# UN-REDD Programme Policy Brief #03

# Putting REDD+ Safeguards and Safeguard Information Systems Into Practice

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| **Key messages[[2]](#footnote-2)**   * Countries undertaking REDD+ activities need to develop country-level approaches that enable them to respond to requirements outlined in recent United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) agreements, which aim to ensure social and environmental risks are minimized and benefits enhanced. REDD+ countries also need to carefully consider further objectives that the country approach may need to achieve, such as responding to the requirements of organizations providing support for REDD+ activities. * In order to develop a country-level safeguard approach that is responsive to the Cancun Agreements, it is useful to define the generic elements of such an approach. This could help to coordinate and harmonize activities. * A country-level REDD+ safeguard approach can be thought of as comprising two main elements: 1) policies, laws and regulations (PLRs) that clarify the objectives and requirements to address the specific risks and benefits of REDD+ in the country; and 2) a safeguard information system (SIS) that collects and provides information on how safeguards are being addressed and respected. Cross-cutting institutions and processes are likely to be needed in the design and operation of these elements. * REDD+ safeguard approaches can build extensively on both existing country PLRs, as well as systems for collecting and reporting information. However, existing systems and institutions will need to be carefully assessed by countries in order to determine how well they meet the objectives and identify gaps. * While the means to address and respect REDD+ safeguards will vary between countries, based on national circumstances, there are generic steps that may be useful for countries to consider for the development of their safeguard approaches. * New PLRs and information systems may be required where countries do not have existing systems in place or where the suite of PLRs in place needs to be enhanced or supplemented with other measures. These are most likely to be required for some of the more unique attributes of REDD+, such as carbon rights, which are often not defined in existing legislation. * A number of internationally developed instruments already exist that aim to support countries to develop REDD+ safeguards. The proliferation of different instruments has caused confusion in some countries in regards to their objectives, scope and structure. However, the different international safeguards instruments can help support countries on the development of different parts of their safeguard approaches, and therefore should be seen as complementary. |

# Introduction

Policies to Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+) could bring significant benefits for people and the environment, through, for example, the creation of employment or the protection of local environmental services. Concerns have been raised, however, that REDD+ could have negative impacts, such as restricting access for local people to forest products or the financing of forest management strategies that harm biodiversity. These concerns about the impacts of REDD+ led to the establishment of REDD+ "safeguards" within UNFCCC decisions. Safeguards are procedures and approaches that can help to ensure that REDD+ activities “do no harm” to people or the environment. Though safeguards could be put in place by various actors involved in designing and implementing REDD+ activities, the focus of this brief is on safeguards created and implemented by government bodies and associated institutions.

A key driver of governments’ interest in safeguards is the UNFCCC agreement, which states that safeguards should be "promoted and supported". There are several other reasons for establishing strong REDD+ safeguards. Such safeguards may help to:

* Ensure that there is more equitable distribution of the benefits and costs of REDD+;
* Design REDD+ schemes that will be more sustainable by taking into account wider socio-economic issues and environmental concerns that are likely to be important in addressing the underlying drivers of deforestation;
* Increase investment in REDD+ because safeguards can reduce risk, a key factor in investment decisions;
* Meet the safeguard requirements of many of the international organizations funding (or likely to fund) REDD+;
* In addition to reducing risks, help to deliver social and environmental benefits.

This brief examines the current state of work on REDD+ safeguards and outlines some of the key considerations for countries as they develop approaches to promote and support safeguards as well as provide information on how the safeguards are being addressed and respected.

# Safeguards under UNFCCC agreements

It was agreed at the UNFCCC Conference in Cancun in 2010 (COP16) that a set of seven safeguards should be promoted and supported when undertaking REDD+ activities. The Cancun Agreements, and the subsequent Durban Agreement, also requested parties implementing REDD+ to provide information on how safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of the REDD+ activities (see Box 1). Both agreements are broad, and leave considerable flexibility for parties to interpret what they mean in practice[[3]](#footnote-3). The broad nature of the existing UNFCCC developments may help to ensure country ownership, but the lack of more specific guidance has led to uncertainty in some countries as to how to develop country-level safeguard approaches as well as concerns among civil society groups that safeguards will not be implemented comprehensively and effectively.

