Safeguarding people and nature in REDD+

REDD+ is a mechanism that creates a financial value for the carbon stored in forests by offering incentives for developing countries. REDD+ stands for countries’ efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

REDD+ supports the countries.

What was achieved up till now?

- 10 countries have their Safeguards Information System (SIS) online.
- 12 countries submitted one or two summaries of information.

Why are the safeguards needed?

- In reducing CO₂ emissions by avoiding deforestation, REDD+ presents both benefits and risks to people and nature.

What are the REDD+ (‘Cancun’) safeguards?

A: Actions are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements.
B: Transparent and effective national forest governance structures.
C: Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities.
D: Full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders.
E: Actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, and enhance other social and environmental benefits.
F: Actions to address the risks of reversals to ensure sustainability.
G: Actions to reduce displacement of emissions.

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How does the UN-REDD Programme support the countries?

Extensive experience of supporting safeguards processes in 36 countries through:

- Supporting countries’ approaches to address and respect safeguards.
- Helping to draft the summaries of safeguards information.
- Designing Safeguards Information System (SIS) and putting it in operation.

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Safeguards are measures to protect or to avoid risks (do no harm), while promoting benefits (do good).

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