	4	6	3	25	<b>44,301</b>
Dao	59,156	65	5,465	39	84	4	2	9	<b>64,824</b>
Thổ	52	19	9,652	59,579	37	21	10	50	<b>69,420</b>
Dáy	80	6	12	3	-	-	-	-	<b>101</b>

Source: Institute of Ethnology, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS), 2014

### 2.3. Ethnic minorities in project districts and communes

25. In the eight project provinces, the majority of EMs resides in the inland mountainous districts/communes. According to statistical data, within the project communes located in coastal areas, the proportion of EMs is minor, with approximately 22,088 persons (mostly Thai, Tay, and Dao peoples) representing 0.61% of the total population in the project area. Of these, EMs are mainly found in the coastal districts of Quang Ninh and Thanh Hoa provinces. Quang Ninh covering Tien Yen, Van Don, Hai Ha and Mong Cai districts have approximately 21,685 EM people and Thanh Hoa covering Tinh Gia and Hoang Hoa districts have 186 EM people. Results from the SA show that EM communities living in communes along the coastal line of project provinces historically migrated from different regions and settled in the coastal communes since 1970-1980s, and with interethnic marriages. The EMs are mainly bilingual (Vietnamese/their own languages) and maintain their own distinct cultural and social characteristics.

26. While the EM community will benefit from the project, special steps must be taken to ensure that they can fully participate in the project planning and implementation.

**Table 3: EM population present in Quang Ninh and Thanh Hoa province, 2015**

*Unit: Person*

<b>TT</b>	<b>Province/district</b>	<b>Population</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>Quang Ninh</b>	<b>21,685</b>
1	Tien Yen	10,898
2	Van Don	3,456
3	Hai Ha	5,193
4	Mong Cai	2,138
<b>II</b>	<b>Thanh Hóa</b>	<b>186</b>
1	Tinh Gia	126
2	Hoang Hoa	60

*Source: Statistical Yearbook of the provinces in 2015*

#### **2.4. The socio-economic situation of ethnic minorities**

27. The EMs in the project areas are mainly concentrated in the Quang Ninh and Thanh Hoa provinces and when comparing data of EMs and the rest of the population (or Kinh) some of the results are as follows:

- (i) In terms of the households' size, survey data indicate is among the index of average size among EMs 45.1% members and 38.41% for the rest (non EMs) of the population.
  - (ii) EMs ratio of illiteracy is higher and non-school children of EMs is 43% versus 21% for non-EMs.
  - (iii) EM's household have less toilets and health problems are higher for EMs.
  - (iv) In terms of living standards households of EMs interviewed, there are 12 households with the average and good standard of living, and 7 households are poor and near poor, according to the criteria for poverty rate (MOLISA, 2015).
  - (v) The surveyed EM households in the project area have lower living standard than the non EMs
28. The social assessment (SA) carried out in 8 provinces showed that the proposed project can

bring benefits to local communities, including EM, and would greatly contribute to protect sea dykes from erosion, limit saltwater intrusion, and protect and increase forest cover. During the project preparation, consultations with EMs to be potentially affected and benefited by the project were conducted in a culturally appropriated manner that entailed free prior and informed process to meet the operational requirements of the WB's policy OP 4.10. Consultation methods implemented aimed at bringing EMs' perspectives and suggestions for the project design. Consultations included EMs and other vulnerable people such as the poor, landless, the elderly, and women and children. Project's potential positive and negative impacts to EMs, are detailed in Section III.

## **2.5. The objectives of EMPF**

29. The EMPF aims to ensure that the project implementation process fully respects the dignity, human rights, economies and culture of EM people affected by the project, and that they receive benefits in line with their cultural and socio-economic conditions. The EMPF is an instrument not only for determining and addressing concerns and needs of EMs, but also for ensuring the EMs would benefit from the project and leading to the EM community support. The EMPF was prepared based on public consultations held during project preparation and information dissemination among affected EMs. The objectives of the EMPF are to: (i) ensure that the EM people in the project area receive socio-economic benefits suitable to their culture; (ii) avoid negative effects on the EM communities, and (iii) when negative impacts cannot be avoided, provide measures to minimize/mitigate or compensate for the damage caused by the project activities.

30. The EMPF will ensure that EM's needs, concerns and priorities are considered during the design and implementation of the project, and define activities under the project to ensure full participation of EMs. This EMPF was prepared based on the (i) social assessment in the project area; (ii) consultation with local people and EM people who live in the project area; and (iii) consultation with key project stakeholders, including MARD/DARD, PPCs, DPCs and Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA), mass organizations.

31. Preparation of Ethnic Minority Development Plans (EMDPs): The results of the consultations and social survey and social assessment carried out in the project area during August/September of 2016 (detail information of rounds, locations, stakeholders show in Section V), confirmed that EMs are mainly settled in the Quang Ninh and Thanh Hoa provinces. Consequently, the EMPF provides the detail procedures, institutional arrangements and additional information required for the preparation of EMDPs for subprojects to be implemented in Thanh Hoa and Quang Ninh provinces. According to the project implementation plan the first year will not involve EMs benefited or affected, so the EMDP will be prepared and disclosed in the second year of the project implementation in accordance with the policy requirements.

## **III. THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE PROJECT**

32. The Project is designed to bring about positive effects for socio-economic development of project area. However, it would also have potential negative impacts on EMs special among those dependent on forest production for their food security and income, and thus affecting their livelihoods.

### **3.1. The positive impacts of the project**

33. The results from the social assessment and intensive consultations with EMs carried out in the 8 project provinces showed potential project's positive impacts including:

- (i) Planting and protecting coastal forests contributing to the restructuring of forestry production;
- (ii) Integrating developed agro-forestry models to ensuring food security under pressure due to population growth and climate change. Such actions also would improve ecological environment and related livelihood activities such as fishing.

### **3.1.1. *New plantation and rehabilitation of mangroves and coastal inland forests***

#### **a) *Impacts on EMs' livelihoods and economy***

- (i) Improving the income based on agricultural activities supporting the locals and EMs livelihoods, i.e. by improving practices of aquatic species cultivation such as mollusks, clams, oysters and prawns can increase farming productivity, and promote seafood in a sustainable manner with high economic value.
- (ii) Supporting the mangrove ecosystem protection and production in a sustainable manner for enabling its multiple use while contributing to household's income.
- (iii) Promoting and supporting the development of ecotourism activities for improving local income.
- (iv) Allocating forests to rural communities for management and protection purposes, and providing funding support for management and protection tasks aimed at contribute to increasing the income to locals.

#### **b) *Impacts on gender***

34. Per the analysis of in-depth interviews, carried out during project preparation, women would be predisposed to join forestation protection and production activities. Therefore, the project will be providing with opportunities for women to participate in the community/family activities, expected to increase their family income. Support to women's livelihood activities would contribute to improve the current children health and education status along with enhancing women inclusion and participation on family and community decision making. In short, the positive impacts would strengthen living standards and improve income of EM households, where women would be contributing substantially.

### **3.1.2. *Rehabilitation, improvement and infrastructure works***

35. The project will support the rehabilitation and improvement of small-scale rural infrastructures such as irrigation schemes, rural roads, silvicultural roads, watch-towers, etc., that could provide advantages for forest protection, agricultural production, income generation, local job generation, goods exchange and others, to successfully achieve the goal of sustainable rural development.

36. The rehabilitation of inter-commune roads will help residents save travelling time, goods exchange, more accessible and convenient transportation. The rehabilitation and upgrading of dyke systems is a stepping stone to consolidate and develop solutions to prevent and mitigate flood disasters.

37. In short, the potential positive impacts that the project brings about would benefit local residents in the project area. Currently, the main source of income of local people in the project area is merely from agriculture, forestry and fishery activities, however, the interlinkage is relatively weak which results in people's incomes not to reach to full potential. Effective integration of agriculture-forestry-fishery livelihood patterns could contribute to economy stability and well-being for local

people. It would support women's active participation for their households' economy benefits, and role enhancement in their domestic and community decision making.

38. Additionally, the SA showed the advantage and efficiency when adopting a modality of forest allocation to local communities. In many such places where allocation to local communities has been implemented forests are well protected and kept. People's awareness of the community's forest has become more effective for management and protection purposes. The associated effects of the forest help not only reduce soil erosion and landslides, but also ensure food security and preserve underground water resource for manufacture and for supporting ecotourism activities in towns. During the consultation meetings, local people always welcomed and supported the implementation of the project as they are well aware of the good chance for improvement of community's economy, environmental conditions, traffic conditions, development of various alternative livelihood models, promotion of exchange of goods, increase of jobs and improvement of social services.

### **3.2. The negative impacts of the project**

39. Potential negative impacts of the project may be caused by the temporary loss of livelihoods, lands and assets, and restriction of access to natural resources due to the implementation of project activities. The EMPF has focused on consultations with the EMs encouraging the EMs to raise their voice, discuss their concerns while identifying potential negative impacts.

#### ***3.2.1. Coastal forest protection, plantation and rehabilitation activities***

40. The FMCR project is expected to allocate 50,000 ha of coastal protection forests to communities, household groups, and households for management and protection; and engage in new plantation and rehabilitation of 19,000 ha of mangrove forests and sandy soil forests in the project provinces. Field surveys and consultations with local authorities showed that, there are currently no EM households living on illegal activities in the coastal forest protected areas, including the areas where the project is planning to implement forest protection and plantation. However, negative impacts on the EMs' livelihoods could be generated during the project implementation, such as the temporary and/or permanently loss and reduction of incomes for whom are dependent on the forests (e.g. restriction of taking seafood products, fuel woods, other NTFPs). To solve this issue, the project is planned to support the EMs through alternative livelihood models and co-management mechanisms for forest protection, plantation and rehabilitation activities.

41. Due to the forest protection, plantation and rehabilitation activities which may cause the restriction of access to natural resources by the local EM people, a Process Framework is prepared to set its measures when discussing impacts concerning access restriction and specific plans of action are developed to mitigate potential impacts to the local residents.

#### ***3.2.2. Livelihood support and silvicultural infrastructure development***

42. By design, the project will support small-scale infrastructures for strengthening the protection of coastal forests and enhancing the livelihoods of local people. Clear criteria has been set for selection of investments, (i) excluding all investments requiring physical relocation and/or severely affecting people by land acquisition; (ii) defining, with no exception a total funding for infrastructure that should not exceed VND15 billion(guiding by the Official document No.1648/DALN-XDDA dated September 29, 2016 by the Management Board for Forestry Project); (iii)focusing on coastal forest plantation, rehabilitation and protection activities, during the first 2 years the project implementation without considering any support to rural infrastructure in this period. This criteria and guidance has been strictly reflected in the project design. Since specific construction works have not

been identified yet until the detail design, the scale of work and potential impacts of infrastructure development will be assessed based on the criteria defined. Based on the list of planned investment of infrastructure, the results of consultation and social assessment, the expected negative impacts are as follows:

- (i) Loss of agricultural land and garden land due to land acquisition.
- (ii) Loss of trees and crops and other assets on land due to land acquisition and construction activities (to be defined during implementation, and according to the defined criteria for the selection of sub-projects).
- (iii) Temporary loss and/or interruption/restriction of access to livelihoods sources, water resources, business activities.
- (iv) Impacts on graves and cultural structures.
- (v) Impacts during construction period on EM community such as insecurity order, cultural conflict between EM people and workers, increase of social tensions and social diseases.
- (vi) Impact on community health during civil work construction such as noise and dust pollution.

43. In cases of land acquisition (agriculture land and/or garden land) for civil works, mitigation and compensation measures are required and a Resettlement Plan will be prepared accordance with the project Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) and the EMPF prepared for the project.

