



REDD+ STORY

Thailand

19.09.2023

Introduction

Thailand submitted its 1st forest reference emission level (FREL) and forest reference level (FRL) in 2021 and completed the technical assessment process for both FREL and FRL with the submission of the modified reference levels. Thailand is currently implementing REDD+ activities in order to be eligible to seek and obtain results-based payments. This article describes Thailand's story from starting REDD+ to completing the technical assessment process for its FREL and FRL.

Thailand provided the information in this article to the secretariat, as a snapshot of REDD+ implementation in the country for the celebration of the 10-years anniversary of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+.

REDD+ history in Thailand

In 2016, Thailand began its REDD+ readiness phase. This phase was proceeded as a project “Thailand Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP)” and implemented by the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation.¹

A challenge Thailand encountered during this phase was the lack of knowledge and clear understanding of the REDD+ framework. This resulted in the indecisive nature of the process. Thailand addressed this in several ways, such as visiting neighboring countries that successfully implemented REDD+. It also held and participate in REDD+ knowledge strengthening workshops and consulted with the Task Team Leader and experts from national and international partners including UN-REDD, the World Bank and FAO.

As a result, under the R-PP, knowledge has been disseminated about REDD+ framework and related topics which would enhance the rules of forest sectors for implementing climate change mitigation.

Another key milestone was the establishment of 9 Forest and Climate Change Education and Action Centers. A major objective of each center is to disseminate information regarding REDD+ and climate change, build community networks, and encourage the target group as well as local communities to participate in forest plantation and reforestation activities.

The readiness phase in Thailand was completed in 2021 with the submission of the 1st forest reference emission level (FREL) and forest reference level (FRL)² corresponding to 12,341,444 tCO₂eq/year and -28,622,811 tCO₂eq/year respectively, for the same reference period 2006–2016.

¹ In Thailand, DNP is mainly responsible for the conservation forest area. Other forest organizations are in charge of different areas, such as reserved forest area, mangrove forests and economic forest plantation.

² Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/tar2021_THA.pdf.

9 Forest and Climate Change Education and Action Centers (FCCEAC) in Thailand

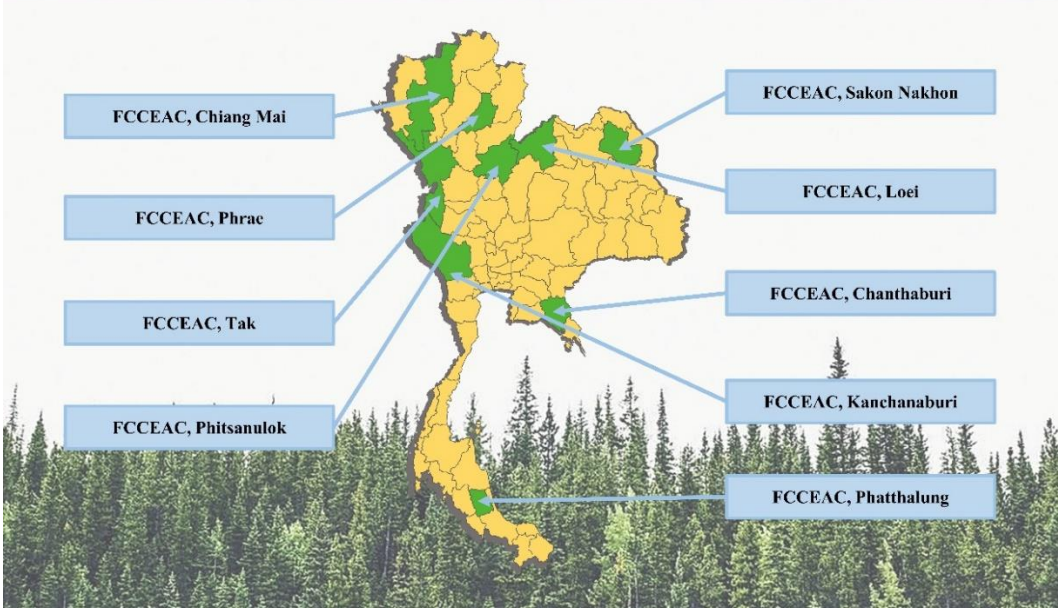


Figure 1 Location of 9 Forest and Climate Change Education and Action Centers (provided by Thailand government)



