



UN-REDD
PROGRAMME

Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria

Barney Dickson UNEP-WCMC

1st May 2012





SEPC as a guiding framework

- 2 years in development; consultation inside and outside UN-REDD Programme
- March 2012: UN-REDD Policy Board welcomes the Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria as a guiding framework for the UN-REDD Programme



SEPC Purpose

A guiding framework for the UN-REDD Programme to address two specific needs:

1. Addressing social and environmental issues in UN-REDD National Programmes and other UN-REDD funded activities.
 - In the formulation of national UN-REDD programmes
 - In the review, both internal and independent, of national programme documents
 - In the application of the planning, monitoring and reporting framework that guides national programme implementation
2. Supporting countries in developing national approaches to REDD+ safeguards in line with UNFCCC



Social and Environmental Principles

Principle 1 – Apply norms of democratic governance, as reflected in national commitments and Multilateral Agreements

Principle 2 - Respect and protect stakeholder rights in accordance with international obligations

Principle 3 - Promote sustainable livelihoods and poverty reduction

Principle 4 - Contribute to low-carbon, climate-resilient sustainable development policy, consistent with national development strategies, national forest programmes, and commitments under international conventions and agreements

Principle 5 - Protect natural forest from degradation and/or conversion

Principle 6 - Maintain and enhance multiple functions of forest including conservation of biodiversity ~~conservation~~ and provision of ecosystem services

Principle 7 - Avoid or minimise adverse impacts on non-forest ecosystem services and biodiversity



Social and Environmental Principles and
Criteria

Principle 4

Contribute to low-carbon, climate-resilient sustainable development policy, consistent with national development strategies, national forest programmes, and commitments under international conventions and agreements

Criterion 14 – Ensure consistency with and contribution to national climate policy objectives, including those of mitigation and adaptation strategies and international commitments on climate

Criterion 15 – Address the risk of reversals of REDD+ achievements, including potential future risks to forest carbon stocks and other benefits to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of REDD+

Criterion 16 – Ensure consistency with and contribution to national poverty reduction strategies and other sustainable development goals (including those outlined under the Millennium Development Goals framework), including alignment with ministries' and sub-national strategies and plans that may have an impact on, or be affected by the forest sector and/or land use change

Criterion 17 – Ensure consistency with and contribution to national biodiversity conservation policies (including National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans), other environmental and natural resource management policy objectives, national forest programmes, and international commitments on the environment

UN-REDD
PROGRAMME

Principle 5

Protect natural forest from degradation and/or conversion

Criterion 18 – Ensure that REDD+ activities do not cause the conversion of natural forest to planted forest, unless as part of forest restoration, and make reducing conversion of forests to other land uses (e.g. agriculture, infrastructure) a REDD+ priority

Criterion 19 – Avoid or minimise degradation of natural forest by REDD+ activities and make reducing degradation due to other causes (e.g. agriculture, extractive activities, infrastructure) a REDD+ priority

Criterion 20 – Avoid or minimise indirect land-use change impacts of REDD+ activities on forest carbon stocks, biodiversity and other ecosystem services



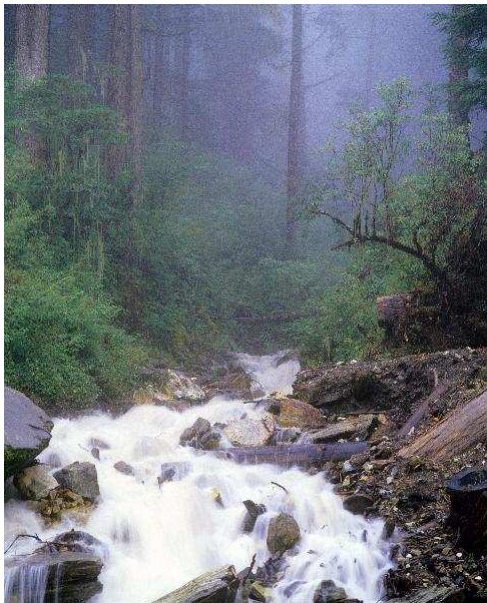
Source: FAO Kenichi Shono FO-5859



Social and Environmental Principles and
Criteria

Principle 6

Maintain and enhance multiple functions of forest including conservation of biodiversity and provision of ecosystem services



