

Multiple benefits and risks of REDD+ What are multiple benefits?

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10th October 2012

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Outline

1. An introduction to REDD+ multiple benefits
 - Types of benefits
 - Trade offs between multiple benefits
 - Possible risks
2. What are REDD+ safeguards?
 - The UNFCCC Cancun safeguards
 - The UN-REDD SEPC as a guiding framework



What is REDD+?

REDD+

= Reducing Emissions from Deforestation
and forest Degradation

+

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



What are multiple benefits?

- When **forests** are **retained** or **restored** through **REDD+**, they deliver **additional benefits** to protecting or enhancing **carbon stocks**.
- **All benefits from REDD+**, including carbon, are referred to as “**multiple benefits**”





What are multiple benefits?

Types of multiple benefits

1. Enhancement of ecosystem services
2. Biodiversity conservation
3. Livelihood and social benefits





Multiple benefits: beyond carbon

1. Ecosystem services

- Water regulation, provision and purification
- Soil conservation (fertility & sedimentation control)
- Pollination for agriculture
- Potential for tourism and recreation
- Timber and non-timber forest products





Multiple benefits: beyond carbon

2. Biodiversity conservation

- In-situ gene pool for research & development
- Maintain and/or enhance ecosystems diversity
- Maintain and/or enhance habitat of rare species



Multiple benefits: beyond carbon

3) Other livelihood and social benefits

- Strengthened land tenure
- Income/jobs from REDD+
- Cultural importance





Benefits case study

Facilitating Reforestation for Guangxi Watershed Management in Pearl River Basin

Project statistics:

- Started in 2006
- 3,000 ha
- Reforestation
- Clean Development Mechanism

Multiple benefit aims beyond carbon:

- Increasing connectivity between 2 nature reserves
- Soil and water conservation - Pearl River
- Poverty alleviation – income generation

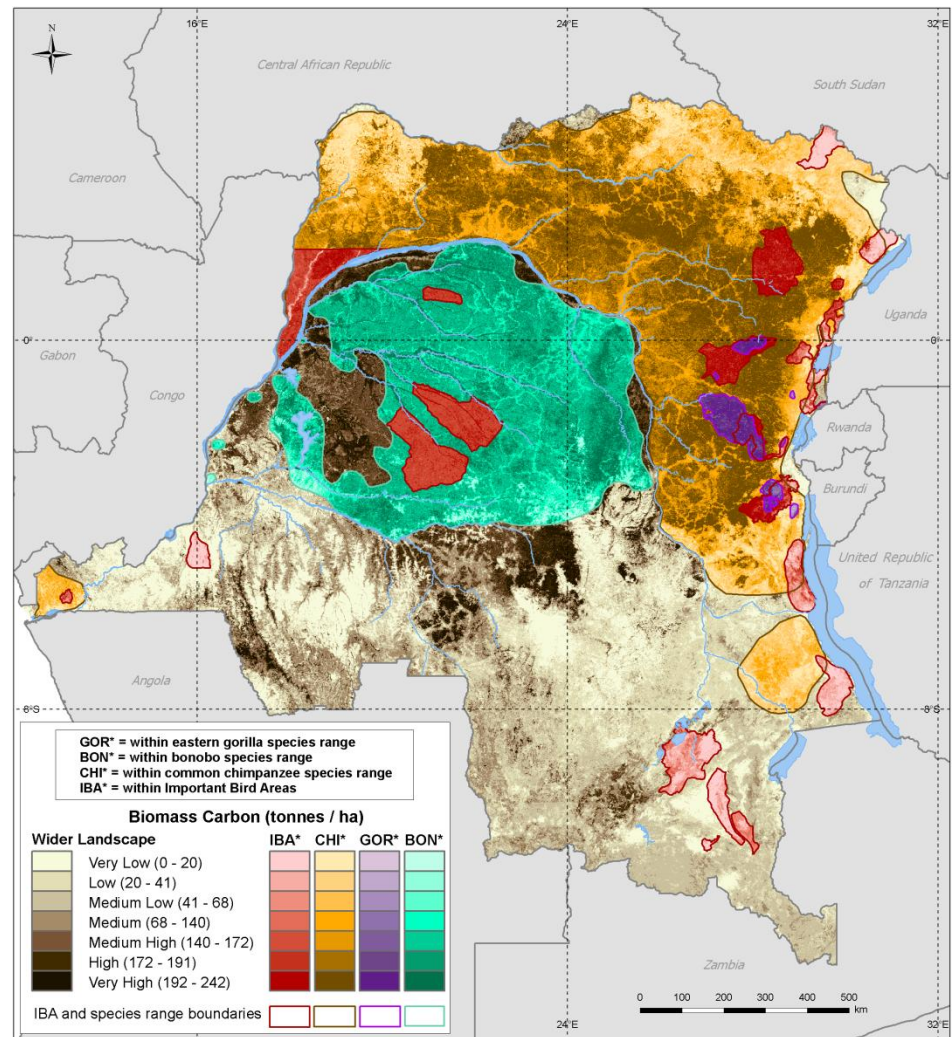


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Multiple benefit trade offs



From: Mapping potential biodiversity benefits from REDD+, The Democratic Republic of the Congo (2012)



