



Environmental and Social Safeguards Roadmap for Vietnam's National REDD+ Action Programme

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1. Vietnam's REDD+ readiness process and the NRAP
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Vietnam's readiness process

- Vietnam – one of the first Asian countries to engage in REDD+
 - FCPF - R-PIN (2008) → R-PP (2010) → ER-PIN (2013...?)
 - UN-REDD – first country programme (Phase I: 2009-2012; Phase II...)
 - Numerous NGO interventions (14 projects end 2012)
- Focus of readiness efforts to date:
 1. Institutional development – steering committee; standing office
 2. Stakeholder engagement – network; 6x working groups; FPIC
 3. Benefit distribution system – research on design options
 4. Reference (Emission) Levels – methodological proposals
 5. Measuring, Reporting, Verifying framework – outline national system

Culminating in **National REDD+ Action Programme** (June 2012)



National REDD+ Action Programme

- Environmental and social safeguard policy commitments:
 - Overall objective
 - Specific objective
 - Guiding principles
 - Policy integration
 - Fund management
 - Benefit distribution
 - International co-operation
- Reiterates Cancun safeguards but does not prescribe actions



Pilot activities

- National Measuring, Reporting, Verifying framework document (MRV)
 - ‘With reference to safeguards information’ – web-based portal by Phase II
- Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)
 - Guidelines developed, applied and evaluated in one pilot province
- Benefit distribution system (BDS)
 - R-coefficients (payment weighting); self-selection procedures for BDS
- Participatory governance assessment (PGA)
 - Multi-stakeholder assessment (instigated March 2012)
- Participatory carbon monitoring (PCM):
 - Technical manual developed and tested in one pilot province

UN-REDD
PROGRAMME



Sub-technical working group

- STWG on environmental & social safeguards (STWG-SG)
 - 1/6 STWG: BDS; governance; local implementation; MRV; private sector
 - Chaired by VNFOREST-Vietnam REDD+ Office and SNV (MB-REDD)
 - Inaugural meeting (28 February 2012)
- Objective
 - Co-ordinated technical assistance delivered to GoV and other stakeholders
 - Operationalising safeguards to promote social and environmental multiple benefits
 - At national, subnational and local levels



International policy research

Conceptual framework
- broad options for national governments

- **National policy strengthening and coherence**
- **National REDD+ programme-level safeguards**
- **Regulatory instruments**
- **Economic incentives**
- **Integrated subnational planning**
- **Monitoring and reporting**