**Table 4: The potential negative impacts and mitigation measures**

Potential	Description	Mitigation measures
Loss of land and assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rehabilitation and improvement of small-scale infrastructures may require land acquisition permanently or temporarily which causes loss of agricultural land and garden land, and assets on land of the EMs. The anticipated impacts, however, are minor.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimize the selection of projects resulting in loss of agricultural land and gardens.</li> <li>• In case where the loss of lands and assets is unavoidable, affected persons must be adequately compensated and assisted for their losses. Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) will be prepared as per project Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF).</li> <li>• Perform extensive consultations to ensure clear understanding of potential impacts.</li> </ul>

Potential	Description	Mitigation measures
Impacts on livelihoods and business activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction of revenues from forest-based livelihoods for EMs in case where forest plantation and protection activities allocate forest management to individuals or local communities.</li> <li>• Effects on agricultural production such as restriction/interruption/limitation of access, or irrigation caused by the construction.</li> <li>• Access restriction to forest resources for NTFPs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimize the impact on water resources and water quality.</li> <li>• Perform extensive consultations with the affected EM communities.</li> <li>• Provide alternative livelihood supports for the affected EMs, encouraging them to participate in the project activities. Ethnic Minority Development Plans (EMDPs) will be prepared as per project Ethnic Minority Planning Framework (EMPF).</li> <li>• The Process Framework (PF) embedded with Village Development Plan (VDP) and Co-management Plan (COP) is developed to mitigate/compensate for loss of restriction of access to forest resources.</li> </ul>
Impacts on health during construction process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the construction process, EM can be effected by dust and noise. These effects can directly affect their health.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The environmental and social management framework (ESMF) has been developed for the project, providing regulations and mitigation measures to protect the environment and the health of the local people and includes a negative list of activities prohibited This framework will be disclosed and shared with EMs living close to the construction sites.</li> </ul>

44. For the project activities, which may potentially cause adverse impact by land acquisition, RAPs will be prepared to ensure the losses are adequately compensated in a timely manner as per project's RPF. Based on the social assessment, EMs are present the two provinces of Quang Ninh and Thanh Hoa where and EMDPs should be prepared.

#### **IV. LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK**

45. This section provides a framework to ensure that the EMs in the project area have equal opportunity to share project benefits, participate in free, prior and informed consultations, and adequate disclosure of information will be conducted to ensure their broad-based community access and support to the project are obtained, and that any potential negative impacts are properly mitigated. The EMPF provides guidance for conducting preliminary screening of EMs, social assessments, EMDP preparation and identification of mitigation measures given due consideration to consultation, grievance redress, gender-sensitivities, and monitoring. An outline of the EMDP report is provided in Annex 1.

46. In terms of consultation and participation of EMs, when the project activities affect EMs, the affected EM peoples have to be consulted on the basis of free, prior, and informed consultation

(FPIC), to ensure:

- (i) EM and the community they belong to are consulted at each stage of subproject preparation and implementation;
- (ii) Socially and culturally appropriate consultation methods will be used when consulting EM communities. During the consultation, special attention will be given to the concerns of EM women, youth, and children and their access to development activities;
- (iii) Affected EM and their communities are provided, in a culturally appropriate manner at each stage of subproject preparation and implementation, with all relevant project information (including information on potential adverse effects that the project may have on them); and
- (iv) The free, prior and informed consultations with EM lead to a broad community support for the project implementation.

47. Where necessary, a local person (of the same EM group) will be invited to join the consultation in case local EM language is required to promote the free exchange of information between the EM peoples, and the consultant team.

#### **4.1. Vietnam legal framework and policy on Ethnic Minorities**

48. The 54 Ethnic Minority groups in Vietnam are entitled to all the rights of citizens and their equality which are protected by the Constitution and the Laws. The Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (2013) recognized the equality between ethnic groups in Vietnam. Article 5 of the Constitution states:

- (i) Socialist Republic of Vietnam is the unified state of all nationalities living in the country of Vietnam.
- (ii) The nationalities equal, unite, respect and help each other to develop; prohibits any discrimination, ethnic division.
- (iii) The national language is Vietnamese. The nation has the right to use voice, text, preserving the national identity, promoting traditions, customs, traditions and culture.
- (iv) The State implements a comprehensive development policy and creates reasonable conditions for the ethnic minorities to mobilize resources, along with the development of the country.

49. Pursuant to the Constitution, the national economic, social and cultural policies have taken special consideration to the EMs in the mountainous and remote regions. Accordingly, the GoV has developed a series of policies to develop, enhance socio-economic condition of EMs, especially for the extremely difficult districts/communes. The national Socio-Economic Development Strategy (SEDS) and Socio-Economic Development Plan (SEDP) specifically call for attention to the EMs. Two current major programs targeting EM people include Program 135 (infrastructure in poor and remote areas) and Program 134 (eradication of poor quality houses). After the Program 134 and the Program 135 Phase 1 and Phase 2, the Government has launched Program 135 Phase 3 to enhance socio-economic development in poor communes located in mountainous areas or areas inhabited by EMs. In addition to the overall development programs for EMs, the Government assigned CEMA to guide provinces to prepare projects Development Assistance for ethnic groups with less than 1,000 people, i.e. Si La, Pu Péo, Rờ Mâm, Brâu, ÔĐu. The GoV also conducted the Rapid and Sustainable Poverty Reduction Program in 61 poor districts (Resolution 30a/NQ-CP of the Government), where many EMs live.



50. The Decree No.84/2012/ND-CP dated October 12, 2012 on the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the Committee for Ethnic Minorities Affairs (CEMA). The Decree stipulated that the CEMA, a ministerial-level agency, performs the functions of state management of ethnic affairs in the country; state management of public services under the jurisdiction of CEMA as stipulated by law. Along with the Decree No.05/2011/ND-CP dated January 14, 2011 on the works of EM, the Decree No.84/2012/ND-CP was issued as a legal basis for CEMA to continue concretizing guidelines and policies of the State on EMs in the period of industrialization and modernization; promote the power to unite the whole nation for the target of prosperous people, strong nation, social justice, democracy and civilization, in order to ensure and promote equality, solidarity, respect, help each other to develop and preserve the cultural identity of the peoples in the great family of ethnic groups of Vietnam.

51. The Government's documents on the basis of democracy and the participation of local people are directly related to this EMPF. The Ordinance No.34/2007/PL-UBTVQH11, dated April 20, 2007 (replaced for Decree No.79/2003/ND-CP dated July 07, 2003) on the implementation of democracy in communes, wards, and towns provides the basis for community involvement in the preparation and implementation of development plans and community's supervision. The Decision No.80/2005/QD-TTg by the PM, dated April 18, 2005 regulates the monitoring of community investments. Legal Education Program of CEMA (2013 - 2016) aims to improve the quality and effectiveness of legal education, awareness raising on self-discipline, respect, strictly abiding law of officials and public servants, the employees of the organizations for EMs. Policies on education and health care for EMs have also been issued.

52. The Land Law 2013 affirms that land belongs to all peoples, with the State representing on behalf of all peoples the ownership and management of this land. The State authorizes the land use rights to the land users through land allocation, land lease, recognition and management of land use. For the allocation of forestland, the Land Law provides that allocation of production forestland, protection forestland, special use forestland for organizations, households, individuals, community; however, each type of forestland allocated for different user has different rights. Those being allocated by the State are called "land users". Land Law prescribes that land users are issued with land use certificates, entitled to products from the investment on the land. Households, individuals allocated by the State for production plantation land have the right to transfer, convert, lease, inherit, mortgage and joint venture the value of the land area; forest allocated communities are not able to transfer, convert, lease, inherit, mortgage and joint venture the value of the land area.

53. Law on Forest Protection and Development (2004), the State grants the forest use right for the forest users through forest allocation, leasing and certification. Households, individuals with natural forests allocated can only utilize the forests without having forest ownership, regarding plantation, the forest owners invest in the forest and have the forest ownership. Forest land allocation is allowed for households, individuals, and a community.

54. Biodiversity Law (2008) stipulates that organizations and individuals entitled to exploitation and utilization of "biodiversity" should share the benefits with stakeholders, equalize the State benefits and organizations/individuals', combine biodiversity conservation, exploitation and utilization and poverty reduction, ensure the livelihoods for households, individuals who legally reside in the conservation areas; stipulating rights and benefits of households, individuals legally reside in the conservation areas i.e. they can exploit legal benefits in the conservation area, participate and enjoy benefits from business and service activities in the conservation area, organizations,

individuals use the biodiversity environment services should pay for the organizations and individuals providing the services. The Law creates favorable legal framework for communities living inside and near the forests, taking part in forest protection and development activities and can share benefits while these forests.

55. Environmental Protection Law 2014 stipulates that the climate change management agencies are responsible for providing information, organizing activities to increase the community awareness and create good conditions for the community to take part in coping with climate change; one of the activities to manage GHG emission is sustainably manage forest resources, restore and improve forest carbon stock; establish and develop a carbon credit market in the country and participate international markets, returning the bio-diversity, and establishing environment protection fund.

56. The forestry law sets up a legal framework on forest utilization and harvesting in several legal documents such as Decision 186/2006/QD-TTg dated August 14, 2006 of the Prime Minister issuing forest management regulations and Circular 35/2011/TT-BNNPTNT dated May 20, 2011 of MARD providing guidance on the harvesting and salvaging wood and NTFPs and elaborates the forest harvesting for each forest owners (organizations, households, individuals and communities), by forest functions (natural forests or plantations) and by investment sources (State, forest owners, international projects). These documents regulate the use of barren land for agro-forestry production in protection forests, production forests, ecotourism based on forest ecosystem.

57. More recently Prime Minister issued Decision 2242/QD-TTg dated December 11, 2014 allowing the enhancing the management and harvesting of natural forests period 2014-2020. Households with natural forests allocated can extract timber for themselves, the maximum volume is 10m<sup>3</sup>/household/ton, but should not overuse the forest resources.

58. The Decree 75/2015/ND-CP dated September 9, 2015 on FPD mechanisms and policies, associated with fast and sustainable poverty reduction and assisting ethnic minorities for the period 2015-2020. This introduced a Forest protection contract rate of 400,000VND/ha/year, whether revenue from selling carbon credits is fully used or in part, should be carefully reviewed to avoid conflict with other non-ER-P forests. Decree 99/2010/ND-CP on the Policy on PFES is the primary legislation regulating PFES in Vietnam. The decree identified the forest services for which charges must be paid (including carbon sequestration and storage), and clarified state management of PFES as well as the rights and responsibilities of forest service users and providers.

59. Following the Law on Forest Protection and Development (2004), Decree 05/2008/ND-CP establishes the Forest Protection and Development Fund to protect and develop forests, raise awareness and responsibility towards forest protection, and build capacity and efficiency in forest management and utilization, and financing sources include initial investment from the state budget and now, as mentioned, particularly hydropower schemes.

**Table 5: List of legal documents of the GoV for ethnic minorities**

Reference number and content	Year	Issued body
Decision No. 601/QD-UBND dated on 29/10/2015 on the additional recognition, adjustment of most difficult villages/hamlets and category I, II, III communes in the mountainous and EM regions	2015	Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs

Reference number and content	Year	Issued body
Decision No. 2356/QD-TTg dated on 04/12/2013 of the Prime Minister on promulgation of the action plan implementing the strategy of EM affairs until 2020	2013	The Prime Minister
Decision No. 449/QD-TTg dated on 12/03/2013 of the Prime Minister on approval of the strategy of EM affairs until 2020	2013	The Prime Minister
Joint Circular No.05/2013-TTLT-CEM-ARD-MPI-TC-XD dated on 18/11/2013 guideline of Program 135 on infrastructure investment, production development for extremely difficult and border communes, particularly difficult villages	2013	Inter-ministerial
Decree No. 05/2011/ND-CP on the works of EM. This decree describes the activities of EM works to ensure and promote the equality, unity and mutual assistance for mutual development, respect and preservation characters of the ethnic minorities living within the territory of Vietnam.	2011	The Government
Decision No. 52/2010/QD-TTg of the Government on the legal aid policy to raise awareness and understanding about laws on poor EM in the poor districts in the period of 2011-2020.	2010	The Prime Minister
Decree No. 98/2010/ND-CP dated 21/09/2010 of the Government detailing a number of Articles of the Law on Cultural Heritage and Law on amending and supplementing a number of Articles of the Law on Cultural Heritage	2010	The Government
Decision No. 236/QD-CEM dated 30/07/2009 by the CEMA on the establishing research and development board for programs of socio-economic development in the period of 2011-2015 for most difficult villages/hamlets in the mountainous and EM regions.	2009	Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs

#### 4.2. World Bank's Operation Policy on Indigenous Peoples (OP/BP 4.10)

60. The World Bank OP/BP 4.10 on Indigenous Peoples is used to refer to distinct, vulnerable, social and cultural groups possessing the following characteristics in varying degrees:

- (i) Self-identification as members a distinct indigenous cultural group and recognition of this identity by others;
- (ii) Collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats or ancestral territories in the project area and to the natural resources in these habitats and territories;
- (iii) Customary cultural, economic, social, or political institutions that are separate from those of the dominant society and culture; and
- (iv) An indigenous language, often different from the official language of the country or region.