Possible trade offs in Facilitating Reforestation for Guangxi Watershed Management in Pearl River Basin Project

- Exotic species such as *Eucalyptus* planted – possible negative impacts on biodiversity
- Fertiliser used – possible negative impacts on biodiversity
- Fast growing species – high sequestration value for carbon





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Social and environmental risks

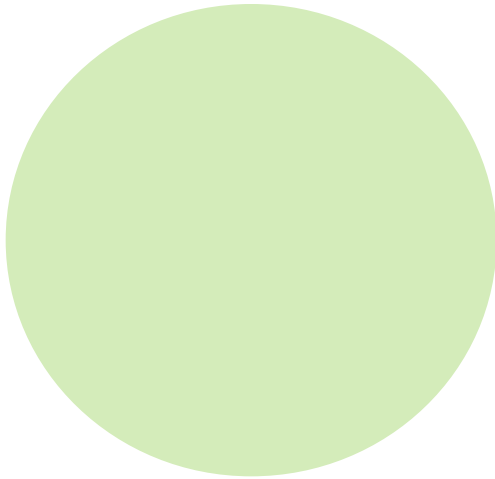
Risks to biodiversity and ecosystem services

- conversion of natural non-forest ecosystems into tree plantations
- displacement of deforestation or forest degradation to non-targeted locations
- intensified use of agricultural systems

