WINROCK INTERNATIONAL

Environment Group & Clean Energy | **Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS)**

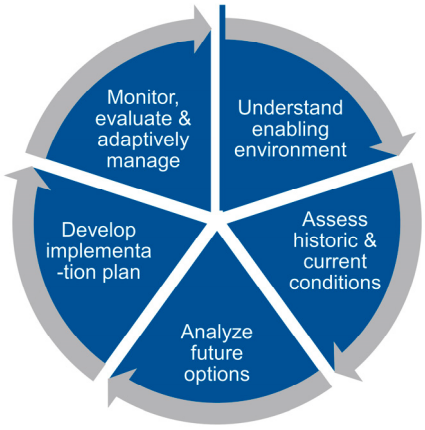
Importance of LEDS

Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS) are vital components of sustainable development, which promote socially responsible economic growth and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. LEDS integrates climate resilience into development planning, and enables decision makers to prioritize opportunities to reduce emissions.

LEDS involves an inclusive process of collecting information on current sources of emissions, identifying, analyzing and prioritizing opportunities to reduce emissions, followed by implementation and ongoing adaptive management. **Winrock International has been involved in each step of the LEDS process**, working with governments, local stakeholders, donors, the private sector and other financial institutions. It is a cross-cutting component that Winrock incorporates across its work in agriculture, energy, water and natural resource management to promote sustainable development.

Environment Group and LEDS

Winrock's Environment Group fosters sustainable management and use of natural resources to support the needs of growing populations and the health of the planet — engaging in land use-focused LEDS in a number of countries.



The **USAID Lowering Emissions in Asia's Forests (LEAF)** project, in collaboration with the United States Forest Service, developed curricula for Asia-Pacific universities on a range of issues including Low Emission Land Use Planning. USAID LEAF also developed a number of sub-national low emission land use plans, including in Lam Dong Province in Vietnam and Madang Provincial Government in Papua New Guinea (PNG). The Lam Dong Provincial REDD+ Action Plan is one of the first of its kind in Vietnam and has become a model for Southeast Asia. PNG plans considered forest and land use change, future GHG emission reduction scenarios, and policy and mitigation actions.

The **USAID Vietnam Forests and Delta (VFD)** project provides technical support to the Vietnam Green Growth Taskforce on the development of a Provincial Green Growth Action Plan in Thanh Hoa Province. As part of wider strategies for Green Growth and reducing emission from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+), a provincial Bamboo Development and Sector Plan was formulated for Thanh Hoa in collaboration with the International Bamboo and Rattan Research Association. Technical assistance was provided to several companies, including training and completion of an initial feasibility study for an estimated $10 million (USD) investment on strand-woven bamboo.

In the **USAID Malawi PERFORM** project, Winrock is developing a national GHG inventory system to encompass all Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reporting sectors. The GHG inventory will be used as a tool to attract low emissions development investment in key sectors of renewable energy, improved agriculture and livestock management, and reduced reliance on natural forests for energy.

The Environment group has also developed a number of **tools that can be used in low emission development**

LEDS GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP AFOLU Working Group

Winrock's Environment Group co-chairs the **LEDS Global Partnership's Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Working Group** and acts as the Working Group's technical support unit, providing analysis and thought leadership on AFOLU LEDS.

planning processes, such as *The AFOLU Carbon Calculator* (www.afolucarbon.org) and *The REDD+ Decision Support Toolbox* (www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/dst).

Clean Energy and LEDS

Winrock's Clean Energy Unit supports the technical, policy and investment building blocks for scaling up renewable energy, energy efficiency, and low emission development planning, building local capacity for communities, national and local government, NGOs, educational and financial institutions, and the private sector.

Winrock tailors clean energy solutions to meet the specific needs of the communities where we work, including on-grid and off-grid/mini-grid systems using a range of renewable energy technologies. LEDS work includes technical and advisory assistance on national and municipal-level energy planning, policy, project implementation and capacity building; data collection, analysis and management of emissions databases and inventories; strengthening the conditions to attract private investment in clean energy; and public outreach programs.

Under the **USAID Georgia Enhancing Capacity for Lower Emission Development Strategy** (**Georgia EC-LEDS**) project, Winrock is building the capacity of the Government of Georgia to develop and implement a national LEDS, helping municipalities institutionalize and implement climate change measures, and promoting and facilitating private sector investment in energy efficiency and green buildings. Winrock is working with 10 municipalities to develop Sustainable Energy Action Plans which include identification of GHG emissions sources, data collection from multiple sectors, and development of plans to achieve emission reduction targets. Through this work, Winrock contributed to the development of a number of NAMAs and developed a Municipal Inventory and Projection and Mitigation Planning analytical tool that includes Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV). Winrock participates in a national LEDS committee and ensures that municipal level efforts are linked to national priorities, actions, policies and programs.

Through the **USAID Macedonia Clean Energy Investment Project (CEI),** Winrock is helping the Government of Macedonia establish GHG inventory and MRV procedures, and streamline the renewable energy project development and investment process. Winrock supported the Ministry of Energy's preparation for the second National Energy Efficiency Action Plan, which included developing a new methodology for calculating emissions reductions from renewable energy, quantification of GHG emissions from land use using remote sensing and GIS techniques to monitor forestry changes, and the development of a new energy balance methodology harmonized with EUROSTAT.

Cross-cutting aspects of LEDS

With the USAID Georgia EC-LEDS project, Winrock has a cross-cutting action plan which addresses concerns and opportunities to **include and address issues of gender, people with disabilities and youth** in project activities. Winrock is also working to address gender gaps in the energy and construction sectors in Vietnam through the USAID Vietnam Clean Energy Project. Winrock is designing and implementing activities that increase women's participation in these sectors.

Winrock International is a nonprofit organization that works with people in the United States and around the world to empower the disadvantaged, increase economic opportunity, and sustain natural resources.

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