61. As a prerequisite requirement for an investment project approval, the WB policy OP 4.10 requires the borrower to conduct free, prior and informed consultation with potentially affected EM peoples who would receive benefits from the project and to establish a broad community support for the project and its objectives. It is important to note that the policy OP/BP 4.10 refers to social groups and communities, and not to individuals. The primary objectives of the policy OP/BP 4.10 are:

- (i) To ensure that such EM groups are afforded meaningful opportunities to participate in the design of the project activities that affect them;
- (ii) To ensure that opportunities to provide such groups with culturally appropriate benefits are considered; and
- (iii) To ensure that any project impacts that adversely affect them are avoided or otherwise minimized and mitigated.

62. According to the policy OP/BP 4.10, the proposed projects that are to be financed by the WB and have certain influences on the EM must follow these steps:

- (i) Screening to determine whether there are EMs living there or have collective attachments to the project site;
- (ii) If EMs are living in the area, specific social assessments will be conducted to determine the positive and negative potential impacts of the project and thus to revise the design of the project to mitigate negative effects and increase positive benefits;
- (iii) During the consultation process, EM communities will be provided full information in a culturally appropriated manner and to ensure free participation to determine opinions about the project and to assert whether the project receives the broad support from the community or not;
- (iv) Ethnic Minority development plans (EMDPs) will be prepared in consultation with the community, including benefits that the community will receive from the project and the ways as to how minimize adverse effects; disclosing locally extensive information on the plan; and ensuring to reflect recommendations/suggestion made by EMs in the final designs.

63. The mentioned provisions will ensure create favorable conditions for EMs to participate in the project to design activities that affect them; ensure that those opportunities suit the interests of their culture, customs and traditions, and aspirations; and avoid any project impacts that adversely affect EMs or otherwise minimized and mitigated.

64. During the implementation process, for the EMDPs preparation and implementation, the WB's OP 4.10 and that of the GoV will be applied in conjunction or integrated into the overall plan of the project, to ensure that EM communities in the project area, are consulted and provided with adequate information and get involved in the implementation phase.

## **V. PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION**

65. One of the purposes of consultation process and regular public meetings is to engage EMs in meaningful consultations and the results, incorporated in project design. Consultation will be allowing EMs to express their views and concerns and confirm potential project benefits and ascertain the broad community support.

66. For the FMCR project, a two-step consultation process is designed to ensure compliance with

Indigenous Peoples Policy (OP/BP 4.10) of World Bank as follows:

67. **Step 1:** Consultation with EMs in the project preparation process at the site through free, prior and informed consultations to ensure that all proposed activities of the project will receive broad community support from EM groups who may be affected the project activities. Furthermore, to identify the views of EMs on a large scale. The process engaged when conducting social experts of the Project Management Unit and communal authorities to identify potential impacts and benefits on EM communities To ensure the participation of women in these consultations methodologies applied, included as to conduct small group discussions, defined schedules and locations of their best convenience, and provided with the required support of translators, among others The topics discussed included project information on potential impacts on cultural, costumes, traditions, livelihood practices of EMs, or on their social capital and networks. The project supported and provided with spaces to dialogue and address community aspirations and priorities identified in a participatory manner.

### **5.1. Consultation in the project preparation process**

68. To perform the first step of the consultation process, the Project Management Unit of Forestry Projects contracted the Center for Cooperation of Science and Technology between Vietnam and Germany to carry out extensive free, prior and informed consultation with EM communities in a culturally-sensitive manner in the areas of the proposed project activity where EMs live. Consultation was carried out through group discussions with a small sample size from 10 to 15 people (Implemented in August and September of 2016). The participants were selected randomly, combined with purposeful sampling to collect more points of view. Group discussion was an effective means of consultations because it encourages the sharing and discussion of views and ideas related to the proposed project (Implemented in August and September of 2016). The second round of consultation was held during December 13-17, 2016 to get feedbacks and comments for the draft EMPF.

69. The participants expressed their aspirations and their concerns about improving agricultural production. They support the project and expect that the project will soon be implemented to improve the protection of coastal forests and their livelihoods.

70. **Step 2:** Conducting consultations with EMs during project implementation aims to gather and document information about the needs and specific challenges they are facing, and identify any potential areas of additional or other forms of support. Those selected by the project will build the processes and guide counseling to ensure that consultations will be done in a suitable place and in a timely manner. In addition, the consultation should be conducted in an appropriate way that can be accessed by EMs as well as ensure that all vulnerable groups are involved in the consultation process to create a friendly and honest environment without interference or threats from outside.

71. The consultation process should ensure that the affected EM communities: (i) broadly support the objectives of the project; (ii) are aware of the project's benefits and believe that the benefits are suitable with their culture; (iii) have had sufficient opportunities to identify their priorities and limitations related to compensation, resettlement and environmental issues.

### **5.2. Consultation with EM during the project implementation stage**

72. During the project implementation phase, EMs will be consulted in all the activities of the project that may have potential positive or negative impacts to them. All efforts will be made to engage EMs in the planning, design, implementation and monitoring of measures to increase the benefits from the project and to avoid negative impacts.

73. The Provincial Project Management Unit (PPMU) will be responsible for ensuring the participation of the community through the People's Committee of communes, community groups/associations, local leaders and EM leaders, women association and fatherland front, and local agencies. It is essential to invite local people to participate in meetings, including separate meetings with women, to know their views on project activities and identify the positive and negative impacts on their lives from the project.

74. PPMUs will hold regular meetings with the People's Committee of communes, women's associations, village headman and local communities to ensure that all involved persons are fully aware of and understand the contents of the project. The purpose of the consultations is for all EM expected to be affected by the project to gain sufficient information about the project components, the project activities, the mitigation and compensation measures, and mechanisms established for redress of grievances. These meetings will be planned and the PPMUs will coordinate with the CEMA at the provincial level or/ and officers in charge of EMs at the district to ensure that all impacts are identified and addressed.

75. Through the consultation process, PPMUs will notify the EM people of their rights, the project's scale, and the potential impacts on the livelihoods, environment and natural resources. When there a difference or conflict between EMs and the project implementing agencies emerge, PPMUs will need to put in place a mediation and negotiation approach resolve those differences. Negotiation includes mutual respect for cultural differences, discussion of the issue with the legitimate representatives of the EMs, allowing sufficient time to make decisions, and willingness to compromise and record results. Without evidencing the broad support of the community for the subproject or project activities, the World Bank will not finance such activities. These evidences include the whole process: calls for the meetings (printed announcements, radio clips etc.); list and signature of participants/attendees with representation of women; photos; summary of the discussions; concerns posed and alternatives that respond to local aspirations

76. It should be noted that many EMs in Vietnam, especially women, the elderly, and those who live in EM communities in remote rural areas, have limited Vietnamese reading skills. Educational attainment and literacy capabilities of affected EM communities will be determined through the social impact assessment. These methods and methods of suitable communication/media for culture and gender will be used to eliminate communication barriers. This may include translation of documents into ethnic languages, using interpreters in community meetings, greater use of communication methods with virtual aids in EM communities with high illiteracy or low educational qualifications, and holding separate meetings for women and men according to local cultural traditions in the necessary places.

### **5.3. Rules and guidelines for ethnic group participation**

77. Efforts will be made to engage EM to ensure their participation in the activities of the project may affect or benefit them.

78. The project will ensure support activities are consistent with the culture of EM, including their language, customs and traditions. For compensation for land acquisition and crops, the negative impact to EMs will be avoided or minimized by finding all feasible alternatives. EM households affected by project will be fully compensated for lost or damaged assets, income and business activity based on replacement cost. In addition, the appropriate measures for livelihood restoration will be given to assist them to improve or at least maintain their standard of living, income and the ability to

produce the same level as before the implementation of the project. In infrastructure projects, all affected minority households having legal land use right certificates (LURC) will be fully compensated for their affected land, housing and property loss (if it occurs). The implementation schedule and budget for the planning and EMDP implementation must be separated for each subproject and the overall project concerning additional compensation for lost land and properties. For female-headed households and households with disabled and elderly people, special allowances will be provided to help them restore their livelihoods and their income.

#### 5.4. Disclosure of EMPF and EMDP

79. As per Bank's requirement, this EMPF is to be disclosed prior to appraisal. Vietnamese version of the first draft was disclosed on the website of MBFP in December 16, 2016 and the final draft on January 19, 2017, and locally at provincial, district, and commune levels on from January 17-20, 2017. English version was disclosed on Bank's website on February 3, 2017.

80. For the EMDPs to be prepared during project implementation, once accepted by Bank, such EMDPs must be disclosed locally prior to appraisal of respective sub-projects. Sub-project EMDPs need to be disclosed in an accessible place and in a form and language/ communicational via understandable to the EM peoples as well as other project stakeholders.

**Table 6: Summary of the public consultation during preparation stage**

No	Provinces, districts	Date
<b>I</b>	<b>Quang Ninh province</b>	
1	Consultation with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, People's Committee of Tien Yen district and Mong Cai City.	17 and 18/8/2016
2	Protection Forest Management Board of Mong Cai City, Quang Ninh province	18/8/2016
3	Van Ninh and Dong Rui commune, Quang Ninh province	19/8/2016 and 14/12/2016
4	Consultations with households in Van Ninh and Dong Rui commune	19 and 20/8/2016 and 14/12/2016
<b>II</b>	<b>Nghe An province</b>	
1	Consultations with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Dien Chau district People's Committee	5 - 6/9/2016
2	Dien Ngoc and Dien Thanh commune, Nghe An province	7/9/2016 and 16/12/2016
3	Consultation with households in Dien Ngoc and Dien Thanh commune, Nghe An province	8/9/2016 and 16/12/2016
<b>III</b>	<b>Thanh Hoa province</b>	
1	Consultations with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development; Department of Forestry, Tinh Gia district People's Committee	9/9/2016

No	Provinces, districts	Date
2	Hai Ninh and Xuan Lam commune, Thanh Hoa province.	10/9/2016 and 15/12/2016
<b>IV Ha Tinh province</b>		
1	Consultations with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Forest Protection Management Boards, Thanh Ha District People's Committee	12/9/2016
2	Ho Do and Cam Linh commune, Ha Tinh province	13/9/2016 and 17/12/2016
3	Consultation with households in Ho Do and Cam Linh commune, Ha Tinh province	14/9/2016 and 17/12/2016
<b>V Thua Thien Hue province</b>		
1	Consultations with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Forest Protection Department, Forest Protection Funding Association, Quang Dien district People's Committee	6/9/2016
2	Phu Loc town, Thua Thien Hue province	7/9/2016 and 15/12/2016
3	Quang Cong and Lang Co commune, Thua Thien Hue province	8/9/2016 and 15/12/2016
<b>VI Quang Tri province</b>		
1	Consultations with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Forest Protection Department, Forest Protection Management Boards of Thach Han river and Ben Hai river, Gio Linh district People's Committee.	9/9/2016
2	Consultations with Trung Giang and Gio My commune, Quang Tri province	9/9/2016 and 16/12/2016
3	Consultations with Trung Giang and Gio My commune households, Quang Tri province	10/9/2016 and 16/12/2016
<b>VII Quang Binh province</b>		
1	Consultations with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Forest Protection Department of Quang Binh, Quang Ninh district People's Committee	12/9/2016
2	Consultations with Gia Ninh and Hien Ninh commune, Quang Binh province	13/9/2016 and 17/12/2016
<b>VIII Hai Phong City</b>		



No	Provinces, districts	Date
1	Consultations with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Forest Protection Department of Hai Phong, Do Son District People's Committee	20/9/2016
2	Consultations with Bang La commune, Do Son district, Hai Phong province	20/9/2016 and 13/12/2016
3	Consultations with Dai Hop commune, Kien Thuy district, Hai Phong province	20/9/2016 and 13/12/2016

### 5.5. Broad Community Support attained with consultations during project design

81. Results from social assessment and consultations showed that broad local community are aware of and support the implementation of project activities. A summary of the subjects addressed, that received affirmative EMs support in consultations included:

- (i) At present, the local production model is mainly agro-aquaculture (shrimp, crab) and chicken and pigs breeding with low productivity and very limited processing and preserving procedures and techniques. Products are sold at low prices benefiting mainly middle-man. The project is expected to help people on processing and preserving techniques as well as finding markets for products by developing a market value chain. Consultations confirmed a broad strong support and commitment from the community for the project activities planned to support improvements of techniques and new markets niches
- (ii) Locally a number of the poor people and households are lacking-productive-land. The project is expected to involve and help those vulnerable people lagging behind their current situation by engaging them in forest protection activities, and with livelihoods improvement activities. Local authorities and communities confirmed their support to engage those vulnerable peoples.
- (iii) A large number of EMs communes are lacking basic infrastructures such as drinking/potable, water supply systems, primary schools, and health centers. During consultation people expressed their willingness to carry out a social supervision/control during the construction to ensure quality delivery.
- (iv) Consulted EMs, expressed their agreement about forest reallocating among EMs communities for plantation, rehabilitation, protection and management purposes, asserting that they would benefit from fishery resources under forest canopy. EMs support seedlings provision and technical trainings in aquaculture and horticulture to be supported by the project, expected to improve local people's living conditions. In addition, the EMs agreed with jobs opportunities and trainings offered by the project, especially those concerning processing and preserving seafood, which would be enabling its further marketing improvement.