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| **Box 1: Safeguards and SIS Under the UNFCCC Cancun Agreements and Durban Outcomes**  Safeguards in the Cancun Agreements[[4]](#footnote-4) address the following issues:   * Consistency with objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements; * Transparent and effective national forest governance structures; * Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities * The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities; * Conservation of natural forests and biological diversity and enhancement of other social and environmental benefits; * Actions to address the risks of reversals; * Actions to reduce the displacement of emissions.   **Safeguard Information Systems (SIS)**  Decision 12/CP.17 of the UNFCCC Durban Outcome[[5]](#footnote-5) states that an SIS should provide information on how all Cancun safeguards are addressed and respected. SIS should be country-driven, implemented at a national level, and built on existing systems, as appropriate. It was also agreed that reporting of summary information on how safeguards are being addressed and respected would take place periodically in national communications to the UNFCCC. Parties to the UNFCCC further agreed that as SIS are developed, relevant international obligations and agreements should be recognized and gender considerations respected. |

# Experience with REDD+ safeguards at the country level

While the UNFCCC decisions provide broad guidance on country-level safeguards, considerable work is needed in order to translate this into safeguard approaches within countries. There is large variation among countries in terms of progress in this area. Brazil, Ecuador, Indonesia and Mexico are examples of countries that have made significant progress in developing safeguard policy frameworks. The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is also relatively advanced in this area (see Box 2). While there are considerable differences in the details of their approaches, they have some key features in common. These include:

* Developing standards, principles and criteria and/or overarching policies which effectively define what social and environmental objectives should be met;
* Conducting preliminary assessments of the potential social and environmental risks and benefits of REDD+;
* Conducting preliminary assessments of existing safeguards in order to understand what additional safeguards are needed in order to respond to the UNFCCC requirements;
* Holding multi-stakeholder consultations to assess the potential risks and benefits of REDD+ and to develop safeguards;
* Defining the overall approach to implementing safeguards in a strategic plan or draft policy;
* Establishing a governance system (e.g. a working group) to oversee work on safeguards.

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| **Box 2: Democratic Republic of the Congo: Advancing its Country Approach to Safeguards**  Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is in the process of developing its country approach to safeguards, which is being carried out in three main phases. The first of these phases was concluded last year, and consisted of developing draft national standards for REDD+. To develop these standards, a national committee responsible for monitoring the risks and social and environmental co-benefits of REDD+ activities was put in place. This committee comprises representatives from the government, civil society and the private sector as well as technical and financial partners. In developing the appropriate national social and environmental standards, various studies, public consultations and workshops, as well as testing and validation of these standards on the ground, were conducted. A second phase, currently in progress, entails the conceptualization as well as preparations for the SIS system. Moreover, DRC is currently undertaking a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA), which will help to ensure that environmental and social management is taken into account in the implementation of REDD+ projects and activities. Following this, the country is planning a third phase to pilot SIS at the national level in 2013-2015. |

A number of other safeguard instruments exist, either to elaborate and provide guidance on how to operationalize the safeguards defined by the UNFCCC, or for broader purposes. These are being implemented in many countries. Some of these have been developed by organizations funding REDD+ strategy development, such as the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and the UN-REDD Programme, but there are also independent voluntary initiatives such as the REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards (REDD+ SES). While these are all focused on identifying and managing the social and environmental risks and benefits that may arise from the implementation of REDD+ activities, there is considerable variation between them in the following areas:

* *Objectives:* Instruments differ in terms of whether they are aimed at helping countries to operationalize the UNFCCC safeguards (e.g. one objective of the UN-REDD Programme's Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria (SEPC)) and/or demonstrating compliance with donor safeguards (e.g. World Bank safeguards apply to activities, projects and programs supported by the FCPF).
* *Structure:* Safeguard instruments can include: a set of principles and criteria, or policies that need to be adhered to; guidance on processes countries can apply to develop their approach to safeguards; a management plan or framework; indicators that show whether the principles, criteria or policies are being met; a data collection system; and a system for provision of information. Instruments differ in terms of whether they include all of these components or focus on a subset of them.
* *Content:* There are differences in terms of the content of principles and criteria, or policies. For example, there is variation in whether Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) is required for certain REDD+ activities. Some safeguard instruments are more focused on supporting countries to develop approaches to mitigate risks from REDD+ while others also focus on enhancing benefits.
* *Strength:* Some safeguard instruments can be voluntarily adopted by countries (e.g. REDD+ SES), while others are required by institutions funding REDD+ activities (e.g. World Bank safeguards). Mandatory safeguards instruments may include some form of mechanism to ensure they are being implemented and/or to correct problems if they emerge. The World Bank Inspection Panel, for example, offers a process that is designed to provide redress to affected people, and actions that address issues of policy non-compliance and harm.

