

Nagaon Stakeholder Mapping Report

Lowering Emissions And Enhancing Forests (LEAF) in Nagaon, Assam



Estimation of Potential Value of Ecosystem Services and Development of REDD+ Project for Assam (TA-9)

**Lowering Emissions And Enhancing Forests (LEAF) in
Nagaon, Assam**

Nagaon District Stakeholder Map

**Assam Project on Forest and Biodiversity Conservation
&
IORA Ecological Solutions**

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Abbreviations

APFBCS	Assam Project on Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Society
ARIASS	Assam Rural Infrastructure & Agricultural Services Society
AYUSH	Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Sidhha and Homoeopath
ATI	Assam Textile Institute
BCDI	Bamboo and Cane Development Institute
BMC	Biodiversity Management Committee
CAMPA	Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CSIR	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
DoEF	Department of Environment and Forests, Government of Assam
ICAR	Indian Council for Agricultural Research
ICFRE	The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE)
IICPT	Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology
IIE	Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship
IIT	Indian Institute of Technology
IOC	Indian Oil Corporation
JFMC	Joint Forest Management Committee
LBCS	Laokhowa Burhachapori Wildlife Conservation Society
MDoNER	Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
MoEFCC	Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change
MoRD	Ministry of Rural Development
NEIST	North East Institute of Science and Technology
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIRD	National Institute of Rural Development
ONGC	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RFRI	Rain Forest Research Institute
SMPB	State Medicinal Plants Board
VFC	Village Forest Committee
WII	Wildlife Institute of India
WTI	Wildlife Trust of India
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

1. Introduction

The Government of Assam is engaged in the development of Jurisdictional REDD+ project in Assam to avail intended benefits of REDD+ mechanism which includes carbon and non-carbon benefits from forestry and allied sectors such as biodiversity conservation, sustainable organic farming and ecosystem services which are integral to REDD+ project implementation according to National Policy. This project will assist the State of Assam in conserving and enhancing its forest carbon stock and developing capacity in utilization of national and/or international incentive mechanisms on climate change and forestry through a REDD+ pilot project in Assam; the co-benefits being the environment and social benefits.

The nodal Department for the advancement and implementation of Jurisdictional REDD+ in Assam is Department of Environment and Forests (DoEF), Government of Assam, with technical assistance from IORA Ecological Solutions.

Every project has its own unique influence on its stakeholders. And to ensure project success, it is important to assess roles, responsibilities, dependencies and impacts of each stakeholder. Hence, it is imperative that the pilot Jurisdictional REDD+ projects being developed in Assam take cognizance of this, and map out all plausible stakeholders who may directly or indirectly affect the project or be affected by the project. Therefore, all potential stakeholders in the REDD+ landscape in Assam have been mapped for this project¹. The mapping has been conducted in multiple phases, and will be validated after consultations with various thought-leaders in the sector as well as with the DoEF and other stakeholders in the Nagaon district. The scope of this report is limited to Nagaon district of Assam.

2. Classification of Stakeholders

Mapping of stakeholders was done for Nagaon district after analysis of multiple criteria, enabling a clear understanding of their influence on implementing the REDD+ project in the district. The stakeholders have been categorized as **Veto**, **Key**, **Primary** and **Secondary** stakeholders based on their extent of influence, assessed using secondary literature study and expert consultations². The categorization is described as under:

Veto stakeholders — Principal stakeholders with decision making powers having a direct impact on the REDD+ project, with authority to define the direction of the project.

Key stakeholders — Stakeholders that directly affect demand-supply scenarios of forest resources or have a strong influence on forestry project activities. They contribute significantly through their direct participation in the REDD+ project, and are expected to be involved with the project throughout. Their support is crucial in achieving the objectives of the project.

Primary stakeholders — Stakeholders that may be affected by project outcomes or are directly influenced by project activities.

Secondary stakeholders — Stakeholders who are temporarily involved or have an indirect interest in the actual project activities. Their actions may have an impact on the REDD+ project. They are involved in research activities, capacity building and training, and other forestry extension activities. These usually are organizations with technical know-how, but are not directly affected by the project activities. The

¹ The methodology that has been used for stakeholder mapping has been adapted from the GIZ Capacity Works tool.