## VI. GUIDELINES ON PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EMDP

82. The objective of EMs Development Plan (EMDP) is to ensure the project implementation

process fully respects the dignity, rights, economy and culture of EMs who benefit from and may also be affected by the project; furthermore, the investor should receive full community support for the project through the prior consultation process. These plans should (a) ensure EMs receive economic benefits and are socially and culturally appropriate; (b) avoid adverse impacts on minority communities; and (c) if the adverse impacts are inevitable, provide steps to reduce, alleviate and/or compensate for such effects.

83. EMDP will ensure that the number of EM groups in the project areas are identified. Their needs, concerns and priorities will be considered when designing and deploying project activities. In some cases, special activities will be designed under the project to ensure that EMs can fully participate. Given that the project design for the first year activities will not involve EMs, hence, EMDP preparation is not required for the first year of the project.

84. In the preparatory phase of the project, the main focus was on screening, evaluation, assessment of social choices, establishing a legal framework, sharing information and attracting the attention of all affected EM. It is especially important to carry out of prior consultation where people are provided sufficient information and are free to participate and evaluate whether the project has completely received the support of the community. The EMDP of the project will ensure that:

- (i) Activities will be encouraged and supported for EMs to participate in order to ensure benefits are to be delivered in a cultural appropriated manner and according to their own livelihood practices;
- (ii) Negative impacts identified by EMs will be addressed and minimized by considering other alternative options discussed and agreed upon during consultations;
- (iii) Preparation and subsequent implementation of the EMDPs will ensure participation including their customary leaders and full representation of their community members;
- (iv) Funding for the design and preparation of EMDPs including those participatory activities will be financed by project sources.

85. The steps for EMDP preparation and implementation include the following:

#### **6.1. Screening**

86. The first step, the screening process that will confirm the presence of EM communities in the project area, and risks related to the project intervention. If the screening confirms the presence of EM in the project area, the project would assess the social and environmental issues, directly and indirectly and temporarily or permanently, affecting EMs in the project area.

##### **a) Social assessment (SA)**

*Purpose:*

87. The SA, in the context of Bank's OP 4.10, is a study that aims to explore how planned project activities under a Bank financed subproject affect the livelihoods of EM present in the subproject area. The purpose of the SA is to ensure if there is any potential adverse impact as a result of the subproject, that appropriate measures are in place (in advance of subproject implementation) to avoid, mitigate, minimize such potential adverse impact, or to compensate for affected population, if unavoidable. The SA also aims to explore, based on the understanding of EM's cultural, socio-economic characteristics of the EM communities, possible development activities that the project can implement (in relation to the project goal/objectives) to ensure EM peoples in the subproject area receives socio-economic benefits that are culturally appropriate to them.

*Methods:*

88. A SA, in a nutshell, entails a series of activities that are carefully planned and implemented to generate an outcome as outlined above. Most important, the SA exercise involves the consultation process conducted with EM people in the project area. Consultation should be undertaken as a series of meetings done at different times during the project cycle. As a good practice, EM consulted need to be provided with accurate and sufficient information about the nature and magnitude of the project impacts, especially if expected to affect EMs' income and livelihoods.

89. Appropriate consultation method, specific to each EM groups, needs to be adopted to obtain valid and reliable feedback from the EM being consulted. When consulting EM, particular attention needs to be given to vulnerable groups among them, particularly those below the poverty line, the landless, the elderly, poor women and children. A broad community support for the subproject implementation should be obtained before is appraised for implementation.

*Data collection:*

90. Qualitative and Quantitative data to be collected included: (i) secondary data available on affected/targeted EM population from local authorities/academia such as reports, statistic yearbooks, books, newspapers, and peer-review journals. The SA's team (either appropriately trained staff from local PMU, or consultants) should confirm the quality of the secondary data available to define collection required. Experience shows that data at household level is typically not readily available; (ii) Primary data, for EMs population through household surveys, interviews, focus groups discussions, using appropriated\techniques.

91. When conducting a SA for the preparation of a EMDP, the following information should be collected from both secondary and primary sources:

- (i) General socio-economic data of the potentially affected EM population specify key demographic data on household composition, gender-differentiated data on income streams and occupations, education, health status, social programs implemented in the project area;
- (ii) Key cultural peculiarities/ characteristics of EM groups;
- (iii) Types of income generation activities, including income sources, disaggregated by their household member, work seasons, land and productive assets;
- (iv) Annual natural hazards that may affect their livelihood and income capacity;
- (v) Common pool resources, production and livelihood systems, tenure systems that EM may rely on;
- (vi) Community relationship (social capital, kinship, social network);
- (vii) Potential (positive and adverse) impact of subprojects on their livelihoods;
- (viii) Preferences of EM for support in development activities to be funded by project (Needs Assessment).

*Data Analysis:*

92. This exercise is challenging, ranging from simple to complicated, depending on the type of data, and complexity of data required analytical skills for social assessment of a subproject team. Both qualitative data and quantitative data analysis, should only be adopted by trained staff and support from external consultant when needed.

**b) Consultations**

93. Provincial PMU will work with community leaders (village chiefs, elders, representatives of any social and community organizations) to maintain communication with the community throughout the project cycle, to address the concerns, and disagreements of the people.

**c) The cultural benefits**

94. The mechanisms to ensure that EM will receive appropriate cultural benefits through the PPMU by: a) supporting and enhancing the capacity of EM communities for participating and planning; b) providing funding resources as needed; (c) prioritizing EMs to be hired in the project activities; d) supporting EM capacity building.

**d) Broad community support (BCS)**

95. Broad community support for project implementation is very important. The Bank will provide project financing only where free, prior and informed consultation results in broad community support. A meaningful BCS should come from well-done social assessment and consultation. It is important that the BCS (with good community representation and its level of support) be documented and reflected in the EMDP, particularly with project activities with high impact on the local EM communities. The support of affected EM communities refers to a collective expression of the affected EM communities, through individuals and/or their recognized representatives, of broad community support for such project activities. Broad community support may exist even if some individuals or groups object to the project activities.

**e) Procedure for review and approval of an EMDP**

96. Once preparation of an EMDP is completed, the Provincial PMU is required to submit the EMDP to the Central PMU for their review and comments before it is submitted to the World Bank for review and approval. The Bank may request revision and update of the EMDP. When there is doubt or need for technical support in preparing the EMDP, the WB's task team should be contacted and support requested when needed. EMDPs, once accepted by Bank, should be disclosed in an appropriate and timely manner for public comments.

**f) The main contents of ethnic minority development plan (EMDP)**

97. The contents of EMDP include:

- (1) Policy Framework;
- (2) The analysis of both primary and secondary data;
- (3) The land ownership information;
- (4) Information about the consultation and participation of local communities;
- (5) Impact assessment and mitigation measures;
- (6) Grievance redress mechanisms;
- (7) The organization and implementation plan;
- (8) Monitoring and evaluation; and
- (9) Costs and plan funding.

98. For an EMDP that identifies positive impacts on EMs, it should be prepared to document the following

- (10) Cultural characteristics and economic and social situation of EM;

- (11) Information dissemination strategy;
- (12) The process and implementation efforts to ensure cultural appropriateness;
- (13) The consultation process;
- (14) Feedback from the community;

99. For an EMDP, in which the EM will be affected by a negative impacts due to land acquisition or asset damage information should be added to identify:

- (15) The negative impacts, and
- (16) The necessary mitigation measures.

## **6.2. Summary of SA carried out during EMDF preparation stage**

### **a) Vulnerability characteristics of the project object groups**

100. In general, people in the project areas are poorer than the regional and national average rate. According to the SA findings both EMs and female headed-households in the project area are poorer and thus vulnerable, confronting poor quality of public services provision and low income sources.

### **b) Use of natural resources**

101. There is almost no difference across EMs community members and poor non-EMs when accessing local natural resources, including those from forests. Generally, forest land in the project area, is mostly arid with sandy soil and low value forests growing, confronting a prolonged drought. EM communities mainly grow annual crops (rice, maize) in the agricultural land and low value forestry trees.

### **c) Labor sources**

102. The birth rate of EM is higher that non EMs. The SA results showed that EM workforce is mostly non-skilled. Out of 19 EM households interviewed and consultations with the leaders of Dong Rui commune, Tien Yen district, Quang Ninh province showed there is not EM individuals in the commune holding an intermediate education level certification, which evidenced the EMs limited access to education.

### **d) General conclusions**

103. The potential project beneficiaries involve poor population, among whom EM groups and households-headed women are most disadvantaged. The poverty conditions are mainly due to limited livelihood resources and lack of agricultural land and poor forest land, no access to credits or/and technology, non-skilled labor force). In addition, natural disasters have affected the locals agricultural/fishery production, exacerbating the vulnerability of these poor and marginalized communities that confront no mitigation / adaptation strategies / mechanisms to address adverse natural events affecting them.

104. The project faces a major challenge for the expected support to EMs livelihood strategies. The project supports to the local livelihoods must simultaneously: (1) raise the accessibility to project benefits; (2) minimize and mitigate potential negative social and environmental impacts, and; (3) support capacity building for vulnerable groups to improve their access and insensitive investments. The expected strategy should involve support for infrastructure improvement, access to credits and financial capital and strategic support for forestry production and protection.

## **VII. GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM**

### **7.1. The main regulations of grievance**

105. EMs and local community may raise their concerns/complaints about the project through preparation, implementation and supervision stages. Project grievance redress mechanism will ensure that it is practical and acceptable to the affected EMs. Consultation with local authorities and affected communities about the mechanism will be implemented for all project activities following the key principles as follows:

- (i) Addressing basic rights and interests of affected EMs;
- (ii) Handling of the EMs complaints handled freely;
- (iii) Establishing grievance redress mechanisms for conflict resolution and addressing community culture.

106. Affected communities should be informed about grievance mechanisms and procedures to submit complaints.

### **7.2. Grievance redress mechanism**

107. Technical guidance for grievance mechanism of the project outlines two levels: (i) local level involved at the community, and (ii) levels with third parties' roles for mediation. Each province will establish a system for resolving complaints from the village, commune, district and provincial level based on existing structures, including the relevant departments, public organizations, representatives of women and of EM organizations. The project will provide training and support to strengthen existing mechanisms. The grievance mechanism will apply to people or groups affected directly or indirectly by the project as well as those who may attain benefits. All inquiries and grievances will be documented and kept in the Settlement of Complaints Committee at commune and district levels, to be resolved in consultation and transparent way. Notably, the records and reports of complaints may be publically accessed. All costs related to the settlement of complaints processes will be part of project's budget.

108. Grievance redress mechanism established on the basis of Vietnam's laws. The steps and procedures are described as follows:

- (i) **First step.** The complainant may raise their issues verbally or in writing with officials of the CPC, through the village head or directly with the CPC. The receiver of the grievance will notify the CPC about the complaint. The CPC will directly meet the affected households raising the grievance and should settle the complaint within 30-45 working days after receipt (45-60 working days in the remote and mountainous regions). CPC's secretary is responsible for documenting and archiving all relevant records of complaints. As soon as the decision of the CPC is released, households may appeal the decision within 30 days. If the second decision is signed but the complainant remain unsatisfied, she/he can submit complaints to the DPC.
- (ii) **Second step.** When receiving a household grievance, the DPC will resolve the complaint within 30 working days. DPC will be responsible for documenting and archiving relevant records of the complaints. As soon as the decision of the DPC is released, households may appeal the decision within 30 working days. If the second decision is signed but the complainant remains unsatisfied, s/he can submit complaints to the PPC.
- (iii) **Third step.** After receiving a household's grievance, PPC will take 30 working days to

resolve the complaint. PPC will be responsible for documenting and archiving relevant records of all complaints. As soon as the decision of the PPC released, households may appeal the decision within 45 working days. If the second decision is signed but the household remains unsatisfied, the household can submit complaints to the court within 45 days. Then, PPC will return the compensation money into a trust (escrow) account.

