

Minutes
Safeguards Group Teleconference
(Support to National REDD+ Action / Global Programme)
21 November 2012, 3.00 pm CET

Attendance:

FAO: Emelyne Cheney
UNDP: Kimberly Todd
UNEP: Barney Dickson, Julie Greenwalt
UN-REDD Secretariat: Helena Eriksson, Clea Paz

Agenda:

1. Approval of agenda
2. Policy Brief update
3. Summary of the Workshop on Multiple Benefits and Safeguards and recent/forthcoming Safeguards events/work
4. Conceptual framework
5. 2013 work planning – discuss potential timing/location for in-person meeting in early 2013
6. AOB

1. Approval of draft agenda

The draft agenda was approved.

2. Policy Brief update

The updated version of the Policy Brief on National Approaches to Safeguards will be shared with the group early next week. Some comments were received from Joanna Durbin (REDD+ SES). It will not be ready for official release at COP18. The question arose whether it can be distributed in hard copies at the side-event once the final content is agreed on.

Action: After some updates, the draft brief will be sent to the group early next week.

Action: Presumably not possible to share the brief at the side-event, but Secretariat to check.

3. Summary of the Workshop on Multiple Benefits and Safeguards and recent/forthcoming Safeguards event/work

Workshop was attended by 46 participants and 14 countries were represented. It was no major overlap between workshop participants and PB meeting participants which widened the range of expertise. Six country presentations were held. Kim gave a presentation on national approach to safeguards. The mean of break-out groups was appreciated. Monitoring issues, SIS and their impacts were discussed at the workshop. Emphasize on needs to include both environment and social safeguards and review their linkages. From a WCMC/UNEP's perspective it is relevant to look at tools and methodologies in relation to benefits and risks and their linkages. Draft workshop report will be sent to participants within the week and final report will be ready by 30 Nov.

FAO: FAO is organizing an expert meeting on forest governance data collection in Brussels on 28-29 Nov (together with UNDP, WB & EFI); a UN-REDD workshop on tenure will take place in February in Rome and the planning of the targeted support on safeguards in Zambia will soon start. *UNDP:* Leo is undertaking several targeted support related duty travels.

UNEP: On-going targeted support dialogue with Costa Rica; Targeted support related activities in both Argentina and Zambia will start early next year; planned training of Nigeria staff on SEPC; A "Multiple benefit sharing" Workshop to take place in Cambodia, 20-21 December.

Action: All to ensure that activities are included in the Workspace calendar.

4. Conceptual framework

The group did not highlight any major changes needed and appreciated the work on the document. UNDP mentioned that it will be scaled back/scope to be narrowed. The group's comments referred to:

- A change was noted of 'country' instead of 'national' but no strong preference.
- With regard to the list in section 3, agreed to use "tools, guidelines and methodologies" instead of only "tools".
- The content of the list differs from the tools listed in the NP Handbook, e.g. BerT is not in the Handbook, and some further thoughts on this are needed. It was suggested to discuss it outside the group and bring it back to the group especially since the list is also included in the draft Policy Brief on Safeguards. It was a consensus that it is important to finalize the document and to review this aspect also in the planning phase.
- Some clarity on 'Participatory Law development, LEG-REDD+' was sought.
- UNEP suggestion to have text added that reflects the implementation aspect more thoroughly, in terms of processes and procedures supporting the two core elements of a country approach (e.g., defining natural forests and what information/maps are needed). UNDP will follow up with UNEP to ensure this is captured in the next version before it's sent around.

Action: UNDP will address comments and send the conceptual framework back to the group next week.

5. 2013 work planning – discuss potential timing/location for in-person meeting in early 2013

The date of the Safeguards Group's proposed face-to-face meeting will be agreed on by email. The suggestion is to arrange it back to back with UNDP's retreat tentatively taking place 4 - 8 February 2013 in Geneva). Given the scheduling of the UNEP retreat the week prior to this, the proposed dates for the safeguards group planning meeting are 11-12 February. As the agenda is formulated, the group will discuss further whether a 1 or 2 day meeting is needed.

Action: Secretariat to follow up by email to the Group.

6. AOB

No AOB was reported.

Next conference call: TBD.