Figure 2 REDD+ activity (provided by Thailand government)

To move forward on REDD+, the Department of National Parks, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation (DNP) is now developing the 1st Summary of Information to express country progress on REDD+ development, with FAO support under the SFT-LMR³ project. DNP is also seeking funding both domestically and internationally for the establishment of the REDD+ project.

Key stakeholders

Stakeholders in Thailand are categorized into 7 groups (see Figure 4). All stakeholders have been involved in REDD+ development in Thailand through several consultation workshops and meetings.



Figure 3 REDD+ workshop (provided by Thailand government)

³ Sustainable Forest Trade in the Lower Mekong Region (<https://www.un-redd.org/lowermekong>)

In particular, Thailand held national workshops to consolidate youth's opinions and key messages about REDD+. In implementing the R-PP, Thailand put all stakeholders'

engagement as a high priority and took their suggestions into account for designing REDD+ activities.

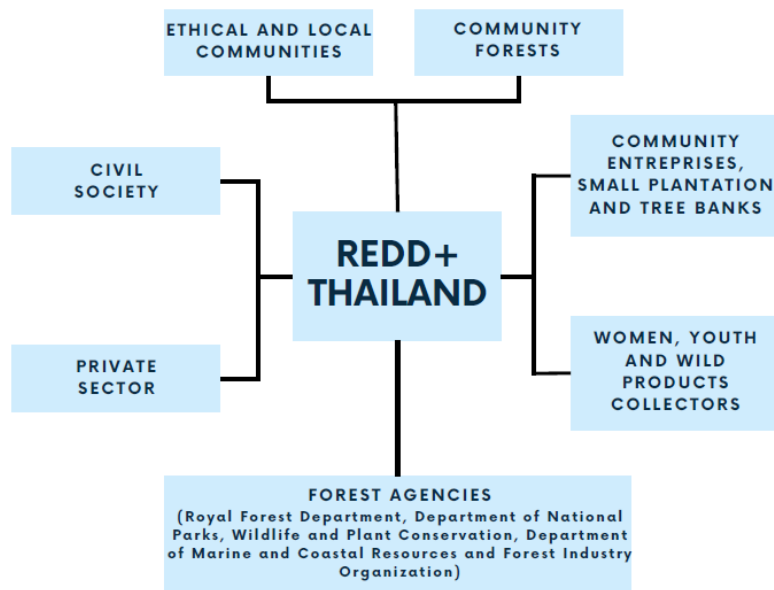


Figure 4 REDD+ stakeholder in Thailand

Support received

As mentioned above, Thailand received a wide array of financial and technical support from international partners, including the World Bank, Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), FAO and UNFCCC (Table 1).

Table 1 International cooperation Thailand has received

Partner	Support Received
World Bank	Technical assistant, project administration, guidance and monitoring project implementation.
FCPF	Finance and technical assistant to implement the R-PP project.
FAO	Technical assistance for the development of FRL and National Forest Monitoring System

Links to other reports

Thailand has just completed its readiness phase of REDD+ and has not yet made its results. However, technical suggestions from forest experts during the technical assessment

process contributed to the improvement of the carbon stock data. These suggestions will be implemented into future reports including the National Communication, Biennial Transparency Report and National Forest Inventory.

The success of REDD+ is critical to achieve climate change targets in Thailand, such as Carbon Neutrality and Net Zero Emissions. In order to implement REDD+ in Thailand, continuous funding is required.



Figure 5 Consultation for National REDD+ Strategy

For more information, see [Thailand's country page](#) on the REDD+ Web Platform.