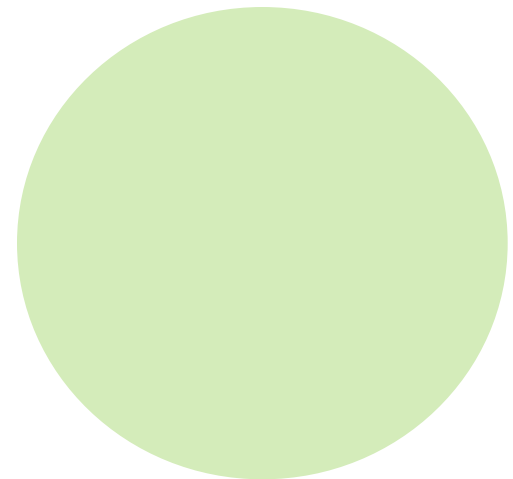


Monika Bertzky

Example environmental risk - leakage

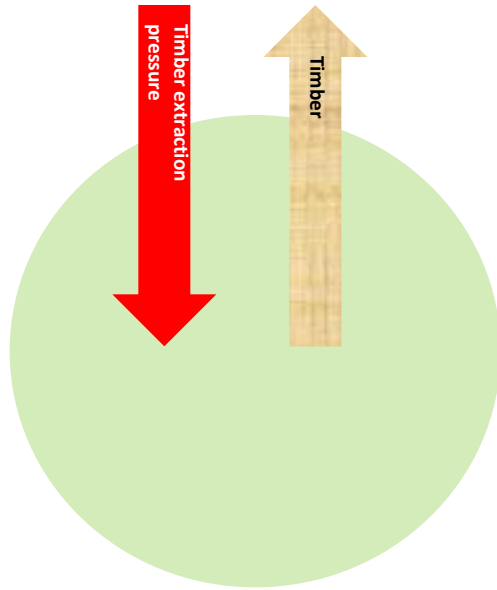


Forest A

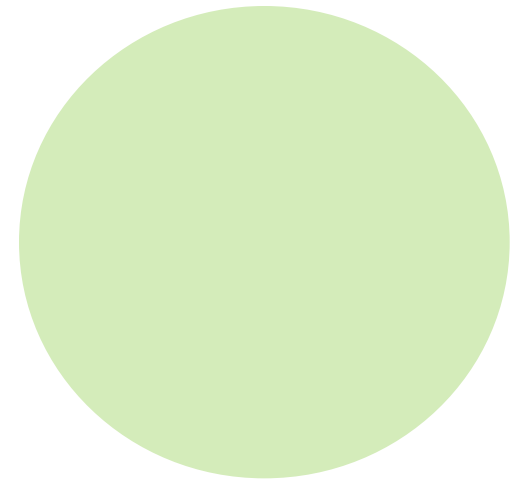


Forest B

Example environmental risk - leakage

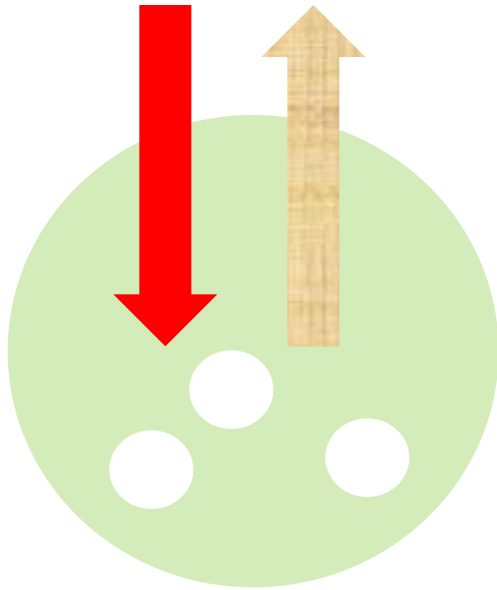


Forest A

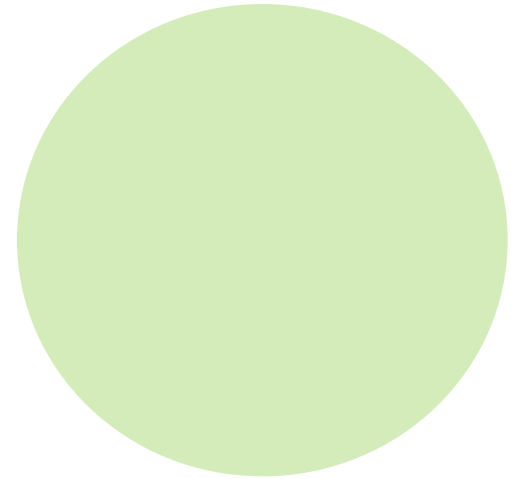


Forest B

Example environmental risk - leakage

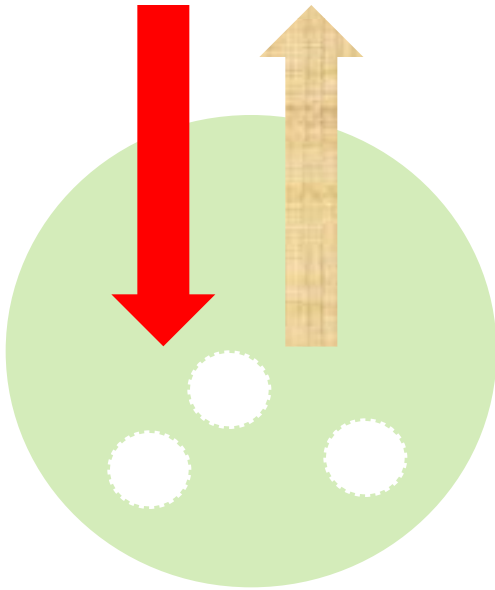


Forest A



Forest B