*Scope:* There is variation in the activities to which safeguards apply. For example, they may apply only to activities funded by donors (the World Bank safeguards were designed predominantly for this purpose but could come to apply to activities funded by other donors), or to all REDD+ activities in a country, as in the case of REDD+ SES.

The proliferation of safeguard instruments for REDD+ could become a challenge for countries, which could increase costs and human resource requirements. Some countries are also struggling with the question of whether, in addition to designing safeguard approaches that respond to UNFCCC Agreements, they need to develop separate safeguard approaches in order to respond to different requirements of funders. The following sections suggest a framework for considering country safeguard approaches that may be useful to help bring clarity on this issue.

# Elements of a country-level safeguard approach

In order to understand how a country-level safeguard approach might be developed, it is useful to identify some generic elements. Two main elements are defined below, based on the functions that need to be fulfilled:

1. Safeguard policies, laws and regulations (PLRs);
2. Safeguard information system (SIS).

In order to operationalize these two elements, various formal and informal institutions and procedures are likely to be required, either existing, new, or a combination of both.

## Safeguard policies, laws and regulations

Safeguard PLRs establish the country-level content of safeguards. In other words, they clarify the objectives and requirements to address the specific risks and benefits of REDD+ in the country, responding to the country-level goals for what needs to be addressed and respected in REDD+ activities.

In the case of REDD+ safeguard approaches, defined PLRs may already exist or new ones might be created. As examples, these might include existing laws on the rights of indigenous peoples (e.g. the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA) in the Philippines) that would apply to all REDD+ activities or an existing policy on the right to access to information[[6]](#footnote-6). In addition, new policies, laws or regulations may need to be developed during the REDD+ strategy preparation process. The extent to which these new PLRs might be needed will depend on what already exists and what the country defines as the objectives of its approach to safeguards (e.g. is it designed to meet other safeguard requirements in addition to the UNFCCC agreements?). It may also be the case that a legal framework is not necessary and some or all of the safeguards may be addressed through other means, such as national-level guidelines, but this will be dependent on the particular national context.

## Safeguard information systems

Safeguard Information Systems (SIS) provide a systematic approach for collecting and providing information on how REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout REDD+ implementation. While the specific design of SIS and the level of detail of information reported will vary between countries, all SIS are likely to include the following components:

* *Indicators:* These help determine, in this case, whether a particular policy, law or regulation is being effectively implemented. The indicators provide the parameters to determine what information needs to be collected.
* *Methodologies for collection of information:* These outline the types of information to be collected for each indicator, and how the information collection should be carried out (e.g. sample size, frequency, etc.)
* *Framework for provision of information:* This defines how information is stored and shared. Summary information will need to be provided to the UNFCCC but is also likely to be used at the country level for dissemination among key stakeholders. Domestic-level dissemination of information may need to exist in various formats and be communicated at varying frequencies, depending on national circumstances.

SIS could be built on existing countrysystems to collect and provide data, such as those in place for countries to monitor and report on biodiversity conservation under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) or to prepare their national reports for the Global Forest Resources Assessments of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Existing systems may need to be adapted for REDD+ if, for example, they do not cover specific issues such as permanence and leakage, which are more specific to a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions? context. A new institutional framework may also need to be created for the purposes of consolidating different streams of information and reporting to the UNFCCC.

## Institutions, processes and procedures

In support of the two core components described above, there are various formal and informal institutions, processes and procedures needed in order to design and implement effective approaches to safeguards. Institutions will play a role in ensuring the fair and effective design of the REDD+ safeguard approach, the implementation of PLRs, and the operation of SIS. Processes and procedures include aspects that may not be captured in formal PLRs, such as consultation processes, strategic assessments and information dissemination and communication. This also will include, for example, data collection and analysis that may be needed to address and respect the safeguards (e.g. defining and mapping natural forests). Another example of a process that may be a potentially integral component of national approaches to safeguards is a national-level grievance redress mechanism.