- (iv) **Final step.** The petitioner will submit dossiers or complaint to court and the court shall hear to the petitioner. In such case, the provincial government will have to increase the level of compensation according to the court decision and make such payment to the petitioner.

109. To ensure that the grievance resolution mechanism mentioned above will be practical and be accepted by EM, this mechanism must be reviewed in consultation with the competent authorities at local and the local community involving their culture. If ethnic minorities oppose it, it will have to be revised and a suitable culturally-appropriate approach determined in order to receive the consensus and be approved by the Bank.

## **VIII. DISCLOSURE OF EMPF AND EMDP**

### **8.1. Information disclosure**

110. As per Bank's requirement, this EMPF is to be disclosed prior to appraisal. Vietnamese version of the first draft was disclosed on the website of MBFP in December 16, 2016 and the final draft on January 19, 2017, and locally at provincial, district, and commune levels on from January 17-20, 2017. English version was disclosed on Bank's website on February 3, 2017.

111. EMDPs to be prepared during project implementation, must be disclosed locally in an accessible place and in a form and language understandable to the EM peoples as well as other stakeholders. EMDPs drafted and final versions will be made available at the commune level in community meetings with the participation of all those key stakeholders involved and submitted to the Bank for approval. The project should ensure women affected households' participation in the dissemination meetings. Copies of EMDPs (in Vietnamese and EM languages, if necessary) will be available in the office of CPC and at the home of village heads or at accessible place to the EMs.

112. The views of EM people gathered in consultation meetings will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. At the same time, the content of all regular meetings between PPMUs and EM leaders or representatives will be recorded. All concerns of the people involved will be recorded in this way to incorporate them into the planning process for the project and used in the implementation process to regulate the activities of the project. Any concerns, requests, or complaints raised in meetings or other consultations will be documented in the same way.

### **8.2. The language issue**

113. In order to ensure that the information will be fully disseminated to EM, the disclosure will be implemented in an appropriate way in EM's language (if they are not able to read and speak Vietnamese language) and be suitable to their culture. The public meetings in villages will also be conducted in EM's language if necessary. The information will be posted in public places such as CPC offices and village elders/heads. The information should be transmitted primarily as an image as to enable EMs with poor reading comprehension skills to understand.

## **IX. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS**

## **9.1. EMDP preparation**

114. PPMU is responsible for preparing EMDP with technical support of social specialists and CPMU. The EMDP level of detail will depend on the specific project activities and the nature of the impacts (see outline in Annex 1 of this document).

## **9.2. EMDP implementation**

115. Authorities at provincial and district levels have responsibility for EMDP implementation in coordination with the CPC. PPMU supports and monitors EMDP implementation. All the activities during project implementation should be implemented in a manner appropriate to EM's culture.

116. To ensure the participation of local communities in implementation and supervision of EMDPs, organizations/ representatives of local people at the community level should join EMDP the planning, implementation, and monitoring. PPMU will set up regular meetings with local authorities, representatives of community groups, and village leaders. CEMA as a governmental agency will be directly involved in the process. Mass organizations, especially the Women's Union and Fatherland Front, will play an important role in the implementation and monitoring of EMDPs.

## **X. IMPLEMENTATION BUDGETS**

117. Each EMDP will have to determine the budget requirements for each defined activity, detailed specific activities including cost for each specific interventions or the administrative/ operational costs, etc. Each EMDP should clearly identify funding for each activity in the plan, including World Bank or other funding sources of activities.

118. The costs of EMDP implementation will be allocated from the project budget which use mixture of donor and government financing.

## **XI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

119. The main purpose of monitoring and evaluation is to ensure that all expected measures of EMPF and EMDPs will be conducted in accordance with policies and procedures. The entire project will be monitoring the results and subject to the procedures of the whole project (including safety policy and community participation), implemented on time (according to plan), and within the budget. Monitoring will be done by the Provincial Project Management Unit (PPMU) and the Central Project Management Unit (CPMU) through progress reports and internal monitoring.

120. The implementation and results of the EMDP and integrated activities on minority will be monitored regularly, and internally by PPMU and provincial Committee for Ethnic Minorities Affairs. These statements and recommendations relating to EMs will be included in the periodic reports of PPMU that must be sent to CPMU.

121. PPMU has responsibility for internal monitoring in the implementation progress of EMDPs. PPMU will set and submit monitoring reports to CPMU on a quarterly basis. That begin when the leaflet popularizes publicly the information until disbursement of funding for EMDPs and other activities. The periodic monitoring in the EMDPs and integrated activities related EM includes some indicators:

- (a) Ensure that all negative impacts of the project on EMs are mitigated, minimized or compensated in compliance with EMPF and EMDP.



- (b) Ensure that measures of benefit maximization and adverse impact mitigation are implemented in culturally appropriate way for EMs.
- (c) Identify whether the free, prior and informed consultations for EM communities are conducted in culturally appropriate manner or not.
- (d) Determine if complaint procedures are followed the EMPF and propose solutions if there are pending issues.
- (e) Conformity between relocation and land clearance and construction commencement to ensure that affected EMs have been provided with compensation, allowance, and

122. The monitoring will be achieved under the internal continuous monitoring of process indicators and output of PPMU and evaluate the EMDPs goals. Monitoring reports will summarize progress of EMDPs and activities on EM, collate with indicators, and if necessary, propose changes to ensure implementation EMDPs and integration of activities with expected objectives and procedures. This report is a part of a report submitted for CPMU's consideration and for the Bank monitoring purposes

123. CPMU will submit quarterly monitoring reports to the World Bank. The report will summarize the progress of EMDP's implementation.

124. An external agency recruited by CPMU will be in charge of the independent monitoring and evaluation. The external monitoring will be conducted by an external agency specialized in the social science. Key indicators of external monitoring and evaluation is presented as follow:

- (a) Public consultation and awareness of project benefits, resettlement policy and entitlements of affected EMs (if relevant);
- (b) Level of satisfaction of affected EMs with the provisions of EMPF;
- (c) Grievance redress mechanism (documentation, process, resolution);
- (d) Effectiveness and sustainability of entitlements and income rehabilitation measures for affected EMs;
- (e) Gender impacts and strategy for inclusion;
- (f) Capacity of affected EMs to restore/re-establish livelihoods and living standards, support provided by the project;
- (g) Resettlement impacts caused during construction activities; actions take to mitigate and compensate impacts;
- (h) Impacts temporal or permanent affecting EMs income and livelihoods and actions undertaken for mitigation and compensation;
- (i) Activities planned and implemented for assuring EMs participation in planning and implementation;
- (j) Institutional capacity for supporting the EMDP elaboration and implementation., internal monitoring and reporting systems;
- (k) Channeling of government funds for compensation payment and allowances for affected EMs.

## **Annex 1: Outline of the Ethnic Minority Development Plan**

### **1. Summary the Ethnic Minority Development Plan**

This section describes the main effects, the important learning and recommendations for action.

### **2. Project description**

This section presents a general description of the project: the project categories, potential project impacts on EM, and define the project area.

### **3. Social Impact Assessment**

This section will: (i) consider the legal and institutional framework for ethnic people in the project context; (ii) state the basic information about the characteristics of the race, culture, society and politics of the affected EM, their land and territories that they have traditionally owned or used or occupied by custom; the natural resources on which they depend; (iii) identify key stakeholders and culturally-relevant gender issues to consider in order to conduct consultation at each stage of project; (iv) assess the potential positive and negative impacts of the project to the EM based on the results of the consultation. It is important to decide the potential negative impacts in relation to sensitivity of gender and analysis of vulnerabilities and level of engagement between EM and the land and resources as well as their lack of relevant opportunities to connect to other social groups in their territory; (v) include gender analysis in the perception of the affected EM and the impacts of the project on their culture, society and economy; and (vi) according to the consultation results, identify and recommend the measure to mitigate the negative impacts and compensate for damages of the EM's land or properties when the project will conduct.

### **4. The mitigation measures**

This section defines the necessary measures to avoid adverse impacts, or if such measures are not feasible, the identification of mitigation measures to alleviate and/or compensate for the negative effects to the ethnic group affected.

### **5. Dissemination of information, consultation and participation**

This section will: (i) present the information dissemination process, consultation and engagement with affected EM done in the project preparation; (ii) summarize opinions on the results of the social impact assessment and identify concerns raised in the consultation and the solutions in the project design; (iii) in the case that the project activities require the support of the larger community, they must prepare documentation of the process and results of consultation with the affected EM and agreement from consultation about the project activities and the safety measures to address the impacts from the project; (iv) describe the mechanisms for consultation and participation that will be used in the implementation to ensure that ethnic minorities will be involved in the process; and (v) confirm the disseminations of the EMDPs draft and final for affected EM.

### **6. Benefits**

This section identifies specific measures to ensure that ethnic minorities receive social and economic benefits to suit to their culture and gender.

### **7. Strengthening capacity**

This section provides measures to strengthen the social, legal and technical capacity of (a) state institutions to resolve issues with EM in the project area; and (b) the organization of EMs in the

project area to allow them to represent the affected EM in a more efficient way.

#### **8. Complaint mechanism**

This section describes the procedure for resolution of complaints of affected ethnic minority communities. This section also explains how that process can reach EM in appropriate way with their culture and gender.

#### **9. Organization of implementation**

This section presents the responsibilities and implementation mechanisms to implement various measures in EMDPs. This section also describes the process for local institutions and non-governmental organizations involved in the implementation of measures outlined in EMDPs.

#### **10. Reporting, monitoring and evaluation**

This section presents the mechanisms and standards in accordance with the project to monitor and evaluate the execution of EMDP. This section also identifies the specific implementation so affected EM can join in preparation of recognize the monitoring and evaluation reports.

#### **11. Cost and budget sources**

This section presents the budget for all activities described in EMDPs.

#### **12. The Appendices**

Leaflet; Guide Outline reference established for counseling; Community Sample for Public Meeting.

## **Annex 2: Summary of consultations with carried out with EMs**

### **1. Purpose of the consultation**

- (I) Provide information about the subprojects, the principles of compensation and resettlement of the project to affected peoples;
- (II) Learn about the history of natural disasters (floods, droughts, sand dune, salt water intrusion and climate change), the importance of protection forests and combination of the protective forests with agricultural, forestry and fisheries production.
- (III) Learn about the currently socio-economic status in the region;
- (IV) Selection of compensation methods for loss of crops of the affected people in case of their land production is acquired or occupied in a short time.
- (V) Their agreement and broad support for the project and their recommendations and suggestion to the projects.

### **2. Consultation contents of the project information**

- Documented current livelihood of the people
- Confirmed status of protection forest and the measures required for a management.
- Evaluated the support of residents for the project, their suggestions and concerns

### **3. Methods and participants on consultations**

- Provincial consultation with the participation of the concerned departments, mass organizations and the districts in the project area;
- Consultation at district level with the participation of the Ethnic Division and relevant stakeholders in the district about ethnic minority;
- Discussion group (3 groups) with 19 selected ethnic persons who would be affected from the different EM groups according to the standard of living, gender and age. A social expert guides the discussion and records the exchanging information under the guidance of social experts, to ensure no interference or coercion.

### **4. Summary of consultation results attained during preparation:**

- Confirmed that EMs are present in Quang Ninh and Thanh Hoa provinces.
- Confirmed support for activities on forest development, adaptation to natural disasters, particularly the development of the livelihood by season for local residents;
- Confirmed that forest activity should focus on addressing local livelihoods, income diversification especially the people in four provinces that confronted environmental incidents/ disasters including Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, and providing financial support for managing and tending the forest.
- Activities supporting EMs should follow the instructions and regulations of the Government and World Bank policy

### **Annex 3: Preliminary Screening of Ethnic Minorities/ some key questions**

When to conduct screening? at the time of the first consultation with a commune.

What information to collect? the screening will collect demographic data of ethnic minorities who live along the zone of influence.

How to collect the information? it can be obtained from ethnic leaders, village leaders and commune authorities and participant observation.

Who will conduct the screening? PMB's staff or their social consultants and specialists. Time required: estimation of screening of each commune to be completed.

#### **Annex 4: Social Assessment; some key questions**

When to conduct SA? if the screening results show that there are EMs households along the zone of influence of the subproject, a social impact assessment will be undertaken.

What information to collect? the SA will gather relevant information on the following: demographic data, social, cultural and economic situation; and social, cultural and economic impact-positive and negative-of the proposed sub-project of all project components.

How to collect the information in the locality? information will be gathered separate group meetings with the following ethnic minority groups: 1) EM leaders; 2) EM men; and 3) EM women, especially those who live in the zone of influence.

Who will conduct the SA? PMB staff or consultants.

