



# **Nigeria's Experiences on Safeguards for REDD+**

## **REDD+ Beyond Carbon: Safeguards and Multiple Benefits**

**Salisu Dahiru**

**Nigeria's National Coordinator REDD+**

**[sdahiru85@yahoo.com](mailto:sdahiru85@yahoo.com)**

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# Background

UNFCCC - Cancun 2010

**REDD+**

**Reducing Emissions from  
= Deforestation and  
forest Degradation**

**+**

**Conservation of forest carbon stocks  
Sustainable management of forests  
Enhancement of forest carbon stocks**



## Background (contd.)

- The “Plus” – side represents multiple benefits of REDD+;
- Thus, REDD+ has potentials to deliver **multiple benefits** beyond carbon; (social & environmental benefits);
- However, there are also potential **risks** associated with implementation of REDD+;
- UNFCCC (Cancun, 2010) agree that for REDD+ to be effective in the long term, it must not undermine biodiversity & multiple benefits;
- Safeguards have therefore been developed to ensure that REDD+ activities do not lead to negative impacts on multiple benefits;
- Safeguards recognize the risks & opportunities of REDD+;





## Safeguards in Nigeria's REDD+ process

- In Nigeria, appreciating the linkage between multiple benefits and improved rural livelihoods is critical for securing the participation of forest dependent communities in REDD+;
- Thus, Nigeria incorporated enhancing social & environmental benefits early in the design of its REDD+ programme;
- A workshop in August 2011 reviewed both Nigeria's draft UNREDD National Programme Document (NPD) & the UNREDD Programme's draft Social & Environmental Principles & Criteria;





## **Safeguards in Nigeria's REDD+ process (contd.)**

- **Outcomes: Revealed that Nigeria's draft UNREDD-NPD already included many elements that would help to enhance multiple benefits and reduce risks of REDD+ activities;**
- **Identified several potential benefits of REDD+ actions, such as improved conservation of biodiversity & supplies of NTFPs; enhanced food security; empowerment of women & youth; employment; etc;**
- **Identified risks of some kinds of REDD+ actions, such as loss of revenue or employment; disruption of traditional customs; and conflict over ownership rights (for land & carbon)**





## Stakeholder participation in dialogue on safeguards

- Biodiversity experts, Indigenous and Local Communities have been included as statutory members of REDD+ governance bodies at National & Cross River State levels;
- Ensuring their active participation in REDD+ planning from the on-set, including safeguards;
- Nigeria also conducted Preliminary Study and Mapping of biodiversity, carbon and multiple benefits overlays (in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC); aimed at identifying & prioritizing high biodiversity and high carbon areas.





## **Future work on safeguards of REDD+**

- **Next Steps: Assessment of ecosystem multiple benefits at national and local levels as part of future work on safeguards, including;**
- **Identification and mapping of risks & opportunities;**
- **Operationalization of Safeguards; including prioritization of financial support;**
- **Participatory & community based monitoring of biodiversity impacts, women groups are involved in CRS;**
- **Phasing of activities;**
- **Promotion of alternative livelihood options; such as snail & bush meat production; Renewable energy, etc.**
- **Continuous awareness creation, capacity building & stakeholder involvement ; and synergies.**



## **Concluding Messages**

- **For REDD+ to succeed, it must include safeguards in early REDD+ planning;**
- **Stakeholder participation is a critical requirement in understanding and operationalizing safeguards;**
- **Forest Dependent Communities must be supported with requisite capacity building towards monitoring safeguards;**
- **Enhancement of alternative livelihoods for FDCs, while waiting to advance past the Readiness phase must be assured;**
- **REDD+ countries need to prioritize & standardize their biodiversity & multiple benefit needs;**



*Thank you for your  
attention!*