REDD+ Social & Environmental Standards: supporting countries to develop safeguards information systems in practice

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The CCBA brings together diverse actors to develop global standards that drive creation of forest carbon policies, programs and projects to stabilize global climate change, benefit the world’s poor and maintain biodiversity and healthy ecosystems.
For land-based carbon projects:

For government-led REDD+ programs:
• Supports government-led/jurisdictional REDD+ programs (not site-based projects)

• A **safeguard mechanism** comprising:
  - **REDD+ SES content**: principles, criteria and indicators
  - **REDD+ SES process**: ten-step process to use the REDD+ SES at country level

• A voluntary initiative for countries/jurisdictions to monitor and report of social and environmental performance using a multi-stakeholder process

• A multistakeholder international standards committee oversees the initiative

• CCBA and CARE provide the secretariat with technical support of The Proforest Initiative
REDD+ SES development

Using REDD+ SES in pilot countries

Expansion and integration with other safeguard mechanisms

- Principles, criteria, indicators version 1
- Inclusive consultation at international and country level
- International Steering Committee and Secretariat

- Starting in:
  - Acre, Brazil
  - Ecuador,
  - Nepal,
  - C Kalimantan, Indonesia
- Guidelines version 1
- Exchange and learning

- Expanding to:
  - Amazonas, Brazil
  - E Kalimantan, Indonesia
  - Guatemala,
  - Liberia,
  - Mexico,
  - San Martin, Peru
- Integration with FCPF & UNREDD processes
- PCI & guidelines version 2
- Exchange and learning
REDD+ SES structure

- **Principle**: Key objectives that define high social and environmental performance
- **Criterion**: Conditions that must be met related to processes, impacts and policies to deliver on principles
- **Indicator**: Quantitative or qualitative information to show progress achieving a criterion

- **Essence**: Basic idea
- **Qualifiers**: Key quality elements
REDD+ SES content – 7 principles

1. Respect for rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including free, prior & informed consent
2. Equitable benefit sharing
4. Contribution to broader sustainable development
5. Maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystem services
6. Full and effective participation and access to information
7. Compliance with national and international law
Country-level Process for Using REDD+ SES

1. Awareness-Raising / Capacity-Building
   - Who: awareness raising and capacity building for relevant rights holders & stakeholders, such as representatives from: government agencies, civil society, indigenous peoples and community-based organizations
   - Outputs: meetings, workshops and other methods to raise awareness of the REDD+ program, potential impacts, and REDD+ SES and other safeguard mechanisms
   - Step 1 is important at the start of the process, and should be conducted at any stage, as needed

Governance

2. Establish the Facilitation Team
   - Who: government (typically one person) and non-government (typically one or two people)
   - Outputs: team to organize meetings, prepare drafts, organize consultations, organize data collection, data analysis and compilation and stakeholder review of assessment reports, etc.

3. Create the Standards Committee
   - Who: representatives of interested parties (government departments, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, NGOs, private sector, etc.). Where appropriate, use the same multi-stakeholder committee created for other aspects of REDD+ program or for other safeguards mechanisms
   - Outputs: a committee to ensure balanced stakeholder oversight of use of REDD+ SES
   - Step 3 could be undertaken at any stage prior to step 6

Interpretation

4. Develop Plan for the REDD+ SES Process
   - Who: led by the facilitation team with relevant stakeholders as appropriate
   - Outputs: well defined timeline of activities and responsibilities for the REDD+ SES process

5. Develop Draft Country-Specific Indicators
   - Who: working group composed of the facilitation team and relevant stakeholders/experts (e.g. 3-7 people), potentially several groups in a workshop setting
   - Outputs: draft of indicators that are relevant to the country context

Assessment

6. Organize Consultations on Indicators
   - Who: facilitation team organizes two public comment periods through publication of draft indicators, workshops and other solicitation of comments, revision of indicators and response to comments. Standards Committee approves revision and final version of indicators.
   - Outputs: comments collated, indicators revised and comments responded to

7. Prepare Monitoring and Assessment Plans
   - Who: facilitation team, and possibly a consultant or expert with monitoring and evaluation expertise
   - Outputs: a monitoring plan defining what specific information is required, methods and responsibilities for information collection, and an assessment plan defining the process for preparation, review, approval and dissemination of the assessment report