What is the time required? the time for SA data collection for each commune will be determined and as well as the time to analyze the data and prepare the final report.

## **Annex 5: Summary of meeting minutes during consultation**

In August and September 2016, extensive consultations, prior consultations and consultations with information about the project were conducted by experts. The methods were implemented in accordance with local communities and affected ethnic minorities (EM). The concerns of vulnerable groups, especially the poor, landless, elder, women and children were carefully considered.

**Consultation objectives:** (i) Information about the project, including: general information, the scope of the project, the components of the project, the main activities of the project, the positive impacts, the negative impacts and mitigation measures, plans of the project; (ii) the existing management situation of coastal forests and the consensus with the project guidelines on planting, restoring and protecting forests; (iii) people's current livelihood and propose effective livelihood activities; (iv) the rural infrastructure and silviculture need investment from the project, potential impacts; (v) project support policies and compensation when there is impact due to land acquisition or restriction to resources access , grievance mechanism; (vi) the existing demining situation in the project regions and areas should be reviewed before implementing project activities.

**Consultation targets:** People's Committee of Provinces and relevant Departments; People's Committee of Communes and relevant organizations; Households and groups of households including the poor, average, well-to-do, single women, EM; Protection forest management boards, Forest protection departments.

### **Contents and key issues assessed during consultations:**

- Gathered information about current socio-economic situation, environment, the forest management and protection, problems need to be invested which are related to coastal forest management, livelihoods, rural infrastructure, issued problems, etc;
- Gathered perceptions and levels of acceptance or refusal from local people to the project; and jointly determined expected impacts social environmental impacts of the project
- Identified leaders organizations and individuals who are currently possessing and managing coastal forests, interests and conflicts between the parties that may occur during the project implementation, defined proposed solutions.
- Confirmed current livelihoods activities of people; identified the rural infrastructure and silviculture investment needs, those provided by the project, and the impacts that may occur; provided information on project support compensation to the affected people; documented existing demining situation in the project regions and areas that should be assessed before implementing project activities.
- Identified problems that may occur during the project implementation, such as land and livelihood impacts
- Identified impacts on EM communities, vulnerable groups such as the poor, the landless, elder, women and children.

### The summary of the consultations

No	Provinces, districts	Components	Consultation date
<b>I</b>	<b>Quang Ninh province</b>		
1	Consultation with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, People's Committee of Tien Yen district and Mong Cai City.		17and 18/8/2016
<p>- Hoang Cang Dang: Deputy Director of Department of Agriculture and Rural Development</p> <p>- Bui Xuan Hien: Director of Vietnam-Germany afforestation project</p> <p>- Hoang Cong Dung: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development</p> <p>- Le Duc Thanh: Head of Natural Resources and Environment Division of Tien Yen</p> <p>- Nguyen Ngoc Dung: Deputy Head of Finance Division of Mong Cai People's Committee</p> <p>- Le Thanh Nhan: Women's Union President of Mong Cai</p> <p>- Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan: Women's Union, Tien Yen district</p> <p>- Vi Van Nam: Ethnic Division, Tien Yen district</p> <p>- Representatives from other related departments.</p> <p><b>Summary of the results:</b></p> <p><b>Department of Agriculture and Rural Development:</b></p> <p>- Most of the mangroves in Quang Ninh are still monitored by the town and the Protection Forest Management Board. The project proposes to re-allocate it to the community because the actual deployment showed effectiveness in Dong Rui town. Mangroves forest should not be assigned to individuals but to communities, since conflicts are likely to occur between households.</p> <p>- The construction of rural infrastructure and forest protection proposed by the project do not lead to land withdrawal and resettlement because they are built in available area and the construction scale is small. If there is land withdrawal (garden or crops) during the project implementation.</p> <p>- The main income of people are from agriculture and fishery.</p> <p>- People welcome the project and look forward to its deployment because coastal and mangrove forests are especially important for them.</p> <p>- Saplings: Enterprises should be encouraged to saplings production since the project will buy it for afforestation. This can ensure the quality of saplings.</p> <p><b>Tien Yen district and Mong Cai city</b></p> <p>- Currently, local government has not assigned forests to communities for managing. If the project and the Government decide to do it, local People's Committee and people will agree.</p> <p>- Village 1 and village 2, Hai Tien town were the pioneers for reallocating forests to the communities during 2 years. Preliminary results show the effectiveness of the model since forests are well-developed and well-combined with seafood farming. The management and implementation are in accordance with the communities and regulations, Regulation Committee has been established.</p> <p>- The implemented models currently include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Extensive shrimp farming and crab farming: However, shrimp farming encountered risks, according to surveys, only 50% of households can get profits.</li> <li>+ Clams: High economic value, low risk but the output faces difficulties.</li> </ul> <p>- It will be good if the project can support to people to develop livelihoods, however new models need to be carefully analyzed and trained before implemented.</p> <p>- The need for credit loan is very high due to the shortage of investments. The project is hopefully to provide credit at low interest rate for loans, thus people could invest to agricultural production.</p>			



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The percentage of EM in the project region is not high, about 2,000 persons, mostly concentrated in Quang Nghia and Hai Hoa town, mainly Dao, Tay Hoa.</li> <li>- People are very welcomed the project and they look forward to its deployment.</li> </ul>			
2	Protection Forest Management Board of Mong Cai city, Quang Ninh province	Nguyen Danh Dang -Director of Protection Forest Management Board	18/8/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Currently the Protection Forest Management Board of Mong Cai is managing 1,293 ha of mangrove. If the project and the Government have plans to reallocate it to communities, the Management Board is willing to support and cooperate with people to ensure good forest protection.</li> <li>- Risks: After forests reallocating, people will use forest for other purposes. Therefore, good announcement with rules and clear conventions are required.</li> <li>- Currently, funding from the province to forest protection and management is limited which is only 10% of the needed, the Management Board has to take care the rest of it. Although the forest area is large, human resources are rather limited. Thus it will be good if the project can provide funding support to local people for forest protection.</li> <li>- Impacts of the project: Create more jobs, increase income for local people.</li> <li>- The project is suggested to provide to the Protection Forest Management Board funding, patrol vehicles, sentry towers and message boards.</li> <li>- The Protection Forest Management Board is willing to share responsibility and experience as well as techniques to people about forest planting, monitoring and management.</li> </ul>			
3	Van Ninh and Dong Rui commune, Quang Ninh province		19/8/2016 and 14/12/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bui Xuan Truong: Vice Chairman of Van Ninh commune People's Committee</li> <li>- Vu Hoang Tuan: Officer of Van Ninh commune People's Committee</li> <li>- Pham Thi Tan: Women's Union President of Van Ninh commune</li> <li>- Bui Van Tu: Village head</li> <li>- Pham Van Hai: Chairman of Dong Rui commune People's Committee</li> <li>- Kieu Van Nguyet: Farmers Association, Dong Rui commune</li> <li>- Representatives from other related departments.</li> </ul> <p><b>Summary of results:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Van Ninh commune is currently managing only 80 ha of mangrove among 1,675 ha available. The rest is monitored by the Management Board. If the project and the Government plans to reallocate forest to communities, Van Ninh commune is willing to support.</li> <li>- Being a poor commune, Van Ninh is lack of investments for rural and silvicultural infrastructures. Existing infrastructures have deteriorated much, including nursery and primary schools.</li> <li>- Expected constructions in the project do not require land clearance and resettlement. If land withdrawal is needed, the commune will encourage households to donate land. Experiences show that people in previous projects are willing to donate land for constructions.</li> <li>- The current model of agriculture production in the commune is mainly aquaculture (shrimp, crab) and chicken, pigs breeding. However, the output is not stable by depending on traders, thus the project is expected to develop to build a value chain for people.</li> <li>- For Dong Rui commune, the livelihood of the people is mainly seafood exploitation under the forest canopy, sea ducks breeding and planting sweet potatoes in the sand. In addition, there are several aquaculture projects to be planned. Dong Rui has ecotourism model. The mangrove forests here are protected by communities.</li> <li>- Currently, people are lack of investment. The project is expected to provide credit at low interests for loan for people to invest in agriculture production.</li> </ul>			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The percentage of ethnic minority households in the commune is very low (under 10). They marry local people.</li> <li>- Single women having difficulties situation is about 26 persons, such as no permanent homes, diseases, etc. The project is expected to have policies to support them.</li> <li>- People are willing to support the project.</li> </ul>			
4	Consultations with households in Van Ninh and Dong Rui commune	A total of 36 households, 19 in Van Ninh commune, 17 in Dong Rui commune	19 - 20/8/2016 and 14/12/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- People agreed with the project about reallocating forest to the communities for planting, protecting and restoring purposes in which they can exploit fishery resources under canopy forest.</li> <li>- The project is expected to support seedlings and technical training in aquaculture and horticulture as well as develop production and improve living conditions.</li> <li>- Currently, there is shortages of classrooms for students, roads are deteriorated, many places do not even have good quality road. The project thus is expected to invest and reduce difficulties for people.</li> <li>- Aqua productions are going on sale at very low prices, processing and preserving procedures are bad. The project is expected to help people on processing and preserving techniques as well as finding output for the products.</li> <li>- If the infrastructure projects and rural silviculture construction must withdraw a small portion of land, the farmers are willing to donate land.</li> <li>- People are in need of investment. It will be good if the project has a credit source to borrow at low interest for people.</li> </ul>			
<b>II</b>	<b>Nghe An province</b>		
1	Consultations with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Dien Chau district People's Committee		5 - 6/9/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nguyen Tien Lam: Deputy Director of Department of Agriculture and Rural Development</li> <li>- Nguyen Khac Hai: Forest Protection Department</li> <li>- Nguyen Cong Son: Head of Protection Forest Management Boards of Nghi Loc</li> <li>- Phan Xuan Vinh: Vice Chairman of Dien Chau district People's Committee</li> <li>- Phan Thi Huong: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Division, Dien Chau district</li> <li>- Dau Thi Nga: Women's Union, Dien Chau district</li> <li>- Representatives from other related departments.</li> </ul> <p><b>Summary of the results:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nghe An is ready to receive the project and look forward for its implementation. High level of provincial officers and funding will be assigned to the project. People are very happy.</li> <li>- For mangroves, they must be high and in good quality to live here. Coconut needs to be put in research to plant along the coast. Nghe An can ensure about seedlings since the province has more than 30 units to provide it.</li> <li>- After reallocating forest to the communities, if there is any misuse (defined in a procedure explained to beneficiaries and monitored), the district will withdraw the forest and give it to others.</li> <li>- Currently, some areas having coastal tourism generate negative effects to the forests by reducing the forest areas. Solutions for this situation are being planning.</li> <li>- Livelihoods support for coastal areas from here has advantages: favorable natural conditions, good quality of lands, abundant human resources with youth. For these groups livelihoods should be supported at households, communities; to villages levels</li> <li>- Demining process: Should implement in new areas but not in current areas.</li> <li>- For infrastructure: Land clearance and resettlement process are not needed. Land clearance construction will not be selected.</li> </ul>			

2	Dien Ngoc and Dien Thanh commune, Nghe An province	Ho Thi Tam: Chairwoman of Dien Thanh Commune People's Committee Nguyen Van Dung: Vice Chairman of Dien Ngoc Commune People's Committee	7/9/2016 and 16/12/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dien Thanh commune has 110 ha of coastal tourist areas to be planned, thus the forest area has been decreased. In protection forest area there is currently a number of households who use forest wrongly: They interwoven agricultural crops with forest trees.</li> <li>- People are willing to receive the project and agreed with the plan of reallocating forest to local community for managing and protecting purposes.</li> <li>- Both communes are lack of classrooms for primary schools as well as roads and irrigation systems. Constructions do not require land clearance, resettlement and land withdrawal.</li> <li>- Appropriate policies for better forest protection and management are recommended to force people do not use forest for improper purposes.</li> <li>- Clean vegetables models techniques are needed to increase incomes and ensure food safety for the communities.</li> <li>- Investments are needed thus the project is expected to have credit funds with low interest loans.</li> </ul>			
3	Consultation with households in Dien Ngoc and Dien Thanh commune, Nghe An province	A total of 52 households, 30 in Dien Ngoc commune, 22 in Dien Thanh commune	8/9/2016 and 16/12/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- People are agreed with the project, with the plan of reallocating forest to the local communities to grow, restore and protect it, in which they can exploit aqua production in permission.</li> <li>- The project is expected to provide support and training in processing and preserving seafood, as well as increasing the prices of the products.</li> <li>- Both communes are lacking of classrooms for primary schools, in many places roads are deteriorated. People are looking forward to support from the project.</li> <li>- People are willing to donate land (if needed) to implement the project, community supervision is required during the implementation to ensure the construction quality. In such cases, the land donation will need to follow the procedure established by the project, and ensure and evidence that it won't be affecting poor landholders</li> <li>- There are still a various number of households that are required to be supported: Poor people, single women, lacking-production-land households, etc. The project is expected to help those people. 2 communes do not have ethnic minority households.</li> <li>- Investments are needed thus the project is expected to have credit funds with low interest loans.</li> </ul>			
<b>III</b>	<b>Thanh Hoa province</b>		
1	Consultations with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development; Department of Forestry, Tinh Gia district People's Committee		9/9/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pham Chi Dung: Deputy Head of Forestry Department of Thanh Hoa</li> <li>- Trinh Quoc Tuan: Senior Officer of Forestry Department of Thanh Hoa</li> <li>- Le The Ky: Vice Chairman of Tinh Gia district People's Committee</li> <li>- Mai Van Chau: Director of Agriculture Division, Tinh Gia district People's Committee</li> <li>- Nguyen Thanh Phong: Deputy Head of the Protection Forest Management Board</li> <li>- Luong Thi Nhung: Vice President of Women's Union of Tinh Gia district</li> <li>- Representatives from other related departments.</li> </ul> <p><b>Summary of the results:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Thanh Hoa has 102 km of coastline and there are various number of provincial programs of afforestation, although they are in small scale due to the shortage of funding. People are willing to support the project and look forward to</li> </ul>			