# Developing a country safeguard approach

There is no fixed, linear process to develop a country-level safeguard approach. It depends on what is already in place in the country, as well as what governments define as the overall objectives of the system. However, based on insights from countries and the steps defined in existing safeguards schemes, some generic steps can be identified which may be useful for countries planning such an approach.

An accountable and participatory process will be essential in developing transparent and effective safeguards approaches. In particular, the effective participation of women and indigenous peoples in all responses to climate change is recognized in Cancun decision 1/CP.16. The UN-REDD Programme/FCPF Stakeholder Engagement Guidelines and UN-REDD Programme FPIC Guidelines are useful for ensuring full and effective participation. The UN-REDD Programme's Participatory Governance Assessment (PGA) approach also outlines in detail how to establish an inclusive process focusing on safeguards linked to governance issues.[[7]](#footnote-7)

## 4.1 Determining the objectives of the safeguard approach

A first and crucial step in developing a REDD+ safeguards approach is to clearly define what it is supposed to do (e.g. why it is being established). All countries are likely to be interested in developing a system that enables them to respond to UNFCCC decisions. This will require interpreting what is contained in decisions from the country perspective and also a consideration of the potential social and environmental risks and benefits of REDD+. However, it will be important for countries to carefully consider whether, in addition to ensuring that the approach responds to the Cancun safeguards, it also needs to be designed to respond to other objectives. These could include, for example:

* Nationally established commitments, policy priorities, etc;
* Existing international commitments (e.g. to conventions and treaties[[8]](#footnote-8));
* Donor or investor policies.

As donors and private investors could play a major role in financing REDD+ in the future, their requirements would be important to consider in addition to those of the UNFCCC.

Many of the international instruments described in Section 2 may be useful in defining the objectives of the safeguards approach. For example, the UN-REDD Programme's Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria and REDD+ SES each outline a more detailed set of criteria that can help to add detail to the broad principles of the Cancun Agreements, which in turn may help to define what information needs to be made available. These instruments, together with the World Bank safeguard policies, also focus on the provision of benefits to communities and as such, they could be useful for countries interested in trying to enhance benefits through REDD+ implementation.

## 4.2 Developing safeguard policies, laws and regulations

Once objectives have been defined, countries will have to consider what, if any, policies, laws and regulations (PLRs) need to be in place to achieve the objectives. A first step in this process is likely to be a gap analysis of existing PLRs relevant to REDD+, comparing what exists to the requirements defined in the objective-setting exercise. It will also need to determine the effectiveness of existing systems, in order to identify weaknesses in application that need to be addressed. Depending on the outcomes, new policies, laws and regulations may need to be developed. For example, few countries have clear policies on how carbon rights are defined and protected, and these are likely to be important in responding to UNFCCC requirements on effective participation and the rights of indigenous peoples. The outcome of the process could be captured in a safeguard policy framework, which outlines the set of country REDD+ safeguard PLRs that has been developed or defined, and how these provide the foundation for the country’s response to the UNFCCC or other objectives. Such a framework is not a requirement, but it could provide clarity for those involved in REDD+ activities, and particularly those providing funding. For certain safeguards, it may be decided that a set of guidelines, rather than a law or policy, will be more appropriate for the given safeguard and the national context.

Existing tools can be useful both for assessing gaps as well as developing any new PLRs. The UN-REDD Programme Benefits and Risks Tool (BeRT) sets out key questions for assessing gaps across a broad range of areas; other UN-REDD Programme tools provide more detailed assessment frameworks on specific issues, such as the PGAs on governance issues and the Guidance on Conducting REDD+ Corruption Risk Assessment. The FCPF SESA approach applies a set of participatory and analytical tools for the assessment of gaps in the existing legal and policy framework. For PLR development, there is a UN-REDD Participatory Law Development methodology (LEG-REDD+) which can support countries to design and run participatory processes for the formulation of legal and policy reforms and the drafting of new laws, regulations, or other specialized legal instruments.

