

# REDD+ Safeguards in the Philippine Context

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## In the Philippine context:

The safeguards ensure that in the conduct of REDD+, local actors and communities:

- Are full and effective participants in decision-making and implementation
- Equitably share in the carbon, social and environmental benefits derived from REDD+



# Philippine National REDD+ Strategy

2010 - 2020

**Vision** Empowered forestlands managers and support groups sustainably and equitably managing forestlands and ancestral domains with enhanced carbon stock and reduced greenhouse gases emission.

## **Impact Areas**

- Reduced forest degradation and deforestation
- Poverty alleviation
- Biodiversity conservation
- Improved governance

**Mission** Forestlands, protected areas, and ancestral domains managers to assume responsibility in implementing REDD-plus programs, research, projects and activities with the support of the international, national and local agencies, NGOs and other support groups.

# Safeguards Monitoring & Implementation

## Policy and Rights Framework

- Constitutional Rights
  - Right to balanced and healthful ecology
  - Public participation, access to justice, access to information
  - Public accountability, transparency
- Environmental Impact Statement System
- Free and Prior Informed Consent
  - Indigenous Peoples Rights Act & Revised Guidelines for FPIC 2012
- Benefit sharing
  - Forest Code, Local Government Code, National Integrated Protected Areas System
- Community-based Forest Management Strategy
- National Climate Change Action Plan
- Philippine National REDD+ Strategy
  - Corruption Risk Assessment Project (ongoing under UN-REDD Philippine program)
- National REDD+ Safeguards Guidelines (being developed under UN-REDD Philippine program)

# Safeguards Monitoring & Implementation Challenges



*Didipio IP.* Image: Solidarity  
Philippines Australia Network

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- No focused experience on forests exclusively
  - No formal way to check effectiveness of monitoring/implementation
  - Little concentrated efforts to streamline safeguards monitoring/implementation in forest sector
  - Lack of clearinghouse mechanisms
  - Corruption risks in the Forestry and Natural Resource Sectors
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# Safeguards Monitoring & Implementation

## Financial Flows

- Current: “Traditional” aid and bilateral/multilateral assistance
- Long-term:
  - Inclusion in national budget items (People’s Survival Fund, etc.)
  - Financing through local development banks (Landbank, Development Bank of the Philippines)
- Ultimately: vision of REDD+ beyond carbon credits





# Safeguards Monitoring & Implementation Innovations

- Strong CSO leadership in context of presented by gaps in government leadership
- REDD+ 101 for government officials, CSOs, communities
- REDD+ Hour and COLOR IT REDD+, REDD+ Roadshows
  - Communities are able to connect with REDD+ culturally and through other grassroots activities







The PNRPS presents REDD+ as an opportunity to achieve **multiple objectives** and focuses **heavily on communities**, as most remaining forests in the Philippines are under some form of community management, largely within indigenous lands. The PNRPS seeks not only to maximize REDD-plus **social co-benefits**, but to utilize REDD-plus as a tool to promote **community empowerment, tenure and effective resource management**. This includes community rights to determine how and whether they engage in REDD+.





Thank you!