



UN-REDD
PROGRAMME

Safeguards Working Group

Social and Environmental Safeguards and
Stakeholder Consultation processes

Bangladesh REDD+ Readiness Roadmap process

Workshop, 25th October 2011





Participants



- Mn Tapos Kanti Das: New Age Staff Correspondent
- Md Abdul Quddus: SRO, Arannayk Foundation
- Ashraful Haque: WTB
- (Nuzhat Imam: Oxfam) excuses
- Abm Nasirul Alam: CEO, Bandarban Hill Dist
- Biplab Chakma: CHTDF
- Dr Md Shajahan:
- Tanveer Murshed Khan: Participatory Approach





Legal Compliance

- International obligations to be followed include:
- UNFCCC (goes without saying), CBD, UNACC, UNDRIP, ILO 107, 111, 169 (not signed by BD govt)
- Ensure rights of local people in forests, occupational (livelihood) rights



Cross-sectoral issues

- Emphasis on effect on water sources
- Fisheries in Sunderbans governed by Forest Dept. Most people's livelihoods depend on fisheries; trade and trends will be affected by changes in forest law.
- Forest industry – Chittagong, Khulna paper mill (running from bamboo from CHT). Impacts on employment, local development.
- Agriculture sector in the widest sense
- Energy



Rights issues

- Hill Council need to be involved – discussions on shifting cultivation and environmental sustainability
- Access to MFPs for household use, especially bamboo. Subsistence or commercial use rights?.
- Community ownership of forest areas –unclear status. Ancestral rights also not recognized.
- Local people must be part of management (but must be subject to some control). Self-imposed controls (FPIC).
- Traditional dependence on forests for resource extraction.
- Respect for local knowledge
- Right to information is already a legal right in Bangladesh.



Key interest groups for consultation/participation

- Forest dpt, ENGOs, Local govt, CSOs, Human rights NGOs, researchers, grassroots communities, policymakers, local influencers, forest resource collectors, shamans , matabors (local traditional leaders), co-management councils, hill councils.
- ENGOs can be watchdogs, but NGOs must get their mandate for participation only from affected stakeholders. REPRESENTATION
- **Which groups require help:** Grassroots stakeholders, matabors, local govt.
- **What help:** Key issue for local govt is trust-building, other issues are skills at negotiation, delegation, developing collaborative action. Capitalising indigenous knowledge



Barriers to participation

- Skills, knowledge, trust
- Traditional culture.
- Administrative culture.
- Lack of respect for local knowledge.
- Lack of education.
- Poor governance structure.
- Bottom-up in rhetoric only – top-down in practice.
- Unequal ownership distribution



Consequences of poor consultation

- More mistrust, people stay away (reduced participation)
- **How to avoid?**
- Facilitators must see themselves as servants of the community
- Don't come to community with pre-cooked approaches – build on their own ideas.
- Give local people the job of facilitation (after due training)



How do local livelihoods suffer from poor policy?

- Taxes (official and unofficial), rent-seeking
- Poor policy leads to poor forests leads to resource scarcity leads to livelihood impacts.
- Unsustainable resource extraction affects long-term livelihoods. Water flow is very much affected.
- Good policy may be poorly implemented – with the same adverse effects.
- Spirit of forest policy is income generation – not protection. This must change.
- Local people will protect forests if their ownership is recognized and respected.



How can policy enhance livelihoods?

- Promote alternative livelihood development.
- Reduce dependence on forest.
- Maximise BENEFIT from forests (not just income).
- Revolving funds – encouraging matching contributions from community.



Environmental risks

- Extensive debate
- To be continued...



What can the group do?

- Attend meeting, go to field
- Carry out field consultations with community.
- Help develop Roadmap text.
- Outreach REDD+ to communities.
- Technical assistance for PRA.
- Community mobilizing
- Anti-corruption risk management – assessment
- Online interaction as well as physical – most easy.
- For formulating strategies – set assignments from UNDP



Next meeting

- 25th November (or nearest date) for next meeting. Between 23rd Nov and 4th Dec.
- Prior to meeting: Complete summary of issues to be covered by WG – context.
- At meeting:
- Finalise ToR: Objectives, tasks.
- Identify consultation work in field and request support from supporting agencies (UNDP/FAO) as necessary.



What support is required?

- Timely information dissemination – relating to safeguards and consultation in the Roadmap process.
- REDD Cell focal point
- Supporting agency (UNDP/FAO) focal point.
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- Group is optimistic about maintaining the momentum: This concept is different from previous experiences
- Think about WG roles later on – make it as informal as possible (maybe no chair).

Thank you for listening!

