



# UNFCCC Context: REDD+ Safeguards and Safeguard Information Systems

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**NOTE**: This presentation is a synoptic version of the slides distributed to participants. Further details are to be found in such distributed materials

## 1. Background: Understanding Safeguards

What are Safeguards?  A set of measures to identify, prevent, monitor and mitigate risks associated with policies, investments and projects

e.g. policies, procedures, monitoring schemes, redress mechanism

Relevance for REDD+?  REDD+ provides a unique opportunity for both forest conservation and tapping into climate finance, but entails social & environmental risks

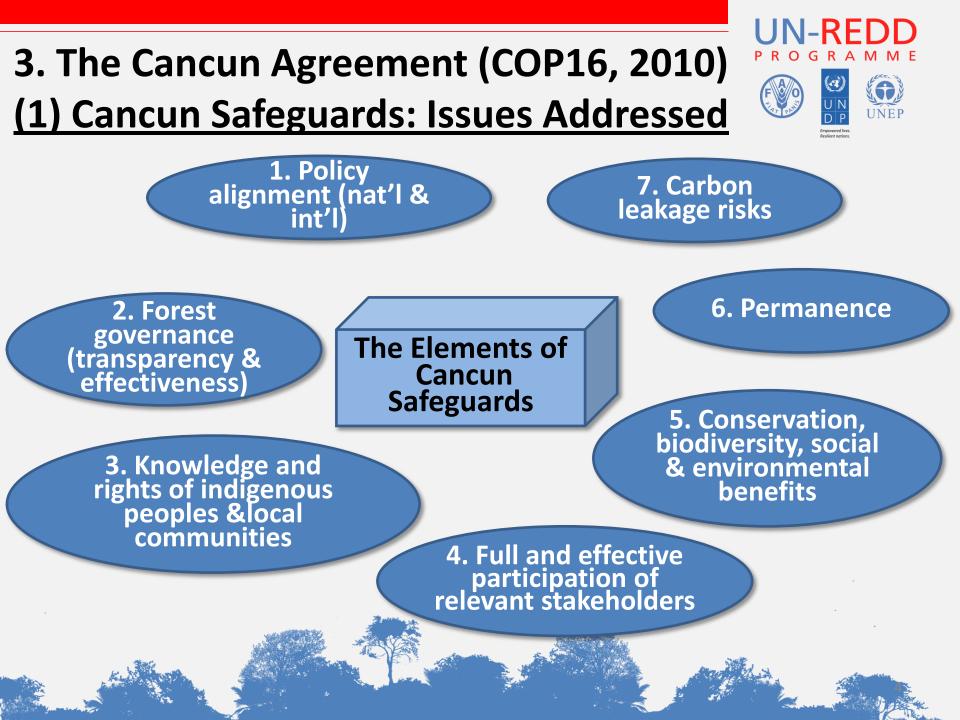
**Social risks:** ignoring livelihoods, social exclusion, involuntary resettlements, *et al.* **Environmental risks:** conversion of natural forests, ignoring biodiversity values, leakage, displacement of C emissions, *et al.* 

Therefore, safeguards represent a risk management tool to ensure delivery of anticipated outcomes of REDD+ policies and measures

# 2. The Bali Action Plan (COP13, 2007): REDD+ on the international agenda



- REDD is formally added/anchored to the UNFCCC agenda through explicit inclusion in the Bali Action Plan (COP13, 2007)
  - acknowledging the urgent need for addressing emissions from deforestation as a part of international climate change mitigation efforts
- Recognized the role for REDD+ under the agenda item(lb(iii)): policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest C stocks in developing countries



# 3. The Cancun Agreements (COP16, 2010) (2) Decision on SIS



 SIS recognized as one of the 4 core elements for Parties aiming to <u>achieve</u> REDD+ readiness:

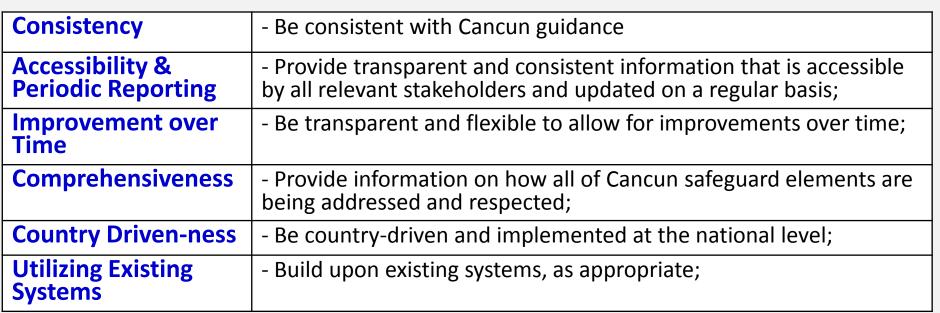
1. National REDD+ strategy or action plan

3. National forest monitoring system (sub-national in interim)

2. National forest reference emission level and/or reference level (sub-national in interim if appropriate) 4. SIS: System for providing information on how the REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of the activities

#### 4. Durban decision(COP17, 2011): Decision on SIS

Agreed on the SIS principles, drawing on the Expert Meeting discussion at Panama prior to COP



#### ...and SIS to consider following elements in implementation

National Circumstances	- Take into account national circumstances and respective capabilities
National Sovereignty	<ul> <li>Recognize national sovereignty and legislation, as well as relevant international obligations and agreements</li> </ul>
Gender	-Respect gender considerations

### 4. Durban decision (COP17, 2011, 12/CP.17): Consolidating REDD+ safeguards modality



 Summary of information on how all of the Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of REDD+ activities



What

- Periodic submission of information
- To be included in **National Communications**, consistent with relevant decisions of the COP on guidelines on national communications from non Annex I Parties to the Convention, or **communication channels agreed by the COP**
- Durban agreement identified the need to consider
  - 1) Time and frequency of the summary of information on safeguards
  - Further guidance to ensure transparency, consistency, comprehensiveness and effectiveness of the summary of information of safeguards

### 5. Doha Gateway (COP18, 2012): Not Substantive Progress on the Safeguards/SIS



- agreed to resume consideration on the remaining aspects (time and frequency, further guidance) under SBSTA, with a view to conclude on this work by COP19 (end of 2013)
- Called for submissions in Sept. 2014 on experiences/lessons learned on SIS

6. Current Status/Progress of REDD+ Safeguards in run-up to COP19 (2013)





- SBSTA 38/Bonn (June 2013) outcomes:
  - Draft decision text (FCCC/SBSTA/2013/L.12/Add.2) developed and forwarded to COP19 for possible adoption
  - Provision of a summary of information on how all of the safeguards ... are being addressed and respected
  - Periodic submission of the summary of info by National Communications, or communication channels agreed by the COP
  - Possible provision of a summary of info via the Web platform on the UNFCCC website on a voluntary basis
  - Timing : Start providing information (Nov 2013)
  - Consistency of subsequent presentation of the summary of info with the submissions of the NATCOM

Increasingly becoming requirements for countries undertaking REDD+





### THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

