

Review of the UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria

Ecuador

Num.	Criterion/Principle	Comment
1	Process	It is mentioned that the indicators for social and environment effects of REDD+ will be developed at national level. On one hand, it allows to tailor indicators that suit the national context. On the other hand, it makes difficult to report and compare at the international level. How is it planned to assess REDD+ programmes that will be reporting on compliance with P&C or demonstration achievement based on different indicators?
2	Context	It is mentioned that the Principles and Criteria do not include monitoring and reporting. How is it planned to ensure that REDD+ Programs are monitored and adapted based on the assessment realized through the Principle and Criteria at national level?
3	Criterion 3	Dissemination of information on REDD+ to stakeholders, provided in a culturally appropriate manner and in a timely way, is one of the key elements of governance. Although it is included in the Risk and Mitigation Tool, it would be important for the Principles and Criteria take it into account. It could be included in Criterion 3: 'Ensure appropriate information and full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders in policy design and implementation, with special attention to the most vulnerable and marginalized groups' since information is a pre-requisite to participation and decision-making.
4	Principle 2	It may be interesting to distinguish between 'rights holders' who are those whose rights are being potentially affected by the REDD+ program and 'stakeholders' who are 'those whose interests/stakes are potentially affected by the program'. How are the relevant stakeholders being identified?
5	Principle 2	Principle 2 ensures the respect and protection of stakeholder rights but does not consider rights to lands, territories and resources, both statutory and customary. Clarification, recognition and respect of land rights being a pre-requisite to REDD+ implementation and goes with the respect of the free, prior and informed consent for any activities affecting lands, territories and resources as well as avoiding involuntary resettlement. Thus it should be considered in a new criterion.
6	Principle 3	Define 'livelihoods' in the glossary. The definition should take into accounts social, cultural, human, financial, physical, natural and political capitals.
7	Criterion 11	Define 'efficiency' and 'effectiveness' in the glossary.
8	Principles 6 y 7	Define 'ecosystem services' in the glossary.
9	Principle 7	'Minimise' may be too broad and may not guarantee the mitigation of harmful impacts. Actions should be preventive. 'Minimise' could be replaced by 'Prevent indirect adverse impacts on ecosystem services and biodiversity'
10	Principle 7	Harmonize the three criteria either with 'impacts' or 'effects'.



11	Glossary	The definition of 'Full and effective (stakeholder) participation' is the same as for 'Relevant stakeholder', which does not seem appropriate. The definition 'full and effective participation' should be more precise and could draw from the one used by the REDD+ SES: 'Full and effective participation means meaningful influence of all relevant stakeholder groups who want to be involved throughout the process, and includes consultations and free, prior and informed consent'.
----	----------	--