



**UN-REDD**  
PROGRAMME

## UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles & Criteria

### **SEPC Tool**

Barney Dickson, UNEP-WCMC

December 2011





# Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria (SEPC) Purpose

- Principles & Criteria intended to help UN-REDD Programme ensure that its activities promote social and environmental benefits and reduce risks from REDD+
- Proposed UN-REDD Programme uses are:
  1. assisting countries in formulating national REDD+ programmes and initiatives for which they seek UN-REDD support;
  2. reviewing national programmes prior to submission for a UN-REDD Policy Board decision on funding and
  3. assessing national programme delivery.



# SEPC Tool

## Aims



- Developed in the first instance to help countries apply SEPC in formulating national REDD+ programmes
- Help REDD+ teams work through how programme addresses SEPC (guidance only, not prescriptive)
- Later versions will address review of national programmes and of their outcomes



# SEPC Tool Structure



## Principle 5 – Protect natural forest from degradation and/or conversion to other land uses, including plantation forest

Criterion 18 – Ensure that REDD+ activities do not cause the conversion of natural forest to other land uses, including plantation forest, and make reducing conversion due to other causes (e.g. agriculture, timber and fuelwood extraction, infrastructure development) a REDD+ priority

Primary Question	Sub-question	Relevant Resources	Response to Sub-questions	Response to Primary Question (Yes/No)	Risk(s)/ Opportunity (ies)	Options for Action	Proposed Action(s)



# SEPC Tool Example

Principle 5 – Protect natural forest from degradation and/or conversion to other land uses, including plantation forest

Criterion 18 – Ensure that REDD+ activities do not cause the conversion of natural forest to other land uses, . . .

1. Is there sufficient information about natural forest to allow this criterion to be assessed?
  - a. Is there a clear definition of natural forest in use in your country? (e.g. is there guidance about age, composition, and degree of degradation? are secondary forests included? are any planted native forests included?). . . .
  - b. . . .
2. . . .
3. Will REDD+ actions explicitly avoid conversion of natural forest to other land uses?
  - a. Does the national programme document and/or strategy explicitly exclude conversion of natural forest in the course of REDD activities?( e.g. . . . land use planning)
  - b. . . .
4. . . .





# SEPC Tool Content

- For each criterion, the questions cover broadly
  - Availability of information needed to assess the criterion
  - Existing measures outside the REDD+ programme (e.g. national legislative context)
  - Explicit measures included in the REDD+ programme
  - Provisions for monitoring and adaptive management
- Resources for answering the questions
- Identification by user of
  - benefits/opportunities and risks
  - potential actions for building on or mitigating these



# SEPC Tool Review Process

- Draft tool soon to be released for review until 15<sup>th</sup> Jan; see [www.un-redd.org](http://www.un-redd.org) for further information
- Comments welcome on:
  - Utility for applying the current version of the P & C in developing national programmes
  - Effectiveness in elaborating on the full range of issues raised by the P & C
  - Clarity & comprehensibility of the questions, and feasibility of answering them
  - Value in identifying risks and opportunities associated with national REDD+ programmes
- National pilot testing planned