<p>its implementation, however clear support mechanisms need to be clarified</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The coastal area of Thanh Hoa has very few of ethnic minorities. Support activities are still implemented even though.</li> <li>- Currently, the province has a specific plan for the coastal area for aquaculture and tourism thus there will be no conflicts between groups, however inefficient aquaculture zones will be converted to planting.</li> <li>- The construction of rural infrastructure and service do not require land withdrawal and resettlement, it will be implemented on available ground, in a small scale.</li> <li>- Clean vegetables models techniques are needed to increase incomes and ensure food safety for the communities.</li> <li>- At Hau Loc, people are using coastal line for boats mooring since the canals are too shallow to be accessible. The project is expected to invest for canals dredging, thus it will return coastal line for afforestation.</li> <li>- Seedlings: The province has prepared for the project.</li> <li>- Demining process should have been processed before the project because this region has left many landmines. JICA project has implemented in some areas but many places are in need to be considered.</li> <li>- Assessment and analyzed process on the socio-economy and environment should be implemented to propose mitigation measures.</li> </ul>			
2	Hai Ninh and Xuan Lam commune, Thanh Hoa province.	<p>Le Dinh Thang: Chairman of Hai Ninh Commune People's Committee</p> <p>Pham Duc Binh: Chairman of Xuan Lam Commune People's Committee</p> <p>Representatives from other related departments.</p>	10/9/2016 and 15/12/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- People are agreed with the project, with the plan of reallocating forest to the local communities to grow, restore and protect it.</li> <li>- Hai Ninh commune is a poor commune, there are more than 3 ha of mangrove and 8 ha of mudflats which currently are under of local government management. But people are willing to be assigned to management and reforestation stuffs. Casuarina forest has been reallocated to the community for management and exploitation.</li> <li>- The project is expected to provide support and training in processing and preserving seafood, as well as increasing the prices of the products.</li> <li>- Both communes are lacking of classrooms for primary schools, in many places roads are deteriorated. People are looking forward to support from the project. People are willing to donate land (if needed) to implement the project, community supervision is required during the implementation to ensure the construction quality.</li> <li>- There are still a various number of households that are required to be supported: Poor people, single women, lacking-production-land households, etc. The project is expected to help those people. 2 communes do not have ethnic minority households.</li> <li>- Investments are needed thus the project is expected to have credit funds with low interest loans.</li> </ul>			
<b>IV</b>	<b>Ha Tinh province</b>		
1	Consultations with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Forest Protection Management Boards, Thanh Ha District People's Committee		12/9/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nguyen Ba Thinh: Deputy Director of Department of Agriculture and Rural Development</li> <li>- Nguyen Xuan Hoan: ODA Deputy Chief Management</li> <li>- Nguyen Ngoc Lam: Deputy Director of Protection Forest Management Board of Ha Tinh</li> <li>- Nguyen Viet Ninh: Director of Ke Gio Nature Reserve Center</li> <li>- Nguyen Van Sau: Head of Agriculture Division, Thach Ha District People's Committee</li> <li>- Nguyen Thi Kieu Huong: Women's Union of Thach Ha district</li> </ul>			

- Representatives from other related departments.

**Summary of the results:**

- For sustainable forest management: There must have forest owners. The province will promote the forest reallocation to the community. A plan for management and protection also are needed.
- Seedlings: Seedlings must adapt for each area with different types of soils, a plan to ensure the quality is needed.
- To protect forests effectively, funding must be increased to allocate to people and raise their awareness as well as support them with good infrastructure and livelihood patterns.
- About the environment: After the Formosa incident, the province will not allow any other incident which is harmful to the environment to occur. People will be encouraged to monitor and manage the environment.
- About people supporting: Understanding the real need of people is required thus there should have experts to examine and propose appropriate livelihood patterns.
- People agreed with the project, with the plan of reallocating forest to the local communities to restore and protect it.
- Livelihoods: The province has nearly 11,000 models of different agricultural livelihoods. Appropriate models should have been chosen during the project. There will be no land withdrawal and resettlement.
- There will be no conflicts between the parties if good plans and proper processes are implemented.
- Demining process should have been processed before the project because this region has left many landmines.
- Coastal climate is very extreme, windy storms occur frequently thus the funding level of reforestation needs to be increased in order to implement the planting, restoring and protecting process.

2	Ho Do and Cam Linh commune, Ha Tinh province	Phan Dinh Hinh: Chairman of Ho Do commune People's Committee Tran Dinh Lam: Chairman of Cam Linh commune People's Committee Tran Van Huu: Commune Party Committee Secretary	13/9/2016 and 17/12/2016
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- Ho Do commune has totally 60.23 ha of mangrove, this is the best commune of Ha Tinh in terms of mangrove protection. Mangroves are important over here, namely: Being green walls to protect people against sea waves, wind storms; seafood resources and an aquatic life under the forest canopy.
- Commune Forest protection: The commune has built a convention in villages, who violates will be punished and the discover will be rewarded. The mangroves here are beautiful thus the project is expected to invest to the eco-tourism activities.
- Do Ho commune has 15 ha for forest planting, seedlings should be in place.
- Consensus: The commune and people are looking forward to the project.
- Suggest to the project to invest in infrastructure, especially home during storms, in silvicultural infrastructure to protect forests.
- Cam Linh commune has 4 ha where it was forested. It is currently assigned to the community to manage and protect. Each village has selected 20 experienced households to participate in forest protection. However, funding is limited thus the people are all volunteers. In the other hand, Cam Linh has 31 ha of areas which can be afforested, but appropriate analyzing needs to be done.
- The construction of rural infrastructure and service works on forest protection do not require land withdrawal and resettlement. They will be made on the available grounds, in small-scale.
- Demining processes are not required because the area has been reviewed before.

3	Consultation with households in Ho Do and Cam Linh commune, Ha Tinh province	A total of 48 households, 21 in Ho Do commune, 27 in Cam Linh commune	14/9/2016 and 17/12/2016
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- People are agreed with the project, with the plan of reallocating forest to the local communities to grow, restore and

protect it.

- There was a reforestation plan 10 years ago but it ended without funding for forest protection, therefore the forest areas have been reduced. Lesson-learn must be drawn in this regard.
- Both communes are lacking of classrooms for primary schools, in many places roads are deteriorated. People are looking forward to support from the project. People are willing to donate land (if needed) to implement the project, community supervision is required during the implementation to ensure the construction quality. In such cases, the land donation will need to follow the procedure established by the project, and ensure an evidence that it won't be affecting poor landholders
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- There are a various number of households that are required to be supported: Poor people, single women, lacking-production-land households, etc. The project is expected to help those people.
- Investments are needed thus the project is expected to have credit funds with low interest loans.
- Investigation in each area needs to be done to select appropriate plants which can adapt to the climatic conditions.
- The seafood models here are very consistent. The project is expected to support livestock breeders to help people improving their lives.

<b>V</b>	<b>Thua Thien Hue province</b>		
1	Consultations with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Forest Protection Department, Forest Protection Funding Association, Quang Dien district People's Committee		6/9/2016

- Pham Ngoc Dung: Deputy Head of Forest Protection Department of Thua Thien Hue
- Nguyen Duc Huy: Forest Protection Department of Thua Thien Hue
- Tran Van Lap: Director of Protection Forest Management Board of Bac Hai Van
- Ha Van Tuan: Vice Chairman of Quang Dien district People's Committee
- Pham Canh Nguu: Farmer association, Quang Dinh district
- Representatives from other related departments.

**Summary of the results:**

- Thua Thien Hue has mainly sand forests and hilly forests. Mangroves forests exists only in the mudflats. Native trees are planted on hill (mountain area to the sea). Crops cultivation requires higher techniques than the mangroves trees.
- Livelihood issues: Agro-forestry model livestock under the forest canopy, eco-tourism model based on lagoon (Tam Giang, Cau Hai).
- People are agreed with the project, with the plan of reallocating forest to the local communities to grow, restore and protect it.
- Quang Dien district has more than 8.5 km of coastline, sandy area is large, the annual volume of sand blow in 2 communes Quang Cong and Quang Ngan is big. To resist this phenomenon and develop protection forests, in recent years, the local government encouraged people planting trees on the coastal lands. Farmers in 2 communes have planted about 65 ha of forest on this sandy coastal area. Forests help to reduce the amount of sand blow every year and ensure the security for people of Quang Dien district.
- The province is always ready to receive this project and look forwards its implementation. Provincial officers and means will be assigned to implement the project. People are happy with the project.
- There will be no land withdrawal and resettlement during the project. The coastal area has very poor transportation infrastructure thus it will need about 45 km of silvicultural road to patrol and guard the forest.
- Gender issues: Most of the afforestation is undertaken by women (60-65%).
- The project region has no EM, but refinement will be conducted.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- After reallocating forests to the community for management, if there are any misuses, the local government will take forests back and handle to others.</li> <li>- Demining problem: There is a Norwegian project implementing in Phong Dien district. Other districts should conduct reviews in the new growing areas.</li> </ul>	
2	Phu Loc town, Thua Thien Hue province		7/9/2016 and 15/12/2016
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Forests in Phu Loc include coastal protection forests, mangrove forests and hilly forests. The hilly forests have been recovered and can be exploited (acacia, casuarina, etc). Mangroves forests are mostly apiculata.</li> <li>- Currently people livelihoods are mainly exploiting and aquaculture. People agreed with benefits from mangroves forest thus they want to restore it to for environment protection, ecological restoration and fishery resources.</li> <li>- The expectation of local government is now dispersing plants to develop eco-tourism.</li> <li>- Investment on silviculture road to Hoi Mit residential area, An Cu about 1-1.4 km.</li> <li>- For protection forest of the North Hai Van, 01 watch tower is needed a long with 100 ha of afforestation and 500 ha of restoration.</li> </ul>	
3	Quang Cong and Lang Co commune, Thua Thien Hue province		8/9/2016 and 15/12/2016
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In Quang Cong commune, protection forests are mainly Casuarina and Acacia, they are planted to resist sand blow to develop production and fishing. Mangroves are difficult to plant over here due to deep water and high cultivation costs. Protection forests are assigned to the community for management and protection purpose. After 10 years forests will be exploited and people can use around 30%.</li> <li>- In Lang Co commune, mangroves are mainly in the mudflats in the east. Afforestation in this area is difficult, new construction is required. In the West, breakwater is needed.</li> <li>- Quang Cong and Lang Co has currently 40 ha of forests and 200 ha will be afforested.</li> <li>- People are agreed with the project, with the plan of reallocating forest to the local communities.</li> <li>- Both communes are lacking of classrooms for primary schools and roads as well as irrigation systems. There will be no land withdrawal and resettlement during the project.</li> <li>- People are willing to donate land (if needed) to implement the project, community supervision is required during the implementation to ensure the construction quality. In such cases, the land donation will need to follow the procedure established by the project, and ensure and evidence that it won't be affecting poor landholders</li> <li>-</li> <li>- The project should implement appropriate policies for protecting forests from misuse purposes.</li> <li>- Investments are needed thus the project is expected to have credit funds with low interest loans.</li> <li>- Both communes have no EM.</li> </ul>	
<b>VI</b>	<b>Quang Tri province</b>		
1	Consultations with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Forest Protection Department, Forest Protection Management Boards of Thach Han river and Ben Hai river, Gio Linh district People's Committee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Khong Trung: Head of Forest Protection Department of Quang Tri</li> <li>- Doan Viet Cong: Deputy Head of Forest Protection Department of Quang Tri</li> <li>- Le Thi Huong: Senior officer of Department of Agriculture and Rural Development</li> <li>- Phan Thi Mo: Natural Resources and Environment Division, Gio Linh district</li> <li>- Tran Thi Cuc: President of Women's Union of Gio Linh</li> <li>- Nguyen Van Thuc: Agriculture and Rural Development Division of Gio Linh district</li> </ul>	9/9/2016

