



REDD+ Safeguards: Sticking Points in the Negotiations

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Background

Under the Cancun agreements, Parties agreed to:

- Set of 7 REDD+ Safeguards
- Specified that REDD+ activities should be undertaken “in accordance with” the REDD+ safeguards
- Requested developing country Parties to develop a system for providing information on how REDD safeguards are addressed and respected
- Gave SBSTA a mandate to develop guidance on the development of the Safeguard Information System (SIS)

Sticking Points in the Negotiations

- I. Interpretation of the REDD+ safeguards
- II. Function and use of information at the international level:
 - Common reporting template (how and what)
 - Reporting time
- III. Mechanisms to review reported information

I. Interpretation of the REDD+ Safeguards

- (a) Actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements;
- (b) Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty;
- (c) Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- (d) The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities, in actions referred to in paragraphs 70 and 72 of this decision;
- (e) Actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forest and biological diversity, ensuring that action referred to in paragraph 70 of this decision are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but re instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits;¹
- (f) Actions to address the risks of reversals; and
- (g) Actions to reduce displacement of emissions.

¹ Taking into account the need for sustainable livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities and their interdependence on forests in most countries, reflected in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as the International Mother Earth Day.

International instruments relevant to REDD+ safeguards

P: Party
S: Signatory

+ : Voted in ~~Favour~~
- : Voted Against

A: Abstained
DNV: Did Not Vote

*: No Vote—Adopted by Consensus

Relevant Int'l Instruments	CCB	Nagoya Protocol to the CBD	CMS	Ramsar	CEES	Env. Decl. of HK	ACIIR	Sri Saboteur Protocol	Micas Charter on Human Rights	KCPK	Int'l Optional Protocol to the KCPK	KIECK	IO Conv. No. 109	UNDRP	Rio Declaration*	Agrada 21*	HEIST*	ITIA	MAKIC	Convention on Nature Protection & Wildlife Fauna in the Western Hemisphere	Measures	International Framework Cooperative Agreement Between the ILO & Measur
Algeria	?	S	?	?	?	Applies			?	?	?	?	?	+								
Argentina	?		?	?	?	Applies	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+						?	?	?
Azerbaijan	?		Non-Party Participant	?	?	Applies				?	?	?		A								
Bangladesh	?	S	?	?	?	Applies				?		?		A								
Bhutan	?				?	Applies								A								
Bolivia	?		?	?	?	Applies	?	?		?	?	?	?	+				?			Associate Member	
Brazil	?	S	Non-party Participant	?	?	Applies	?	?		?		?	?	+				?		?	?	?
Burkina Faso	?		?	?	?	Applies			?	?	?	?		+								
Cambodia	?		Non-party Participant	?	?	Applies				?	S	?		+				?				
Cameroon	?		?	?	?	Applies			?	?	?	?		+				?				
Central African Republic (CAR)	?	S	Non-party Participant	?	?	Applies			?	?	?	?	?	+				?				
Chile	?		?	?	?	Applies	?	S		?	?	?	?	+						?	Associate Member	
China	?		Non-Party Participant	?	?	Applies				S		?		+				?				
Colombia	?	S		?	?	Applies	?			?	?	?	?	A (now endorsed)				?			Associate Member	
Congo	?		?	?	?	Applies			?	?	?	?		+				?				
Costa Rica	?	S	?	?	?	Applies	?	?		?	?	?	?	+						?		
Dominican Republic	?			?	?	Applies	?	S			?	?		+				?		?		
Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)	?		?	?	?	Applies			?	?	?	?		+								
Ecuador	?	S	?	?	?	Applies	?	?		?	?	?	?	+				?		?	Associate Member	
El Salvador	?			?	?	Applies	?	?		?	?	?		+						?		
Equatorial Guinea	?		?	?	?	Applies			?	?	?	?		+								
Ethiopia	?		?		?	Applies			?	?		?		DNV								
Fiji	?		Non-party Participant	?	?	Applies							?	DNV				?				
Gabon	?	S	?	?	?	Applies			?	?	?	?		+				?				
Ghana	?	S	?	?	?	Applies			?	?	?	?		+				?				
Guatemala	?	S		?	?	Applies	?		?	?	?	?	?	+						?		
Guyana	?				?	Applies			?	?	?	?		+				?				
Honduras	?		?	?	?	Applies	?			?	?	?	?	+				?				
Indonesia	?	S	Non-party	?	?	Applies				?		?		+				?				

Other tools relevant to the REDD+ safeguards

- Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment of the FCPF
- Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria of the UN-REDD Programme
- REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards of CCBA

II. Function and use of the information at the international level

- Parties comfortable with reporting at the national level
- Less clear is:
 - What this information would be used for at the international level
 - Use of common reporting template

III. Mechanisms to review reported information

- “Review” and “verification” are controversial issues for developing countries in the broader UNFCCC context, and most Parties are currently more comfortable with national review (potentially multi-stakeholder) than international review
- Assessment and review of safeguards information at the national and international levels is important

Thank you for your attention!

Questions?

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