

REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards: overview and emerging issues

Luis Suárez , Conservation International Ecuador

Presentation prepared with Joanna Durbin, Aurelie Lhumeau and Phil Franks,
REDD+SES Secretariat

CBD SBSTA 1st May 2012, Montreal

Slide 1

I1

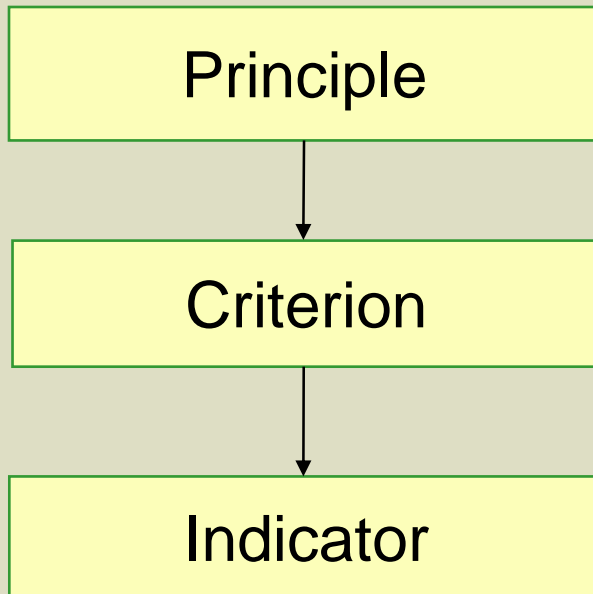
Isuarez, 30/04/2012



- REDD+ SES safeguards mechanism comprises:
 - **REDD+ SES content:** principles, criteria and indicators which define the necessary conditions to achieve high social and environmental performance
 - **REDD+ SES process:** ten-step process to use the REDD+ SES at country level for country-led multi-stakeholder assessment of REDD+ program
- Supports the design, implementation and evaluation of government-led REDD+ programs
- Provides a framework for monitoring and reporting of social & environmental performance using a multi-stakeholder process
- Aims to enhance benefits as well as avoid harm.



REDD+ SES content



The intent level – key objectives that define high social and environmental performance

The content level – conditions that must be met related to processes, impacts and policies to deliver on principles

Quantitative or qualitative information to show progress achieving a criterion

REDD+ SES principles

1. Respect for rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including free, prior and informed consent
2. Equitable benefit sharing
3. Improving well-being of Indigenous peoples and local communities
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



REDD+ SES process at country level

- 1. Governance:** a multi-stakeholder approach to ensure balanced stakeholder participation in the use of the standards
 - Multi-stakeholder Standards Committee provides oversight
 - Joint government and civil society Facilitation Team organizes process
- 2. Interpretation:** adaptation of the indicators and assessment process to the country context
- 3. Assessment:** collection of information to assess performance, review of the draft assessment report by stakeholders and publication of report



Phase 1
REDD+ SES
development

- Indigenous Peoples
- Local Community Associations
- Social/Environmental NGOs
- Private Sector
- Government

A participatory and inclusive process

- A series of workshops and consultations in REDD countries (Nepal, Tanzania, Ecuador, Liberia) from May 2009
- Two 60-day public comment periods
- Version 1 released on June 2010

Multi-stakeholder governance

- International Standards Committee created which approves standards and guidelines on how to use
- CCBA and CARE are the international secretariat with technical support from ProForest Initiative

REDD+ SES Initiative

Jan Apr Jul Oct Jan Apr Jul Oct Jan Apr Jul Oct Jan Mar Jul Oct Jan

2009

2010

201
1

2012

2013

Starting to use the standards

- Ecuador
- Nepal
- Acre (Brazil)
- Central Kalimantan (Indonesia)

Exchange and learning

- August 2010 in Washington DC
- February 2011 in Quito
- September 2011 in Rio Branco
- Key issues:
 - Managing multi-stakeholder processes. developing indicators and monitoring plans

Phase 2
Using REDD+ SES in
pilot countries

Development of guidelines for interpretation and use at country level

Complementarity with other safeguards mechanisms

UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards information systems, FCPF common approach, UN-REDD, Brazilian, etc.