		- Representatives from other related departments.	
<b>Summary of the results:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quang Tri has over 31,000 ha of sand, including 8,000 ha of inland sand which are mainly concentrated in Vinh Linh, Gio Linh, Trieu Phong and Hai Lang district. To improve the environment, since 1993, through programs and projects on coastal areas, Quang Tri has established more than 7,000 ha of forest protection and 10,000 ha of production forests.</li> <li>- Currently, the province has 3,000 ha of barren sand which are not yet to be greened by afforestation project. The main reason is lacking investment funding, some people do not appreciate the role of forests over sand.</li> <li>- Due to the steep terrain and the components which are mainly sandy soil, Quang Tri is not suitable for mangrove development, there is only a small area of mangrove in estuaries.</li> <li>- People livelihoods are mainly fishing and livestock. Some other models include beekeeping which is around 300-500 barrels in terms of scale. In addition, the province has salamanders model but it is only in the testing stage.</li> <li>- Seedlings garden: The province has many gardens for seedlings, mainly by households. Currently there are 23 gardens with good quality standards, licensed by local governments.</li> <li>- Currently protection forests have not been assigned yet to the communities for management purpose yet but the local government has a plan to do it.</li> <li>- Difficulties in local afforestation: Soil are mainly mobile dunes, semi-submerged and submerged which are very difficult to plant. For protection forests, Casuarina forests are allocated to the communities for managing but there is no financial support for the people. Also, the exploitation does not give much income.</li> <li>- Experiences from previous projects show that in the end of the project, forests were being assigned to local communities for management but there is problem of financial support thus forests do not have enough protection.</li> <li>- Demining process: There are many projects which performed this process.</li> <li>- There will be no land withdrawal and resettlement during the project.</li> <li>- Local government and people are ready to receive the project and they are agreed with the project guidelines.</li> </ul>			
2	Consultations with Trung Giang and Gio My commune, Quang Tri province	Tran Xuan Tuong: Chairman of Trung Giang commune People's Committee Nguyen Dinh Do: Gio My Commune People's Committee	9/9/2016 and 16/12/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The local government is agreed with the project guidelines of reallocating forests to the communities for managing. Currently, forests are assigned to villages and funding are provided by the commune.</li> <li>- The main livelihood models are agro-forestry and mallard breeding.</li> <li>- Infrastructure: Water systems are expected to be supported by the project. Land withdrawal and land clearance are not required.</li> <li>- There are a various number of households that are required to be supported: Poor people, single women, lacking-production-land households. There is no EM in both communes.</li> <li>- Investments are needed thus the project is expected to have credit funds with low interest loans.</li> <li>- Agricultural and fishery products are at low prices, processing and preserving procedures are bad. The project is expected to support on processing and preserving techniques, as well as providing outputs for the products.</li> <li>- The project will create more jobs and increase income for local people.</li> </ul>			
3	Consultations with Trung Giang and Gio My commune households, Quang Tri province	A total of 50 households, 26 in Trung Giang commune, 24 in Gio My commune	10/9/2016 and 16/12/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- People agreed with the project and the policy of reallocating forests to the communities for management, restoration and protection purposes. However, appropriate policies with reasonable assistance need to be provided to people to</li> </ul>			



assure their responsibilities.

- Currently, the communes are lack of water supply systems and classrooms for primary schools. People expect that the project and the government will support them to reduce their difficulties. The constructions do not need land withdrawal. However, people are willing to contribute their land if needed. In such cases, the land donation will need to be followed the procedure established by the project, and ensure and evidenced that won't be affecting poor landholders
- There are still a various number of households that are required to be supported: Poor people, single women, lacking-production-land households, etc. The project is expected to help those people.
- Investments are needed thus the project is expected to have credit funds with low interest loans.
- Agricultural and fishery products are at low prices, processing and preserving procedures are bad. The project is expected to support on processing and preserving techniques, as well as providing outputs for the products.

<b>VII</b>	<b>Quang Binh province</b>		
1	Consultations with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Forest Protection Department of Quang Binh, Quang Ninh district People's Committee		12/9/2016

- Nham Thanh Duy: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Luu Duc Kien: Deputy Head of Forests Department of Quang Binh
- Nguyen Van Hue: Forests Department of Quang Binh
- Nguyen Viet Anh: Chairman of Quang Ninh district People's Committee
- Nguyen Thi T Tam: Vice President of Women's Union of Quang Ninh district
- Representatives from other related departments.

**Summary of the results:**

- Quang Binh has a total of 174,482 ha of protection forests to be planned, so far until now 149,564 ha is under management and protection, which is about 23% of the forest land over the province.
- Forests in sand: Casuarina, Acacia. Forests in sand gives low productivity and economic value thus to develop the forests sustainably, people need to be supported.
- Mangroves forests in Quang Ninh district have hundreds of years old, some can reach over 20 years. Currently there is only one household can grow trees from local seedlings.
- Previously, protection forests are under management of forest enterprises thus it is lack of coordination with the local government and illegal exploitations occur frequently. Since the new policy is applied, forests management require the participation of all political systems in which the Protection Forest Department is the core. With this model, forests are well-protected and strengthen.
- Quang Ninh district: Planting, protecting and forest fire preventing are being focused. The whole district plant 1,183 ha, assign 2,836 ha to 728 households and 4 villages, reallocate land and land use to 525 households for regeneration, protection and afforestation.
- The forest reallocation to local communities is expected to be successful because human resources are available in the province.
- Local livelihoods model:
  - + Agro-forestry model brings high economic value: Pig, chicken, fish, ducks breeding etc. Crops: Grass, watermelon (total of 70 ha), maize (18-24 tons/ha, total of 20 ha), sweet potatoes in sand (these products are the specialties of the province).
  - + Fish cages, shrimp farming in mangrove areas.
  - + Eco tourism, spiritual tourism.
- Local government and the people are very supportive to the project and look forward to its implementation because

<p>coastal areas are very important to the environment and them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The constructions do not need land withdrawal and resettlement because they are built in the available grounds, in a small scale. In average, each commune should have a silvicultural road of &lt;5 km in length.</li> <li>- There is no EM in the project region. They live in the mountainous area outside the project commune.</li> </ul>			
2	Consultations with Gia Ninh and Hien Ninh commune, Quang Binh province		13/9/2016 and 17/12/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- People welcomed the project and agreed with the policy of reallocating forests to local communities for management and protection purposes.</li> <li>- Hien Ninh commune has 8 villages including 5 riverside villages with mangroves, the People's Committee has allocated forests to local villages, thereby people are very supportive to the forests management and protection.</li> <li>- Long Dai, Hien Ninh commune has 30 ha of mangroves but until now due to erosion, this area has left only 20 ha (the total area of Hien Ninh commune is about 50 ha). Fundings are mainly taken from the reserved fund of the local government (human resources are mainly from communal militia).</li> <li>- Both communes are lacking of classrooms for primary schools and roads as well as irrigation systems. There will be no land withdrawal and resettlement during the project.</li> <li>- Support to build silvicultural roads and embankments in Thuan Bac and Thuan Dong</li> <li>- Livelihoods: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ People are in need of built watermelon value chain, maize and training courses to raise awareness of the communities about afforestation and forest protection.</li> <li>+ Under the forest canopy, incense can be planted because this can live in drought and do not need a lot of sunshine. This is planted to serve the Lunar new year because there is no output and cultivation funding.</li> <li>+ Currently, 50% of the growing depends on natural water, there is no irrigation systems of the government. Productivity thus is being affected.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Investments are needed thus the project is expected to have credit funds with low interest loans.</li> <li>- There is no EM in both communes.</li> <li>- Afforestation difficulties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ No funding for forest protection. Guards mainly are from police with limited responsibilities.</li> <li>+ Cork forests grow fast but the trees are very weak and often fall during hurricane season.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- The clean water issue is essential to local people. They do not have clean water to use due to the limitation in funding. People are using water from wells but it is alum and saline.</li> <li>- The urgent task is to restore mangroves forest in the eastern and northern village of Tan Hien and Dong Tru district to prevent erosion, protect farmland and houses.</li> </ul>			
<b>VIII</b>	<b>Hai Phong province</b>		
1	Consultations with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Forest Protection Department of Hai Phong, Do Son District People's Committee		20/9/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Luyen Cong Khanh: Deputy Head of Forest Protection Department of Hai Phong</li> <li>- Bui Xuan Chuyen: Head of Forest Protection Unit of Kien Thuy - Do Son</li> <li>- Cao Thi Hai Xuan: Deputy Head of Forest Protection Unit of Kien Thuy - Do Son</li> <li>- Phan Thi Phuong: Deputy Manager of Economy Division, Do Son district, Hai Phong</li> </ul> <p><b>Summary of the results:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Coastal forests are important to Hai Phong because the province faces 3 to 5 hurricanes annually (the national average is about 6 to 7 hurricanes/year), causing tremendous damage to dyke systems and the population.</li> <li>- The entire forest area and coastal forest land of Hai Phong are being managed by the commune People's Committee.</li> </ul>			

<p>It annually allocates forests to some following organizations to manage, such as: the Red Cross, military, the community households. Funding resources are from the city's budget (200,000 VND/ha/year).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The importance of forests: The capacity of dyke's protection against waves and sand blow to ensure coastal people's lives, improve the environment ecology, limit sea pollution and accelerate the expansion of tidal sedimentation and aquatic breeding grounds.</li> <li>- The livelihoods include farming, fishing, ecotourism activities, grazing livestock, waterfowl, beekeeping, etc.</li> <li>- The province and people are welcomed the project and look forward its implementation because the coastal forests are very important to the environment.</li> <li>- The constructions of the project do not need land withdrawal and resettlement because they are built in the available grounds, in small scales.</li> <li>- There are no EM living in the project region.</li> <li>- Demining process: There are many projects which performed this process.</li> </ul>			
2	Consultations with Bang La commune, Do Son district, Hai Phong province		20/9/2016 and 13/12/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bang La commune has currently 360 ha of mangrove forest. It had been planted in 1993 but being destroyed before afforestation in 1998 by the project of the Japanese Red Cross. From 1998 to 2005, forests have been grown steadily including afforestation and forest enrichment.</li> <li>- Currently the afforestation area is about 1,200 ha. Plantation land has mainly sand and mud thus afforestation encounters difficulties. In addition, protection measures against waves and wind are required.</li> <li>- Forests protection are being assigned to the forest protection groups.</li> <li>- Local livelihoods are mainly beekeeping and fishing under the canopy as well as developing eco-tourism. In addition, there are local specialties such as apples and tomatoes, farmers are in need of support to build their brand.</li> <li>- Infrastructure: The project is expected to support for the dredging, equip more boats, personal protective stuffs to protect forests. Build 02 watchtowers and apartments for forest protection groups. The commune also is in need to build a place for cultural activities.</li> <li>- Investments are needed thus the project is expected to have credit funds with low interest loans.</li> </ul>			
3	Consultations with Dai Hop commune, Kien Thuy district, Hai Phong province		20/9/2016 and 13/12/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Afforestation is effective since 1998 supported by the Japanese Red Cross. Afforestation and forest management are allocated to households and security organizations thus forests are well developed.</li> <li>- Mangroves forests have mainly Rhizophora and Apiculata.</li> <li>- The main livelihood models are: Agriculture, exploitation and aquaculture with a total average income of 31 million VND/year/person.</li> <li>- Investment categories needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ 01 fishing port</li> <li>+ 03 watchtowers, 01 school</li> <li>+ Dredge the creek and build silvicultural roads.</li> <li>+ Construction of a silvicultural road of 2.5 km of length to avoid flooding and to increase the protection, exploitation and fishing productivity.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- The constructions do not need land withdrawal or land compensation. There is no EM living in the project area.</li> </ul>			