8. Collect and Assess Monitoring Information
   - Who: facilitation team organizes data collection and analysis and compiles draft report, with stakeholders or independent third party as appropriate
   - Outputs: draft assessment report that includes performance summaries for each criterion, details for each indicator and annexes as appropriate

   - Who: facilitation team organizes consultations on the draft assessment report, revision of the report and response to comments. Standards Committee approves revision and final version.
   - Outputs: comments collated, report revised and comments responded to

10. Publish the Assessment Report
    - Who: facilitation team organizes publication and dissemination of the assessment report
    - Outputs: full report of performance against criteria and indicators of the REDD+ SES publicly available

For more information see www.redd-standards.org
Awareness-Raising / Capacity-Building

**Who:** awareness raising and capacity building for relevant rights holders & stakeholders, such as representatives from: government agencies, civil society, indigenous peoples and community-based organizations

**Outputs:** meetings, workshops and other methods to raise awareness of the REDD+ program, potential impacts, and REDD+ SES and other safeguard mechanisms

*Step 1 is important at the start of the process, and should be conducted at any stage, as needed*

- Capacity building for Indigenous Peoples and civil society prior to consultations on indicators
- Capacity building of Standards Committee
- Capacity building for communities before starting collecting assessment information
Governance

2. Establish the facilitation team

- **Who:** government (typically one person) and non-government (typically one or two people)
- **Outputs:**
  - Team to organize meetings, prepare drafts, organize consultations, organize data collection, data analysis and compilation and stakeholder review of assessment reports, etc.

3. Establish the Standards Committee

- **Who:** representatives of interested parties (government departments, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, NGOs, private sector, etc.). Where appropriate, use the same multi-stakeholder committee created for other aspects
- **Outputs:** a committee to ensure balanced stakeholder oversight of use of REDD+ SES

- **2 persons** (70-80% time)
- **1 person** (30-70% time)
- **1 person** (30% time)

**Public sector**
- Ministry of Environment
- Planning Office
- Civil participation Office

**Civil society**
- 2 ONGs
- 1 private sector
- 1 university
- 1 youth

**Indigenous Peoples**
- 3 organizations
- 2 communities

✓ Rules of work
✓ Decision-making mechanism

**13 Members**
4. Develop a workplan for the REDD+ SES process

Who: the facilitation team

What: Workplan with
- Activities and timeline (2 years)
- Budget

5. Draft country-specific indicators

Workshop with different stakeholders (government, civil society, Indigenous Peoples etc.) to adapt indicators

6. Organise consultations on indicators

- 2 Public comment period
- 2 workshops with Indigenous Peoples
- Response to comments prepared by facilitation team
- Revision by the legal department of the Ministry of Environment before approval by the Standards Committee
7. Prepare monitoring and assessment plans
- Who: facilitation team, and possibly a consultant or expert with monitoring and evaluation expertise
- Outputs: a monitoring plan, an assessment plan

8. Collect and assess monitoring information
- Who: working group composed of the facilitation team and relevant stakeholders/experts (e.g., 3-7 people), potentially several groups in a workshop setting
- Outputs: draft of indicators that are relevant to the country context

9. Organise stakeholder revision of draft assessment report
- Who: facilitation team organizes consultations on the draft assessment report, revision of the report and response to comments. Standards Committee approves revision and final version.
- Outputs: comments collated, report revised and comments responded to assessment report

10. Publish assessment report
- Report that compiles lessons learned from the process
- Factsheets that sums up the results of the assessment
How can countries/jurisdictions use REDD+ SES?

• For good practice guidance (not applying REDD+ SES)

• To provide a framework for reporting on performance using most of the REDD+ SES content and process (partially applying REDD+ SES)

• To provide a comprehensive mechanism for reporting on performance using all REDD+ SES content and process (fully applying REDD+ SES)
REDD+ SES supports…

- The development of national safeguards information system, and as well as a system for jurisdictional REDD+ programs with indicators tailored to the country/jurisdiction context
- Promotes higher social and environmental performance beyond ‘do no harm’
- The design of a multi-stakeholder engagement strategy for REDD+
- The implementation of FPIC activities and operationalize a rights-based approach
- Enables partner jurisdictions to provide assurance on safeguards performance to national and international stakeholders
- Creates a valuable platform for peer-to-peer exchange and learning across countries.
For more information

www.redd-standards.org

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