



Supporting Countries to Develop Safeguards Information Systems

REDD+SES is unique in providing comprehensive support for the development of a country-led, multi-stakeholder safeguards information system (SIS). REDD+SES is designed to be used by national or sub-national (jurisdictional e.g. State or Provincial) REDD+ programs, showing how safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout REDD+ implementation. Building on two years' practical experience in four countries, and now expanding support to other countries, the REDD+ SES Initiative is at the forefront of efforts to operationalize SIS. REDD+ SES is highly complementary to other safeguards mechanisms, such as those developed by the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and the UN-REDD program, which help countries with development of other elements of their safeguards approach.



Benefits of a Safeguards Information System based on REDD+ SES

- Multi-stakeholder process and governance builds trust and constructive engagement and promotes shared ownership by government and civil society.
- Comprehensive framework covering UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards and more promotes a widely shared understanding of social and environmental risks and opportunities.
- Multi-stakeholder assessment enables credible reporting on safeguards and identifies areas for improvement, avoiding harm and enhancing benefits.
- Placing all key information in the public domain enhances transparency and accountability.
- Demonstrating contribution of REDD+ to national development and conservation goals, and to well-being of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, builds broad political support.



Version 2 of REDD+ SES

REDD+ SES Version 2 (September 2012) was developed through a participatory and inclusive process based on feedback from countries using the standards and other stakeholders. The standards have been streamlined, reducing the number of principles, criteria and indicators while maintaining quality and comprehensiveness. REDD+ program governance structures, financial management and gender issues have been strengthened. Indicators are expressed more simply, making them easier to understand and translate. Guidelines on how to use REDD+ SES at country level are clearer and more detailed, based on a ten step process.

REDD+ SES at the international level

An International Standards Committee representing a balance of interested parties including governments, Indigenous Peoples' organizations, community associations, social and environmental NGOs and the private sector oversees the initiative. The Climate, Community & Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA) and CARE International serve as the international secretariat with technical support from the Proforest Initiative.



Countries using REDD+ SES

From 2010

- Ecuador
- Province of Central Kalimantan, Indonesia
- Nepal
- State of Acre, Brazil

From 2012

- Guatemala
- Region of San Martin, Peru
- Liberia
- Province of East Kalimantan, Indonesia
- Mexico
- State of Amazonas, Brazil

Content of REDD+ SES

Principles, criteria and indicators define high social and environmental performance. The principles and criteria remain the same across all countries but indicators are adapted to the country context.

PRINCIPLES

1. The REDD+ Program recognizes and respects rights to lands, territories and resources.
2. The benefits of the REDD+ program are shared equitably among all relevant rights holders and stakeholders.
3. The REDD+ program improves long-term livelihood security and well-being of Indigenous Peoples and local communities with special attention to women and the most marginalized and/or vulnerable people.
4. The REDD+ program contributes to good governance, to broader sustainable development and to social justice..
5. The REDD+ program maintains and enhances biodiversity and ecosystem services.
6. All relevant rights holders and stakeholders participate fully and effectively in the REDD+ program.
7. The REDD+ program complies with applicable local and national laws and international treaties, conventions and other instruments.

Process for Using REDD+ SES at Country Level

The ten-step REDD+ SES process has three core elements: **governance** (steps 2-3), **interpretation** (steps 4-6) and **assessment** (steps 7-10).

1. **Awareness raising/capacity building** to facilitate effective stakeholder participation in the REDD+ SES process.

GOVERNANCE

2. **Establish the facilitation team** composed of government and civil society to organize the REDD+ SES process.
3. **Create the Standards Committee** composed of government, indigenous peoples, local communities, NGOs, private sector and other relevant stakeholder groups to oversee the use of REDD+ SES, where appropriate building on an existing body.

INTERPRETATION

4. **Develop plan for the REDD+ SES process** to clarify activities, responsibilities, funding and timeline.
5. **Develop draft country-specific indicators** to adapt REDD+ SES to the country context.
6. **Organize consultations on indicators** to facilitate input from stakeholders before approval by the country-level Standards Committee.

ASSESSMENT

7. **Prepare monitoring and assessment plans** to define what specific information is required, methods and responsibilities for information collection and analysis, and how the assessment report will be prepared, reviewed, approved and disseminated.
8. **Collect and assess monitoring information** to compile a draft report assessing performance against each indicator.
9. **Organize stakeholder review of draft assessment report** to enhance the quality and credibility of the report before approval by the country-level Standards Committee.
10. **Publish the assessment report** to make a full report of performance against REDD+ SES indicators publicly available.

For more information on REDD+ SES in different languages, and to learn about progress in each country see www.redd-standards.org or contact the international secretariat:

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