## 4.3 Developing safeguard information systems

Ideally the development of SIS will follow the objective-setting exercise and the PLR gap analysis. This is because it is necessary to know, at least in outline, what the safeguards are, in order to collect information on how they are addressed and respected. [[9]](#footnote-9)

Consistent with the PLR component, a crucial first step for the SIS will likely involve conducting a national assessment of existing information sources, and existing systems for provision of information that are relevant to the safeguards. Based on this, an assessment can be made regarding what types of new processes or procedures and institutions, among other structures, might be needed.

In order to collect information on whether safeguards are being addressed and respected, some form of indicators will be needed. These could be process indicators (e.g. to illustrate whether or not an output has been achieved) or impact indicators (e.g. linked to actual social or environmental impacts). The precise indicators used may vary depending on national circumstances and also the degree of detail the country wishes to provide. Many countries will already have existing indicators for other contexts, such as those linked to implementation of forest policies or assessing income distribution. While these may be adequate for REDD+ safeguards, new indicators may need to be developed as well. The UN-REDD Programme PGA process is designed to help countries develop governance indicators relevant for REDD+ activities, and the REDD+ SES is also designed to help countries develop indicators across many issues.

An approach for how data is collected will need to be worked out, in order to determine whether indicators are being met. Key considerations include:

* Data that already exist (mapping of data sources);
* Data to be collected (e.g. income data);
* Methodologies to be used (e.g. household surveys; participatory approaches, such as participatory biodiversity monitoring);
* Who is to collect data;
* How often are data to be collected;
* The scale at which data are collected (e.g. at the country, local or project level);
* Quality assurance/quality control of the data collection system;
* How the data are being used and by whom.

Countries are likely to have existing systems in place for collecting information on a variety of issues linked to REDD+ safeguards. There are also many existing tools that can be applied. For example, the UN-REDD Programme has developed draft guidelines for monitoring the impacts of REDD+ on biodiversity and ecosystem services and REDD+ SES provides voluntary guidelines for establishing a process to monitor and report information relevant to safeguards.

Approaches for provision of information will also need to be defined or developed. These will need to elaborate how information is tracked over time, the form of the information and the channels through which it should be reported both internationally and at the national level. In many countries, information may need to be gathered from multiple institutions that oversee data collection in different sectors. Data storage would likely need to occur in some type of database. Countries may find it to be most practical for this information to be held by the national institution charged with UNFCCC reporting through national communications. It will also need to be presented in a way that makes it easily understandable, accessible and actionable by country stakeholders (e.g. publication through a regularly updated web-based platform and/or in printed information in local languages).

Table 1: Steps that could be considered and adapted for the development of a country-level safeguard approach. The table also summarizes how the different UN-REDD Programme tools discussed in Section 4 may be useful for developing the system.

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| **Step** | **Detailed activities** | **UN-REDD Programme tools/guidelines/methodologies** | **Explanation of how the tools contribute to the activity** |
| **1. Objective setting** | Defining goals of the country safeguard approach | * Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria (SEPC) | Provides more detailed criteria that can be used to ‘unpack’ the Cancun safeguards |
| * UN-REDD/FCPF Stakeholder Engagement Guidelines and UN-REDD FPIC Guidelines[[10]](#footnote-10) | Provides guidance on how participation of indigenous peoples and other forest dependent communities can be ensured in REDD+ schemes, including how to apply the principle of FPIC; could help countries to define such goals in their approaches |
| **2. Defining or developing safeguard policies, laws and regulations** | Gap analysis of existing PLRs | * Benefits and Risk Tool | Provides a list of questions across a broad range of issues in order to assess existing PLRs |
| * Participatory Governance Assessments | Provides governance data based on extensive stakeholder contributions, which serves as a basis for improvements in governance; can be used by governments in their planning and policy-making |
| * Draft Guidance on Conducting REDD+ Corruption Risk Assessment | Provides a methodology and a more detailed framework (compared to BeRT) for assessing corruption risks in REDD+ |
| Development of new PLRs (if necessary) | * UN-REDD FPIC Guidelines | Provides a framework for applying the principle of FPIC at community and national levels; could be adopted in REDD+ PLRs and adapted to national context |
| * Guidelines on Strengthening/Establishing National-Level Grievance Mechanisms | Provides guidance on how to assess and strengthen existing PLRs and institutional capacity to address REDD+ related grievances |
| * LEG-REDD+ | Provides a participatory law development methodology for formulating legal and policy reforms, and drafting new PLRs in response to REDD+ |
| **3. SIS** | Gap analysis of existing information systems | * Participatory Governance Assessments | Provides a process through which existing governance and social information systems can be evaluated using a participatory approach (although it is not specifically designed to do this) |
| Indicators | * Participatory Governance Assessments | Provides an overall approach for developing governance indicators for REDD+ schemes through a participatory approach |
| * Framework for assessing and monitoring forest governance | Provides a tool for designing robust and comprehensive sets of governance indicators |
| Methodologies for collection of information | * Draft guidelines for monitoring the impacts of REDD+ on biodiversity and ecosystem services | Provides draft guidelines that could be used by governments to establish aspects of the SIS that are relevant to biodiversity |
| * Draft manual on the collection of forest governance data | Provides a range of practical considerations, methods and available resources for collecting governance data |