Source: FAO Masakazu Kashio FO-6793

Criterion 21 – Ensure that land-use planning for REDD+ explicitly takes account of potential synergies and trade-offs between the multiple functions of forest and the benefits they provide, respecting local and other stakeholders' values

Criterion 22 – Ensure that planted and natural forests are managed to maintain and enhance ecosystem services and biodiversity important in both local and national contexts

UN-REDD
PROGRAMME



Social and Environmental Principles and
Criteria

Principle 7

Avoid or minimise adverse impacts on non-forest ecosystem services and biodiversity

Criterion 23 – Avoid or minimise adverse impacts on carbon stocks, other ecosystem services and biodiversity of non-forest ecosystems resulting directly from REDD+ activities

Criterion 24 – Avoid or minimise adverse impacts on carbon stocks, other ecosystem services and biodiversity of non-forest ecosystems resulting indirectly from REDD+ activities (including those of indirect land-use change impacts and intensification of land use)



Benefit and Risk Tool (BeRT)

- BeRT is being developed to help apply the SEPC
- Elaborates a series of questions under each criterion to assist in the identification of issues to be addressed.



Next Steps

- Use the SEPC as a guiding framework
- Further develop BeRT to support application of the SEPC, as needed
- Continue engagement to strengthen linkages with FCPF SESA and REDD+ SES

Thank you for listening!





Principle 1

Apply norms of democratic governance, as reflected in national commitments and Multilateral Agreements

Criterion 1 – Ensure the transparency and accountability of fiduciary and fund management systems linked to REDD+ activities

Criterion 2 – Ensure legitimacy and accountability of all bodies representing relevant stakeholders, including through establishing responsive feedback and grievance mechanisms

Criterion 3 – Ensure transparency and accessibility of information related to REDD+, including active dissemination among relevant stakeholders

Criterion 4 – Ensure the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders in design, planning and implementation of REDD+ activities, with particular attention to indigenous peoples, local communities and other vulnerable and marginalized groups

Criterion 5 – Promote coordination, efficiency and effectiveness among all agencies and implementing bodies relevant to REDD+

Criterion 6 – Promote and support the rule of law, access to justice and effective remedies



Principle 2

Respect and protect stakeholder rights in accordance with international obligations

Criterion 7 – Respect and promote the recognition and exercise of the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities and other vulnerable and marginalized groups to land, territories and resources, including carbon

Criterion 8 – Promote and enhance gender equality, gender equity and women's empowerment

Criterion 9 – Seek free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and respect and uphold the decision taken (whether consent is given or withheld)

Criterion 10 – Ensure there is no involuntary resettlement as a result of REDD+

Criterion 11 – Respect and protect traditional knowledge, and cultural heritage and practices



Social and Environmental Principles and
Criteria

Principle 3

Promote sustainable livelihoods and poverty reduction

Criterion 12 – Ensure equitable, non-discriminatory and transparent benefit sharing among relevant stakeholders with special attention to the most vulnerable and marginalized groups

Criterion 13 – Protect and enhance economic and social well-being of relevant stakeholders, with special attention to the most vulnerable and marginalized groups



Social and Environmental Principles and
Criteria

Principle 4

Contribute to low-carbon, climate-resilient sustainable development policy, consistent with national development strategies, national forest programmes, and commitments under international conventions and agreements

Criterion 14 – Ensure consistency with and contribution to national climate policy objectives, including those of mitigation and adaptation strategies and international commitments on climate

Criterion 15 – Address the risk of reversals of REDD+ achievements, including potential future risks to forest carbon stocks and other benefits to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of REDD+

Criterion 16 – Ensure consistency with and contribution to national poverty reduction strategies and other sustainable development goals (including those outlined under the Millennium Development Goals framework), including alignment with ministries' and sub-national strategies and plans that may have an impact on, or be affected by the forest sector and/or land use change

Criterion 17 – Ensure consistency with and contribution to national biodiversity conservation policies (including National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans), other environmental and natural resource management policy objectives, national forest programmes, and international commitments on the environment

UN-REDD
PROGRAMME