² The list may stand revised after DoEF's input.

dissemination of knowledge regarding the aspects of REDD+ is a very important operation performed by the secondary stakeholders.

The set of tables below lists the above mentioned categories of stakeholders and elaborates on their proposed roles and responsibilities in the REDD+ project.

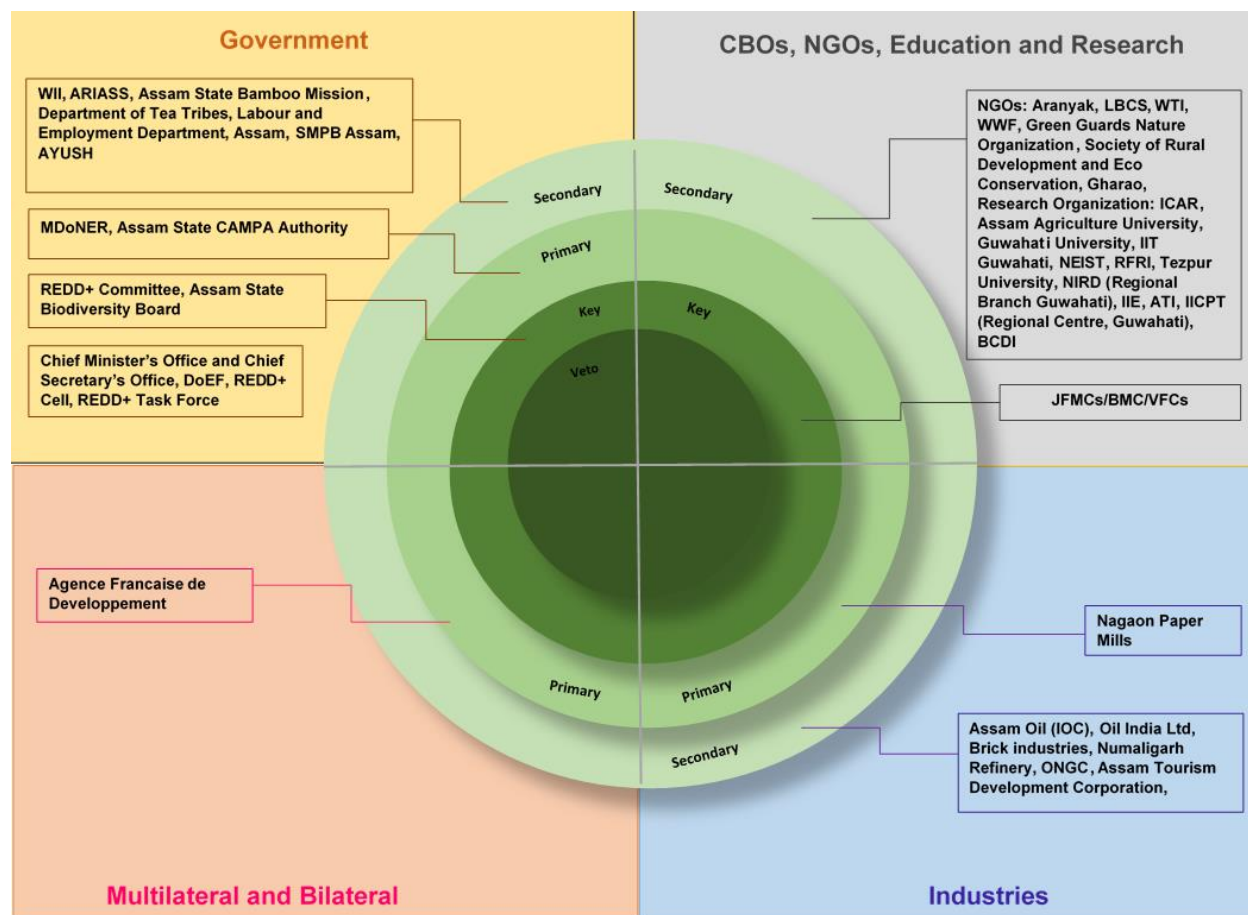


FIGURE 1: STAKEHOLDER ONION DIAGRAM FOR NAGAON DISTRICT

3. List of Stakeholders

TABLE 1: VETO STAKEHOLDERS IN NAGAON DISTRICT

Name	Affiliation	Agenda	About the Organization	Roles and Responsibilities
Chief Minister's Office and Chief Secretary's Office	Government of Assam	Administration	Administrative center of the Government of Assam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administrative backing for implementation of the project. - Approval and finalization and approval of new policy/ policy reforms

