

January 25, 2012

Comments from the United States on the Approval by mail for the Supplemental Document to Lao PDR's Investment Plan under the Forest Investment Program

Dear Patricia,

We much appreciate the very helpful supplemental information provided by the Government of Lao PDR on its FIP investment plan and have no objections to moving forward with the proposed decision below.

Looking down the road to the presentation of individual projects outlined in the plan, we would find it extremely helpful for each project document to: identify the context and relevance of the project in relation to the bigger REDD+ picture in Lao PDR, explain fully the interventions and approaches proposed, as well as how such interventions/approaches will deal with key drivers and promote “transformational change,” explain how FIP financing is additional (keeping in mind FIP financing modalities), and address the sustainability and economic viability of approaches advocated. We would also appreciate a full discussion of community consultation activities and results, and any impacts on natural forests (with respect to project 2).

Thanks once again for this opportunity to comment.

Best,

Katie Berg
US Treasury