



**INTERNATIONAL YEAR  
OF FORESTS • 2011**



# **Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities**

## **Combined Safeguards and Sub-regional Capacity Building Workshop on REDD-plus and Biodiversity Singapore, 15-18 March 2011**

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## **Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Experience on Opportunities and Challenges of REDD+ and Biodiversity**

**Opportunities: Active engagement of IPs/LCs in global/regional and national processes for constructive, positive and effective participation on CBD and Climate Change/REDD+ thru various formations:**

- > International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC)
- > International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB)
- > Indigenous Peoples Global Network on Climate Change and Sustainable Development (IPCCSD)
  - Resulted in unities on key principles and proposals for advocacy and negotiation during CBD and UNFCCC processes
  - plus regional/subregional and national/subnational formations and networks

**Challenges: State parties need to acknowledge and recognize the decisions agreed on and references on IPs/LCs in CBD/UNFCCC, and recognize IPs/LCs as genuine partners w/ significant roles and contributions in Biodiversity and REDD+**



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## **Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Platform for Safeguards on REDD+ and Biodiversity:**

- > Safeguards for IPs/LCs should be based on the human rights perspective and the ecosystems-approach principles
- > Recognition of the role and experience of IPs/LCs as primary guardians of nature/ various ecosystems for millenia: with indigenous traditional knowledge and customary governance systems on sustainable management /conservation and use of biodiversity and various ecosystems
- > Address issues on governance (e.g. land tenure /customary rights, local empowerment and capacity building), on livelihoods (traditional livelihoods dependent on forests), and on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation (conversion of natural forests, mining, etc.)



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## **IPs' Key Principles on Safeguards related to REDD+ and Biodiversity**

- 1. Recognition of the rights of IPs consistent with the UNDRIP: including right to self determination, lands, resources, FPIC, traditional knowledge and sustainable livelihoods, benefit sharing; and other relevant international human rights norms and standards; for example as in Article 8(j) and 10(c) of the CBD;**
- 2. Ensure full and effective participation of IPs/LCs in all mechanisms, bodies, and procedures established under CBD (conservation, sustainable use and sharing of benefits) and UNFCCC (mitigation, adaptation, finance, capacity building, MRV and technology transfer);**
- 3. Recognition and protection of indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage, innovations, technologies, spiritual beliefs and cultural expressions at all levels;**
- 4. Ensure direct and immediate access of IPs/LCs to finance, appropriate technologies and capacity building activities;**



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## **Challenges in relation to developing safeguards for indigenous peoples and local communities**

1. Need to define safeguards and sharing of benefits relevant for IPs/LCs in biodiversity and REDD+
2. Need to collaborate with IPs/LCs in national CBD/CC Commissions and REDD+ mechanisms for coordination/participation in discussions / capacity building activities /workshops
3. Need to ensure participation of IPs/LCs in national/ regional/ global workshops particular on FPIC on REDD+ and other concerns in specific countries
4. Need to collaborate and strengthen advocacy work on the national/subnational/local levels related to CBD Articles 8j (respect for traditional knowledge) and 10c (support customary use of biodiversity) and need for more support for IPs/LCs' effective participation on REDD-plus design, planning, implementation, MRV and M/E activities



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## **Ongoing Activities/Plans on developing MRV tools and indicators to assess/monitor REDD+ impacts, safeguards, benefits on IPs/LCs:**

1. Pilot areas on REDD+/ecosystems approach with case studies on Traditional Forest Management including resource mapping and establishing baselines; towards strengthening customary governance and traditional livelihoods including multiple benefits, payment of environmental services, enhancing gender roles and inter-generational transfer of traditional knowledge
2. Ongoing review of MRV literature/tools and coming up with ILC-sensitive and gender-sensitive planning/MRV tools and indicators to assess/monitor the impacts of REDD+ on biodiversity and indigenous peoples and local livelihoods
3. April to June 2011: Global /regional workshops to discuss and agree on planning/MRV tools (including criteria and indicators for REDD+ safeguards, impacts and multiple benefits on biodiversity and on indigenous peoples and local communities.



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## **Ways forward in building partnership and collaboration activities for ensuring capacity building and participation of IPs/LCs**

- > conduct exchange visits among IPs in pilot/demo areas on Traditional Forest Management and Customary Governance; and other related experiences as learning processes/ and part of capacity-building activities for IPs/LCs
- > need for participation in regional and global exchanges of REDD-plus pilot experiences regarding multiple benefits and genuine sharing of benefits especially for IPS/LCs
- > need for independent global/regional/national monitoring bodies for REDD+ and biodiversity safeguards and those safeguards for ILCs
- > need for support for IP/LC participation in capacity building workshops on HRBA, EA, MRV, Complaints Mechanisms and related BD/REDD+ concerns.



Convention on  
Biological Diversity



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**thank you!  
salamat!**

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