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**Facilitating the Formation and Capacity Development  
for Viet Nam Forest Owners Association (VIFORA)  
Project final workshop**

**Background:**

“Facilitating the Formation and Capacity Development for Viet Nam Forest Owners Association” Project is funded by Mekong Regional Land Governance (MRLG) under Innovation Fund Award No. I-V-2015-0042 which has become effective since December 15, 2015 until December 31, 2017 with 3 months extension until March 31, 2018. The project is implemented by RECOFTC-The Center for People and Forests in close collaboration with Viet Nam Administration of Forestry (VNFORST). The project sites include 3 provinces of Viet Nam namely Quang Ninh, Phu Tho and Son La.

The project has two objectives: (i) Viet Nam Forest Owners Association is established with effective governance structure and policies to support increasing number of forest owners, particularly women and ethnic minorities, build their capacities to protect their rights and realize the benefits from forest ownership; and (ii) Viet Nam Forest Owners Association is capacitated to engage in government’s policy processes. The project has 4 key outputs: (i) Community-level forest owners in Viet Nam form their organization, (ii) Relevant capacities of VIFORA members are enhanced, (iii) Participation of key members of VIFORA and representatives increased and Output (iv) Project management and coordination run smoothly.

To date, the official registration of VIFORA has been acquired and key capacities of its members have been enhanced thanks to a number of activities implemented under the project. This includes CDNA, a ToT program for VIFORA key members on market analysis and development (MA&D) followed by training at the community level, a study tour on forest plantation for VIFORA members, training on communication skills and resource mobilization skills for VIFORA leadership members have been organized. As VIFORA key members needed to further improve their capacity for enhancing their livelihood and incomes from forests a study tour to Thailand for VIFORA members followed by preparation of a 3-year action plan for VIFORA” has been organized as well. Besides, VIFORA representatives have also been given opportunities to participate in national and regional events. To better prepare

the project stakeholders for the future when the project lifetime has already expired, a wrap-up workshop at national level will be organized.

**Objectives:**

The specific objectives of this workshop are:

- To provide workshop participants with an overview about the project results;
- To share project lessons learnt and products.

**Time:** this will be a one-day workshop to be held on March 9, 2018

**Venue:** Meeting Hall # 7, La Thanh Guest house, 218 Doi Can St., Hanoi, Vietnam

**Participants:** The workshop will bring around forty representatives from project implementing partners including Vietnam Administration of Forestry (VNFOREST), Vietnam Forest Owners' Association (VIFORA) and relevant stakeholders at national and sub-national, and community levels. From and sub-national and community levels, each out of three project provinces will contribute up to 10 members.

**Workshop contents:**

Main contents of the workshop include:

Overview about the project results: General information about the project and a summary of the results of the project implementation will be presented by the national project coordinator highlighting the key achievements of the project over two years. Afterwards, VIFORA at central level and VIFORA at community level from each of three participating provinces namely Son La, Phu Tho and Quang Ninh, will share key achievements and lessons learnt of the project at each respective level.

Reflection about the project implementation: A panel consisting of representatives of VIFORA at central level and VIFORA at community level from three project provinces will be formulated. In the Panel Discussion, the representatives will be invited to talk about their impressions about the project, touching upon project approach, capacity building strategies, key achievements and lessons learnt.

Sharing stories from the ground: As VIFORA members at each level each VIFORA may have its own stories to share with the others, their representatives will be invited to the panelist desk to directly tell these stories, which can be success stories or stories of change from the ground.

Thinking toward the future: A discussion on how VIFORA will continue its operation in the future after the project end will be held. Key question to be discussed is "What

will the association do to after the project lifetime making use its strengths and the achievements?”

Presentation of VIFORA 3-year action plan: The above session will be followed by a sharing VIFORA 3-year action plan to be presented by a representative from VIFORA.

Sharing project products: Project communication products, and training manuals will be displaced during the workshop course for free distribution to all participants.

**Deliverable:** The output of this workshop will be a report comprising of a summary of the outcomes from the workshop including initial impression of the project performance, lessons learnt and proposed strategies to ensure the project sustainability.