

Safeguards for National REDD+

design and implementation:

Legality and Practicability

REDD+ activities and phases

- ✎ Three groups of REDD+ activities (4/CP.15 and 1/CP.16):
 - ✓ Stabilizing FC stock: conservation of FC stock and SMF
 - ✓ Reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation
 - ✓ Enhancing GHG removals: enhancement of FC stock

Key elements are requested to be undertaken

- ∞ A national strategy or action plan;
- ∞ A national forest reference emission level and/or forest reference level;
- ∞ A robust and transparent national forest monitoring system for monitoring and reporting of the REDD+ activities;
- ∞ A system for providing information on how the safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of the REDD+ activities;

Key requested elements and assessment of REDD+ readiness

Why safeguards should be promoted?

REDD+ implementation :

- ∞ Contributes to the achievement of the UNFCCC objectives;
- ∞ Deliver potentially significant social & environmental co-benefits:
 - ✓ Livelihood improvement & poverty eradication;
 - ✓ Maintenance of forest environmental services;
 - ✓ Biodiversity conservation;
- ∞ May cause social & environmental risks (particularly for indigenous people and local communities);

The safeguards in the Cancun Agreement

- ✎ When undertaking the REDD+ activities, the following safeguards should be promoted and supported:
 - ✓ That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements;
 - ✓ Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty;
 - ✓ Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities;
 - ✓ The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities;
 - ✓ That actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity;
 - ✓ Actions to address the risks of reversals;
 - ✓ Actions to reduce displacement of emissions

How the safeguards could be promoted?

- ✎ COP17 decision: Guidance on systems for providing information on how safeguards are addressed and respected;
- ✎ CBD Strategic Plan for the period from 2011-2020;
- ✎ Efforts on development of programmatic standards:
 - ✓ UN-REDD Principles & Criteria
 - ✓ FCPF Strategic Environmental & Social Assessment (SESA)
 - ✓ CCBA-CARE Social & Environmental Standards (SES)
<http://www.redd-standards.org>
- ✎ Work on development of the project-based standards:
 - ✓ Climate Community and Biodiversity Standards (CCBS)
 - ✓ Carbon Fix Standard
 - ✓ Plan Vivo Standards
 - ✓ FSC

How the safeguards could be promoted?

- ∞ The need for UNFCCC recognized/agreed standards and coordinated efforts!!!
- ∞ COP agreed elements, steps and conditions should be respected;
- ∞ Avoidance of different interpretation of COP decisions and prejudice due to specific interest, and put heavy burden on the REDD+ countries;
- ∞ Consistent with national sovereignty, legislation, circumstances and capacities, and relevant international obligations and agreements;

How to operationalize the safeguards in Vietnam?

∞ Vietnam position:

- ✓ Designer of an information system on safeguards and appropriate principles, standards and criteria
- ✓ Practitioner/Implementor of the system

∞ Various sets of standards and criteria based on different strategies and specialization/interest (not Parties)

∞ Vietnam is a UNFCCC Parties, so that Vietnam has to fulfill the UNFCCC COP Guidance and requirements

How to operationalize the safeguards in Vietnam?

- ✎ Vietnam has also participated in some international REDD+ Initiatives, so that safeguards of these Initiatives should be considered BUT they are support for REDD UNFCCC not creating parallel tracks and burden to the REDD+ countries – Common Approach
- ✎ Starting from reviewing current policies and instruments in comparison with COP requirements, then defining the roadmap of development