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Social and Environmental Soundness, Safeguards and Safeguard Information Systems

Paula J. Williams, FCMC



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FCMC – Social and Environmental Soundness activities

- Social Dimensions of REDD+
- Social Safeguards and Standards
- Stakeholder Engagement
- LISA-REDD workshop and methods review
- Shifting cultivation, deforestation, and gender
- Lessons Learned from Community Forestry and Their Relevance for REDD+
- Legal Literacy and Advocacy
- Biodiversity Standards and Indicators
- Safeguards work in Honduras, Colombia & Peru
- **Social and Environmental Soundness** materials and **3 regional training workshops** - C. & W. Africa



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UNFCCC Cancun Safeguards



The 7 UNFCCC REDD+ Safeguards, agreed in Cancun in 2010, are the internationally-agreed minimum requirements:

- a) actions consistent with the objectives of **national forest programs**;
- b) **transparent** and effective national forest **governance** structures;
- c) respect for the **knowledge and rights** of indigenous peoples and members of local communities;
- d) the full and effective **participation of relevant stakeholders**, in particular, indigenous peoples and local communities;
- e) actions are consistent with the **conservation of natural forests** and **biological diversity**, ensuring that REDD+ actions... enhance other social and environmental benefits;
- f) actions to **address the risks of reversals** (*i.e., permanence*);
- g) actions to **reduce displacement** of emissions (*i.e., leakage*).

Multilateral REDD+ Support: Partner Countries

Country	UN-REDD	FCPF	FIP
Cameroon	✓ P	✓	
Central African Republic	✓ P	✓	
Democratic Republic of Congo	✓ NP	✓	✓
Gabon	✓ P	✓	
Republic of Congo	✓ NP	✓	

✓ = support P = partner country NP = national programme



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Voluntary SES Standards

- Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA): CCB Standards – project level
- REDD+ SES Standards: CCBA and Care International – govt.-led REDD+ program level
- Certification standards for various commodities—forest certification, biofuels, palm oil, soybeans, others





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Social Issues: Some Key Findings of Comparative Analysis

- No existing system of safeguards or standards covers the full range of social issues in REDD+.
 - Some social issues better covered, i.e., stakeholder engagement, rights of indigenous peoples
 - Other social issues less commonly explicitly mentioned, i.e., gender, land and resource tenure, grievance mechanisms, etc.
- Need for consolidation (common approaches) and simplification
- Safeguard policies and processes need to be more explicitly linked with standards with clear criteria and indicators
 - for design, implementation, and monitoring



- Reporting guidelines on Safeguard Information Systems (SIS) are still under discussion by UNFCCC
 - Cancun asked SBSTA to develop guidance
 - Possible provision of information linked to national reporting to UNFCCC
- Voluntary reporting systems → not required MRV of social and environmental safeguards
- Some countries now developing their own national-level SIS, with support from development partners
- Other ongoing information systems work, i.e., FAO
- Work of REDD+ SES, FCPF, UN-REDD, WRI and others, including FCMC

One Approach to Development of Country
Safeguard Systems, including Safeguard
Information Systems

**MODEL BEING DEVELOPED BY
REDD+ SES, FCPF, AND UN-REDD**

Potential Elements of a Country Safeguards System for REDD+

Institutions (formal and informal)

to ensure fair and effective design and implementation of these elements

Policies, Laws and Regulations (PLR)

- Normative framework that defines and operationalizes country-specific safeguards interpretation for REDD+
- Existing policies, laws and regulations on social and environmental issues that are defined as applying to REDD+ activities
- New REDD+ specific policies, laws and regulations

Safeguards Information System (SIS)

- Indicators for process and outcomes related to country-specific safeguards interpretation
- Monitoring methodologies
- Reporting frameworks to address different information needs

Grievance and Redress Mechanism (GRM)

- Country level mechanism to receive and address grievances related to the country safeguards system

Processes and procedures

that shape the elements such as consultation, strategic assessments, analysis, record of implementation, etc.

Main steps for development of a country safeguards system