Name	Affiliation	Agenda	About the Organization	Roles and Responsibilities
Department of Environment and Forests (DoEF)	Government of Assam	Administration	State Government department for forest and environment issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nodal agency for the project. - Overall project management - Support training, field surveys, workshops, meetings, reports preparation, etc. - Authorized to take up new initiatives and innovative steps to improve the output and functioning of the project. - Responsible for resource mobilization - Contact point for the stakeholders and other departments, organizations and communities - Approval of any project related activities, action plans and reports
REDD+ Cell	Government of Assam	Administration	REDD+ Cell setup to look after the activities of the project, under the National REDD+ Policy	Overall administration of the project. Strategic role in management and implementation of the project to make it consistent with international mechanism. Coordination with REDD+ Cell at national level when required and provision of relevant information and data regarding the project.
REDD+ Task Force	Government of Assam	Administration	REDD+ Task Force will be responsible for technical and policy aspects required to develop and implement the project	Provision of specific technical and policy guidance in project implementation. Establishment of REL, MRV, Standard Operational Procedures (SOP), capacity building, benefit sharing, etc.

TABLE 2: KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN NAGAON DISTRICT

Name	Affiliation	Agenda	About the Organization	Roles and Responsibilities
REDD+ Committee	Government of Assam	Administration	Committee formed under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (Nagaon), with representatives from various state department as members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support, guidance and supervision of the project - Provide support in REDD+ project development and implementation - Convergence of interdepartmental schemes to achieve objectives of REDD+,
Assam State Biodiversity Board	Government of Assam	Administration	Board constituted as per Biodiversity Act 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guiding the project team on matters related to biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing in the project area. - Provision of information on endangered species and HCVs present in the project area. Thus aiding development of project design and safeguard mechanisms.
JFMC/BMC/VFC	CBOs	Community	Community bodies set up with cooperation from DoEF to sustainable manage and administer forest resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active role in establishing bridge between the project team and the local communities for easy implementation - Assist in identification of drivers and designing of intervention activities. - Important support in developing benefit sharing and safeguard mechanisms

TABLE 3: PRIMARY STAKEHOLDERS IN NAGAON DISTRICT

Name	Affiliation	Agenda	About the Organization	Roles and Responsibilities
Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER)	Central Government	Administration	Ministry looking at matters related to the development and wellbeing of the North-East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation on development and livelihood activities proposed as part of the project, and overall policy aspects of the project. - Guidance on private investment, capacity building and technical assistance for the project.
Assam State Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) Authority	Government of Assam	Administration	Authority looking at compensatory afforestation activities in the state	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of land and promotion of plantation activities as compensatory afforestation under CAMPA funds. - Capacity building of DoEF officials for better protection and conservation of forests. Strategic role in aligning the scheme with the objectives of the project.
Agence Francaise de Developement	Bilateral	Technical and Financial	Bilateral agency steering technical and financial cooperation between India and France.	Main funding agency of the project
Nagaon Paper Mill	Public	Industry	Dependent on forest products, and may be meeting their raw material needs from captive plantations, agro-forestry or industrial plantations in Assam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Convergence activities for raising plantations as part of CSR and brand value creation. - Key role in driving responsible forestry and promotion of activities like clean manufacturing process and recycled content.