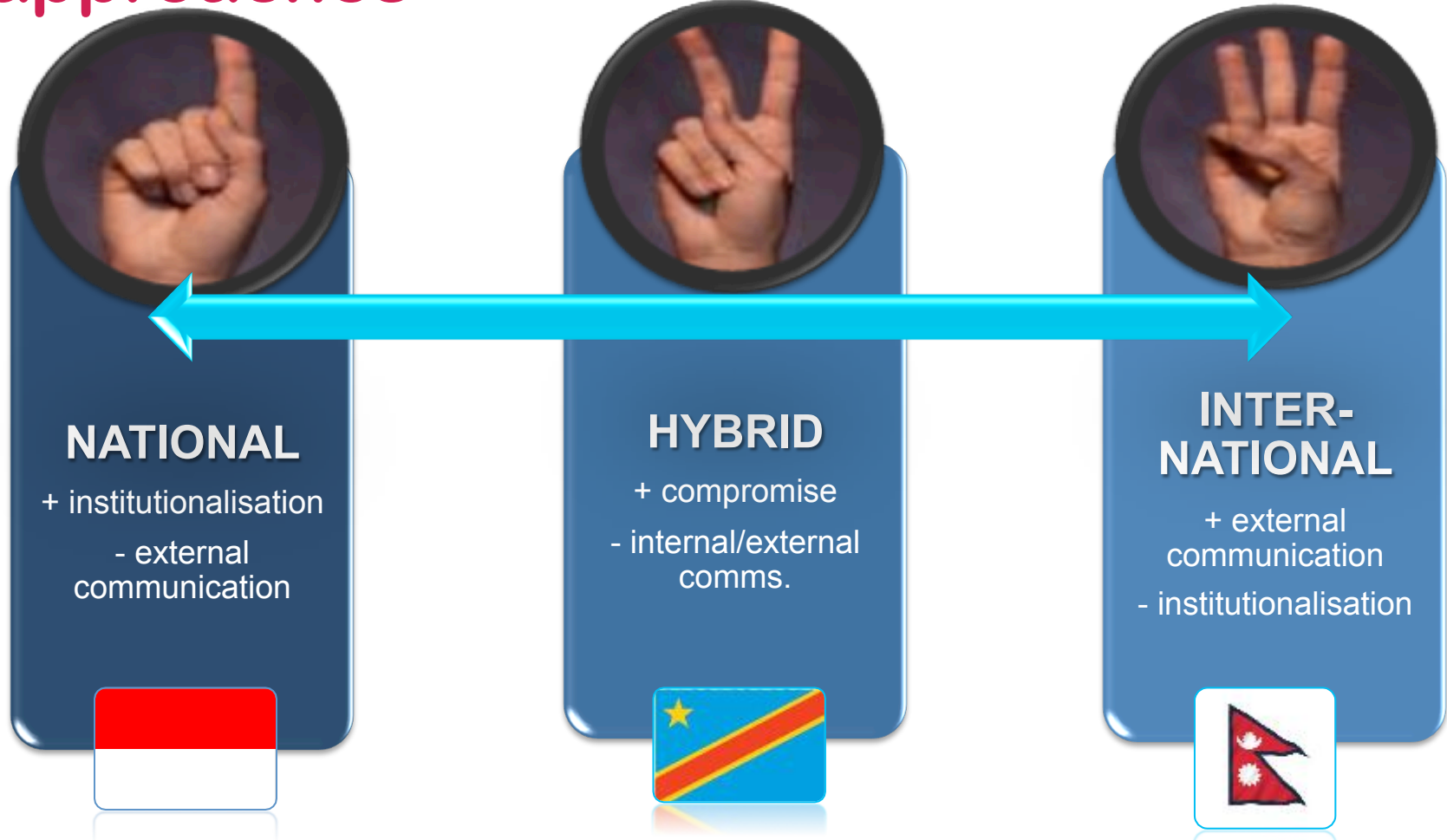
National safeguards response



- 1. Comparative analysis** - Cancun safeguards, SESA, SEPC, SES
 - institutional processes; purposes; content; applications
- 2. Options assessment** → guiding national safeguards approaches
 - basis for developing generic guidance
 - multiple safeguards addressed in a single country-led process
- 3. Roadmap development** → phased national safeguards response
 - gap analysis of existing policies, plans, programmes, practices
 - assess against Cancun safeguards, with view to other frameworks



Options for developing national approaches



Safeguards roadmap - objective

- Phased safeguards approach for NRAP:
 - What Vietnam has in place already in terms of '5Ps'?
 - What are the gaps/weaknesses in the existing '5Ps'?
 - What would Vietnam need to fill the gaps to meet...?

1. Cancun safeguards (and other int'l agreements)

2. Emerging near-future financing options

FCPF Carbon Fund; Vietnam interim national fund?

3. Other major multilateral safeguard frameworks

e.g. REDD+ SES



Safeguards roadmap – process

I

- defining scope and initial stakeholder engagement

II

- gap/weakness analysis of '5Ps'
 - **policies** – what is codified in national policy ordinance?
 - **programmes** – what provisions in national programmes?
 - **plans** – what provisions in sectoral or subnational plans?
 - **processes** – other relevant processes, e.g. FLEGT VPA?
 - **practice** – how above actually implemented on the ground?