Joining the initiative

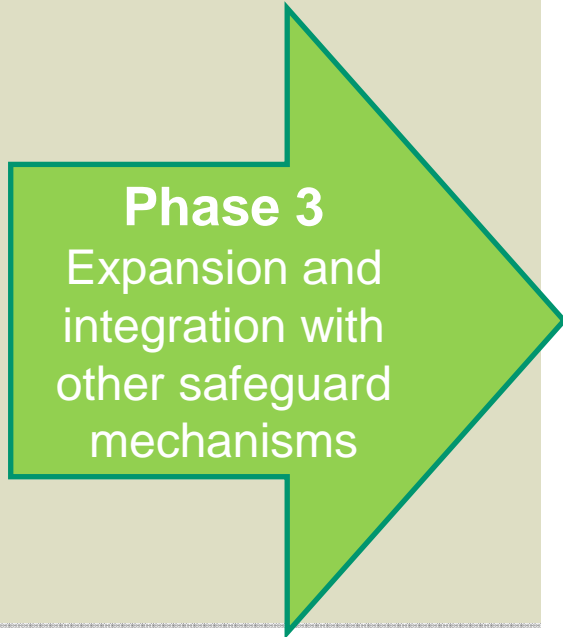
- San Martin Region, Peru
- Amazonas State, Brazil
- Guatemala
- Mexico
- Liberia
- Another province in Indonesia

Integration of safeguard processes at country level

Revision of REDD+ SES and guidance

Learning and exchange

- Relationship to international conventions/law & policy
- Nesting projects, sub-national within national
- Gender
- Free, Prior and Informed Consent
- Grievance/dispute mechanisms



Emerging issues from use of REDD+ SES

- stakeholder participation

- REDD+ SES is a framework for monitoring and reporting of social and environmental performance using a multi-stakeholder process
- Benefits
 - Enhances quality and credibility of self-reporting
 - Promotes shared ownership by government and civil society
 - Increases transparency
 - Builds consensus and trust between diverse stakeholders regarding safeguards and REDD+ more generally
- Challenges
 - Cost of multi-stakeholder process (e.g. workshops, translation into local languages,.....)

Emerging issues from use of REDD+ SES

- interpretation at country level

- Interpretation adapts REDD+ SES content and process to the country context, includes:
 - Creation of country-specific indicators (the principles and criteria remain the same across all countries)
 - Design of the country-specific assessment process
- Benefits
 - Builds understanding and ownership of stakeholders.
 - Ensures the standards are relevant and reporting is meaningful
- Challenges
 - Complex language of criteria and indicators is hard to understand . REDD+SES version 2 splits indicators into “essence” and qualifiers”
 - Needs specialist technical expertise in developing indicators and developing monitoring plans for each indicator

Emerging issues from use of REDD+ SES

- linkage to UNFCCC safeguards

- UNFCCC safeguards
 - a) 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) Conservation of natural forests and biological diversity
 - not used for conversion of natural forests
 - protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services,
 - enhance other social and environmental benefits

- REDD+ SES covers all UNFCCC safeguards and provides a basis for development of the Safeguards Information System requested by UNFCCC