TABLE 4: SECONDARY STAKEHOLDERS IN NAGAON DISTRICT

Name	Affiliation	Agenda	About the Organization	Roles and Responsibilities
Wildlife Institute of India (WII)	Central Government	Research/ Education	The organization operating under the control of MoEFCC responsible for wildlife-oriented research	Consultation on ecological issues present in the landscape, human-wildlife conflicts etc
Assam Rural Infrastructure & Agricultural Services Society (ARIASS)	Government of Assam	Administration	To manage, coordinate and implement any externally-funded projects as authorized by the State Government, and to monitor the implementation performance of the line departments of the projects	Monitoring, coordination and implementation assistance. Coordination with other line departments of the project
Assam State Bamboo Mission	Agriculture Ministry	Policy/ Administration	Towards ensuring holistic growth of bamboo sector, increasing area under bamboo cultivation and provide livelihood opportunities related to bamboo industry	As part of REDD+ interventions support in cultivation of bamboo (e.g. for bamboo based handicrafts and small industries) for local livelihood
Labor and Employment Department, Assam	Government of Assam	Administration	State department directly or indirectly dependent on forest resources and management	Support and convergence of MGNREGA activities as part of REDD+ project activities and interventions to increase livelihood and reduce pressure on forests
Tea Tribes Department, Assam	Government of Assam	Administration	State department directly or indirectly dependent on forest resources and management	As part of REDD+ intervention activity help in convergence of schemes towards welfare of tea tribes in Nagaon (if any);
Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)	Agriculture Ministry	Research and education	Central university focused on research and education	Relevant consultation on agricultural practices in Nagaon. ICAR can help in providing guidance on intensified agriculture and increasing productivity through climate resilient agriculture which can be synced with livelihood to deter people from forest

Name	Affiliation	Agenda	About the Organization	Roles and Responsibilities
				encroachment in Nagaon
State Medicinal Plants Board (SMPB), Assam	Government of Assam	Administration	Board created to oversee the development of medicinal plants in Assam, with State Government departments as Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support cultivation of medicinal plants as part of REDD+ interventions by following good agriculture and collection practices. - Development of processing zones, warehousing, value addition and infrastructure development. - Development and monitoring of medicinal plant gardens. <p>These activities will enhance livelihood and decrease dependency on forests of Nagaon.</p>
Assam Agriculture University	Education Department	Research and education	State university focused on education and research	Provide relevant data and information about sustainable agriculture practices to increase the productivity and as well as climate resilient mechanisms which can be synced with livelihood to deter people from encroachment of forests in Nagaon
Guwahati University	Education Department	Research and education	State university focused on education and research	Provide relevant data and information about Nagaon
Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati	Ministry of Human Resource Development	Research and education	Central university focused on research and education	<p>Collaborate for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technological development of tools and techniques of forest monitoring and reporting - Designing intervention activities
North East Institute of Science and Technology (NEIST)	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)	Research and education	Central university focused on research and education	<p>Collaboration for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technological development of forest monitoring and reporting tools and techniques

Name	Affiliation	Agenda	About the Organization	Roles and Responsibilities
				- Designing intervention activities
Rain Forest Research Institute (RFRI)	ICFRE	Research and education	Focused on forestry research and education	Collaborate for: - Ecological and socio-economic data collection & analysis - Forest monitoring & reporting
Tezpur University	Ministry of Human Resource Development	Research and education	Central university focused on research and education	Collaborate (especially with the departments of environmental science, disaster management and social science of the University) for: - Data collection & analysis - Designing intervention activities
National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Regional Branch Guwahati	Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD)	Administration	Training and research in the rural development sector	Consultation on social surveying, drivers of change etc.
Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE)	Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	Research and education	The Institute provides training, research and consultancy activities in Small and Micro Enterprises (SME), with special focus on entrepreneurship development	Collaborate for development of natural resource-based small-scale industries in Nagaon district to enhance livelihood and reduced dependency on forests
Assam Textile Institute (ATI)	Industries Department, Government of Assam	Research and education	Institute offering courses on Textile Technology, Garment Technology and Fashion Technology	As part of REDD+ interventions convergence on provision of alternate livelihood opportunities to reduced dependency on forests
Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology (IICPT), Regional Centre (Guwahati)	Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India	Research and education	Caters to the needs of the farmers, processors and industries in the Crop and Food Processing sector in the region by offering skill-building activities	Collaborate for offering skill development and training programmes for local communities towards value addition of local produce and provision of alternate livelihood opportunities to reduced dependency on forests