**Conclusions and recommendations**

Building robust safeguards into REDD+ strategies and implementation is essential for the effectiveness of REDD+ as an approach to climate change mitigation, given the clear links that exist among the economic, environmental and social aspects of land-use change. Establishing safeguards for REDD+ activities is also necessary for countries wishing to participate in REDD+, as safeguards are a key component of UNFCCC agreements. Countries have considerable flexibility to develop and implement a safeguards approach at the national level, and can build extensively on existing country policies, laws and regulations, as well as systems for collecting and sharing information. However, in designing such systems, it will also be important for countries to be clear about additional objectives that the system needs to fulfill, such as domestic policy priorities as well as responding to the safeguard requirements of organizations providing support for REDD+ activities. This could present challenges for countries in terms of reduced efficiency and a greater burden on resources, although these can be overcome through efforts to harmonize approaches at the country level. The generic framework presented in this brief offers one approach that could be useful to countries as they organize their processes to develop country approaches to safeguards. The instruments described here can help to add detail to each of the steps in order to ensure that these processes are robust, but further detail and more targeted instruments are likely to be needed in certain areas of the framework to ensure efficient and effective support to REDD+ countries.

1. This brief has received, at different stages of its development, valuable inputs by those within the UN-REDD Programme, particularly Tim Clairs, Silje Haugland, Jennifer Laughlin (UNDP), Julie Greenwalt (UNEP), Barney Dickson (UNEP-WCMC), Emelyne Cheney and Maria Sanz-Sanchez (FAO) as well as several external reviewers: Joanna Durbin (REDD+ SES), Kenn Rapp (World Bank FCPF), and Emily Brickell (Overseas Development Institute). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Note that the framework presented in this brief builds on a conceptual framework developed together with the REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards initiative (REDD+ SES) and the World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) in order to clarify links between different international instruments to support countries on developing REDD+ safeguards. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. There is potential for future UNFCCC decisions to provide more detailed guidance related to transparency, consistency, comprehensiveness and effectiveness in the presentation of the summary of information on safeguards as well as on the timing and frequency of the presentation of the summary of information on safeguards. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Cancun decision 1/CP.16: http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/cop16/eng/07a01.pdf#page=2 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Durban decision 12/CP.17: http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2011/cop17/eng/09a02.pdf#page=16 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. See the executive summary of the UN-REDD Programme's publication, "Ensuring Inclusive, Transparent and Accountable National REDD+ Systems: the Role of Freedom of Information" from November 2012, available here : http://www.un-redd.org/Transparent\_Management\_REDD\_Funds/tabid/54009/Default.aspx [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Fast facts: Participatory governance assessments for REDD+: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/oslo\_governance\_centre/governance\_assessments/fast-facts--participatory-governance-assessments-for-redd/ [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. See, for example, the list of such treaties and conventions detailed in the UN-REDD Programme's Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria: http://www.unredd.net/index.php?option=com\_docman&task=doc\_download&gid=6985&Itemid=53 [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Note that the development of SIS might to some extent be carried out in parallel with the development of safeguard PLRs [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. These Guidelines are most useful when applied from the beginning and throughout all stages in the development of country approaches to safeguards. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)