Emerging issues from use of REDD+ SES

- support for a national safeguards system

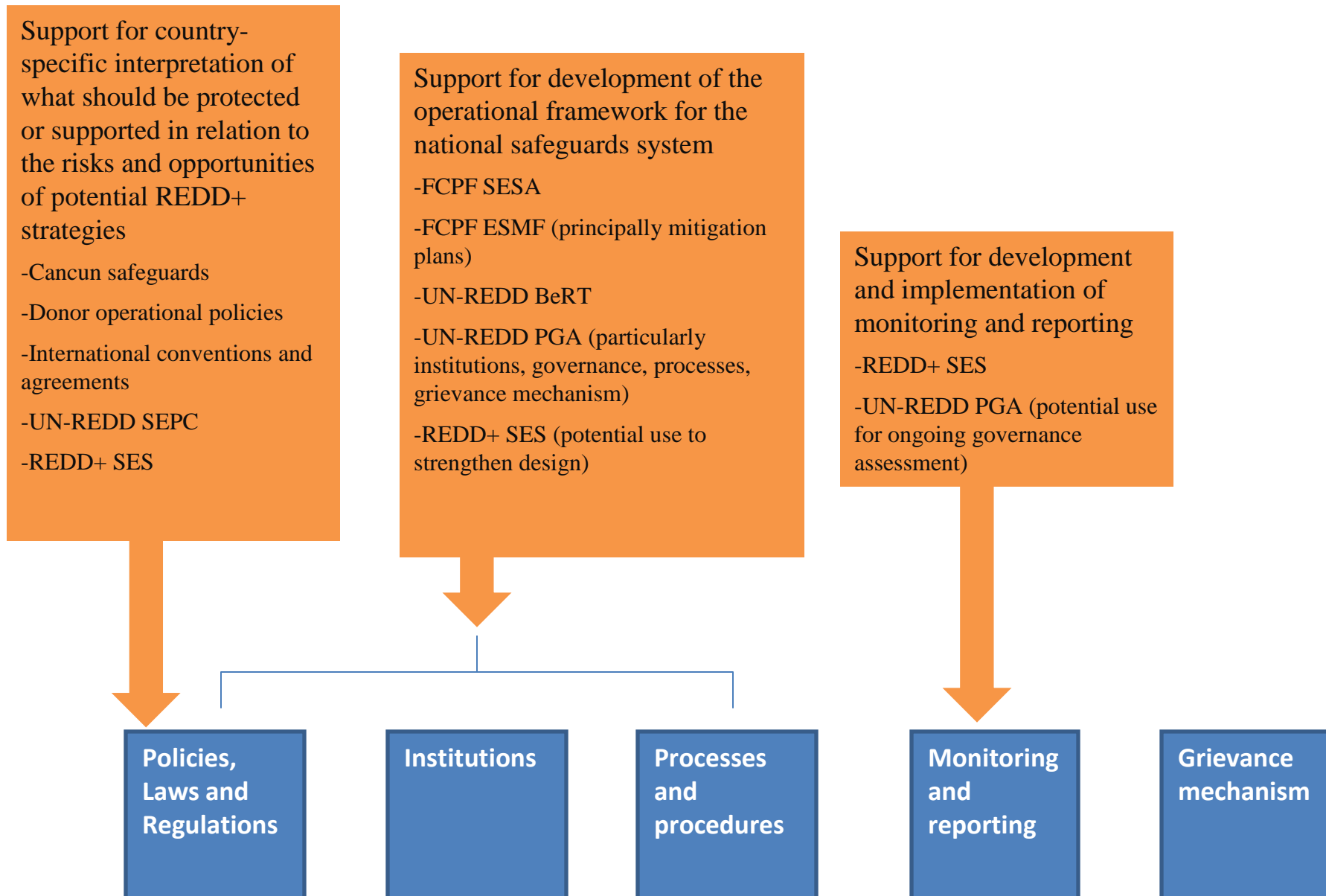
- Existing processes and mechanisms – SESA/ESMF, UN-REDD, REDD+ SES - are both similar and different in key respects
 - All support addressing and respecting safeguards in REDD+ programs
 - They function differently, with different processes and levels of stakeholder involvement
 - They are used at different phases of readiness or implementation of a REDD+ program
- Important to understand country needs to address and respect safeguards for REDD+ and to understand how different processes and mechanisms can help in different ways

=> to develop a national safeguards system for REDD+

Potential Elements of a national safeguards system for REDD+

Policies, Laws and Regulations	Policy and legal framework that defines and operationalizes country-specific safeguards interpretation for REDD+ <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Existing policies, laws and regulations-REDD+ specific policies, laws and regulations
Institutions	Institutional framework that defines roles, responsibilities and interrelations of those responsible for the safeguards system <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Institution(s) to ensure fair, effective and transparent processes for design and implementation-Institutions to implement policies, laws and regulations-Institutions to collect and process information for monitoring and reporting on safeguards
Processes and procedures	Processes and procedures that are followed to implement the safeguards system <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Consultations-Capacity building-Action plans to mitigate harm and support benefits
Monitoring and reporting	Country-specific monitoring and reporting framework <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Indicators for process and outcomes related to country-specific safeguards interpretation-Monitoring methodologies-Reporting frameworks to address different information needs (for adaptive management, for national stakeholders, for donor agencies, for UNFCCC etc)
Grievance mechanism	National-level mechanism to receive and address grievances related to the national safeguards system

International inputs to support development of a national safeguards system for REDD+



For more information:

www.REDD-standards.org

Joanna Durbin

Director
Climate, Community &
Biodiversity Alliance

jdurbin@climate-standards.org

Phil Franks

Global Coordinator
CARE Poverty,
Environment and Climate
Change Network

pfranks@careclimatechange.org

Aur lie Lhumeau

REDD+ SES Advisor
Climate, Community &
Biodiversity Alliance

alhumeau@redd-standards.org

Luis Su rez

l.suarez@conservation.org

Thank you!