Name	Affiliation	Agenda	About the Organization	Roles and Responsibilities
Bamboo and Cane Development Institute (BCDI)	Public/private	Research and education	Institutes focusing on the value addition of bamboo and cane towards manufacturing of products	Collaborate for value addition of forest produce and provision of alternate livelihood opportunities to reduced dependency on forests
Aranyak	NGO	Research, implementation, outreach, communication	Works towards forest management and conservation, market value chain creations and livelihood generation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist in mobilization of communities - Collaborate for awareness, sensitization and environmental education
Laokhowa Burhachapori Wildlife Conservation Society (LBCS)	NGO	Community and conservation	NGO working towards conservation of the nature, environment and wildlife of the Central Assam region in general and the Laokhowa and Burhachapori Wildlife Sanctuaries of Assam in particular, in partnership with local communities and the government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist in mobilization of communities - Collaborate for awareness, sensitization and environmental education
Wildlife Trust of India (WTI)	NGO	Community and conservation	NGO working towards conserving wildlife and its habitats across several landscapes in India	Collaborate for awareness, sensitization and environmental education
World Wildlife Fund (WWF)	NGO	Community and conservation	International NGO working towards wildlife conservation and endangered species	Collaborate for awareness, sensitization and environmental education
Green Guards Nature Organization	NGO	Community and conservation	NGO working with fringe forest communities to mitigate conflict with wild animals, promote reforestation and engage people in conservation	Collaborate for awareness, sensitization and environmental education

Name	Affiliation	Agenda	About the Organization	Roles and Responsibilities
Gharoa, Nagaon	NGO	Community	Organization with a focus on environment conservation, women empowerment, promotion of SHGs	Collaborate for awareness, sensitization and environmental education
Society of Rural Development and Eco Conservation, Nagaon	NGO	Community	Organization with a focus on environment conservation, women empowerment, promotion of SHGs	As part of REDD+ activities collaborate for awareness, sensitization and environmental education
Assam Oil (IOC)	Public	Industry	Directly/indirectly affected by forest produce and management or impact forest resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exploring low-Carbon clean technology solutions to reduce emissions from industrial activities. - Convergence activities for raising plantations, initiatives for wildlife conservation through awareness programmes, etc. as part of their CSR and brand value creation.
Oil India Ltd.	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	Industry	Involved in exploration, development and production of crude oil and natural gas, transportation of crude oil and production of liquid petroleum gas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exploring low-Carbon clean technology solutions to reduce emissions from industrial activities. - Convergence activities for raising plantations, initiatives for wildlife conservation through awareness programmes, etc. as part of their CSR and brand value creation.
Brick industries	Public/private	Industry	Directly/indirectly affected by forest produce and management or impact forest resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exploring low-Carbon clean technology solutions to reduce emissions from industrial activities – - Convergence activities for raising plantations as part of their CSR and brand value creation.
Numaligarh Refinery	Public	Industry	Directly/indirectly affected by forest produce and management or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exploring low-Carbon clean technology solutions to reduce

Name	Affiliation	Agenda	About the Organization	Roles and Responsibilities
			impact forest resources	emissions from industrial activities – - Convergence activities for raising plantations, initiatives for wildlife conservation through awareness programmes, etc. as part of their CSR and brand value creation.
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)	Public	Industry	Directly/indirectly affected by forest produce and management or impact forest resources	- Exploring low-Carbon clean technology solutions to reduce emissions from industrial activities - Convergence activities for raising plantations, initiatives for wildlife conservation through awareness programmes, etc. as part of their CSR and brand value creation.
Assam Tourism Development Corporation Ltd	Public	Administration	Set up by the Government of Assam to promote and develop tourism in Assam	- Explore and develop more nature friendly ecotourism activities in Nagaon district. - Convergence activities for raising plantations, initiatives for wildlife conservation through awareness programmes, etc. as part of their CSR and brand value creation.
Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH)	Central Government	Administration	Focusses on education and research in Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy	- Overseeing the implementation of relevant activities.



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