III

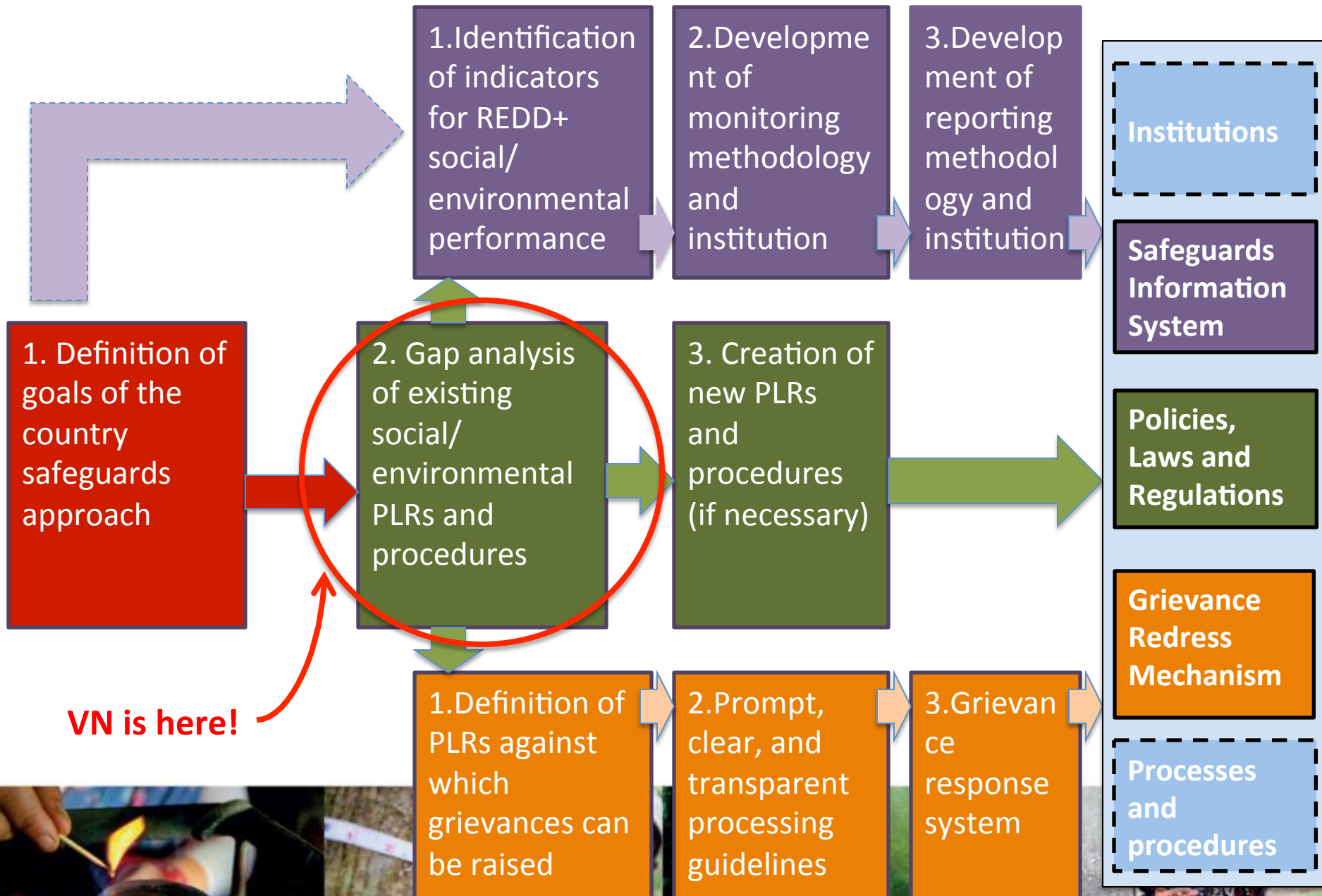
- drafting roadmap and stakeholder consultation



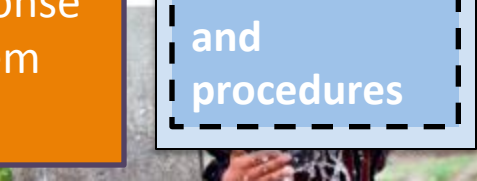
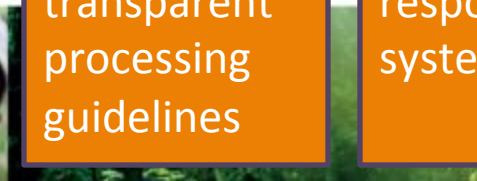
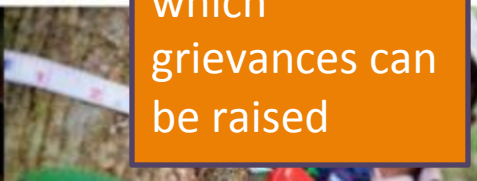
5P gap analysis

Cancun safeguards	Interpretation criteria	Criteria origin	Policies, plans, programmes, processes	Practice
<p>(a) Actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements</p>	<p>1. Statements of commitment to national poverty reduction strategies, MDGs, national biodiversity conservation policies/action plans, and other sustainable development strategies</p>	<p>SEPC Principle 4, Criterion 16 and Criterion 17</p> <p>REDD+ SES Principle 7, Criterion 7.1</p> <p>REDD+ SES Principle 4, Criterion 4.6</p>	<p>1. Law on Environmental Protection (LEP) Article 4, Clause 1: "Environmental protection must be in harmony with economic development and assure social advancement for national sustainable development..."</p>	<p>LEP does not make specific statements of commitment to national poverty reduction strategies, MDGs, national biodiversity conservation policies, etc.. However, Article 4, Clause 1 does make general commitment to harmonizing environmental protection with economic development...</p>

Country safeguards approach



VN is here!



Challenges

- Persistent uncertainties
 - international climate change negotiations
 - proliferation of REDD+ safeguard frameworks, tools, etc.
- Limited capacity
 - inside government, outside government
 - challenge to co-ordinate a country-led safeguard response
- Limited co-ordination
 - between government agencies
 - between development partners
- Participation costs
 - across government agencies
 - penetrating down subnational/local



Looking forward...

- GoV leadership in **strategically** co-ordinating national safeguards process(es) (e.g. national safeguards framework...?)
- SESA oriented to meet national SEA requirements; ESMF developed as prototype SIS
- Seize immediate policy reform opportunities: National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan; Law on Environmental Protection
- Secure/target resources for civil society capacity development (links to FLEGT-VPA)
- Participatory monitoring pilots linked to national forest monitoring system(s)
- Start to consider grievance redress mechanism (GRM) options...



Thank you!



Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

- Further information:

