



MISSION REPORT

<b>Distribution:</b> CCB, SMT, UNEP UN-REDD	<b>Name of person(s) that undertook mission:</b> Blaise Bodin (BB)
	<b>Period (including travel days):</b> 14-20 September 2015
	<b>Projects:</b> 2650.07 UN-REDD DRC safeguards and 6347
	<b>Institution(s) or Meeting(s) and Venue(s):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National REDD coordination</li> </ul>
	<b>Main Person(s) contacted:</b> Rubin Rashidi, Victor Kabengele (CN-REDD) Antoine Drouillard (World Bank)
	<b>Objective(s):</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Analyse the results of the field testing of the National REDD+ standards together with national partners</li> <li>2. Present the consolidated results to the group of national experts and civil society in order to finalize the principles, criteria and indicators of the national REDD+ standards</li> </ol>

**Achievement of objectives:**

**1. Analyse the results of the field testing of the National REDD+ standards together with national partners**

The results of a test round of applying the criteria and indicators to four REDD+ projects in the DRC were analysed together with the national expert Rubin Rashidi. A proposal for the wider group of experts was then drafted on the basis of this feedback from the field, with the following changes proposed:

- Merging some criteria that were redundant
- Finalize indicators (with associated targets where relevant) based on feedback from projects on what is realistic in terms of monitoring
- Establish a core set of data sources that need to be put in place by the project and can provide information on multiple indicators. This could inform the structure of the SIS as it will need to be able to process these different types of information.

In addition, the data collected comprised information about current levels of application of the criteria, challenges in applying them and recommendations could form a useful resource between the current projects and for new projects that are struggling to apply them. There were discussions of a “guidebook” to be handed out to projects at the start of the national accreditation process and this could form a good basis for it.

**2. Present the consolidated results to the group of national experts and civil society in order to finalize the principles, criteria and indicators of the national REDD+ standards**

The results were well received and changes to the text of the document agreed, providing a strong basis for its validation later in the year.

In contrast with the solid foundation thus established for the provision of information on how the Cancun safeguards are applied at the project level, there are still open questions on how they may apply to other forms of REDD+ implementation.

The current model of REDD+ implementation in the DRC relies on the governmental accreditation of projects at jurisdictional and even sub-jurisdictional scale. The funding sources for these projects are varied but in the future, accredited projects may all be nested within a national approach and funding, including from results-based payments, centralized through a national REDD+ Fund.

Accordingly, it will be key to the effectiveness of the evaluation of projects through the application of principles, criteria and indicators for the results to feed back to the allocation of funds, and for the National Fund to have its own set of procedures that ensure the application of the Cancun safeguards. The Terms of Reference of the National Fund, in discussion between UNDP and the government, were not available for analysis at the time of the mission, but should warrant attention for future work in this area.

**Recommendation(s)/Action(s) to be taken:**

<b>Follow up action:</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Time-frame (by)</b>
Liaise with CN-REDD on the organisation of validation workshop for the National Standards	BB	Done

<b>Detailed report</b> [ ] incl. [X] N/A.	<b>Documents</b> [ ] incl. [ ] list [ X ] non	<b>Date</b> 15 Feb 2016
<b>Classification</b> [ ] restr. [X] unrestr.	<b>Signature(s) staff member(s)</b>	<b>Signature(s) supervisor</b>