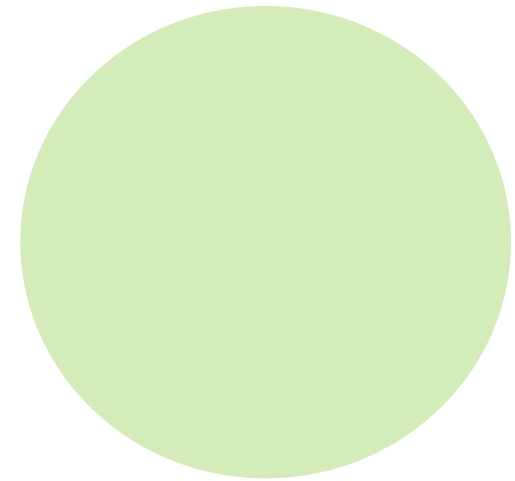
Example environmental risk - leakage



Forest A

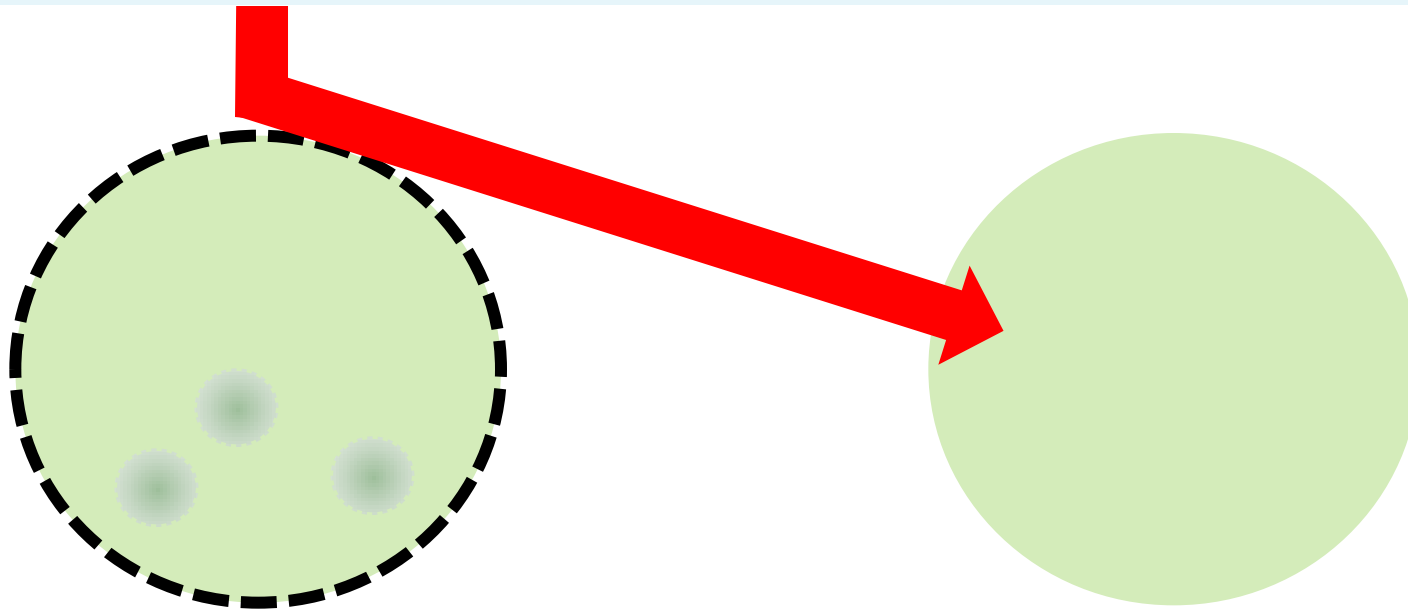
REDD+ intervention:

- Reforestation of degraded land
- Maintenance of existing forest



Forest B

Example environmental risk - leakage



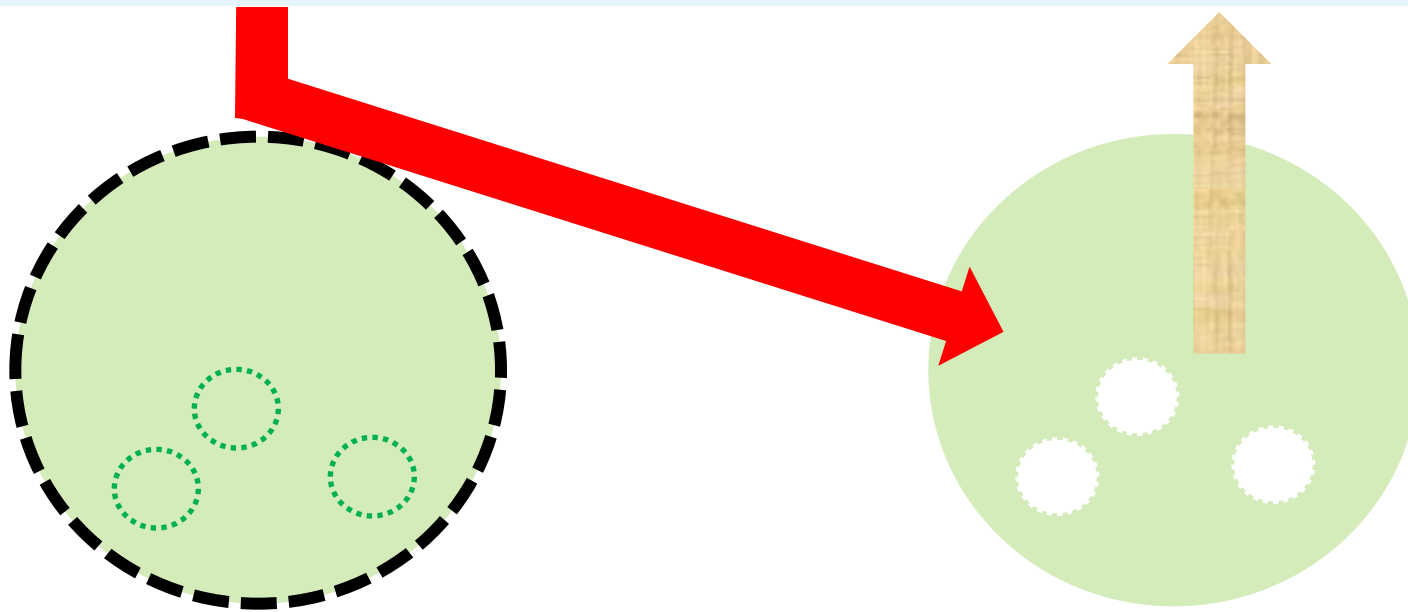
Forest A

REDD+ intervention:

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Forest B

Example environmental risk - leakage



Forest A

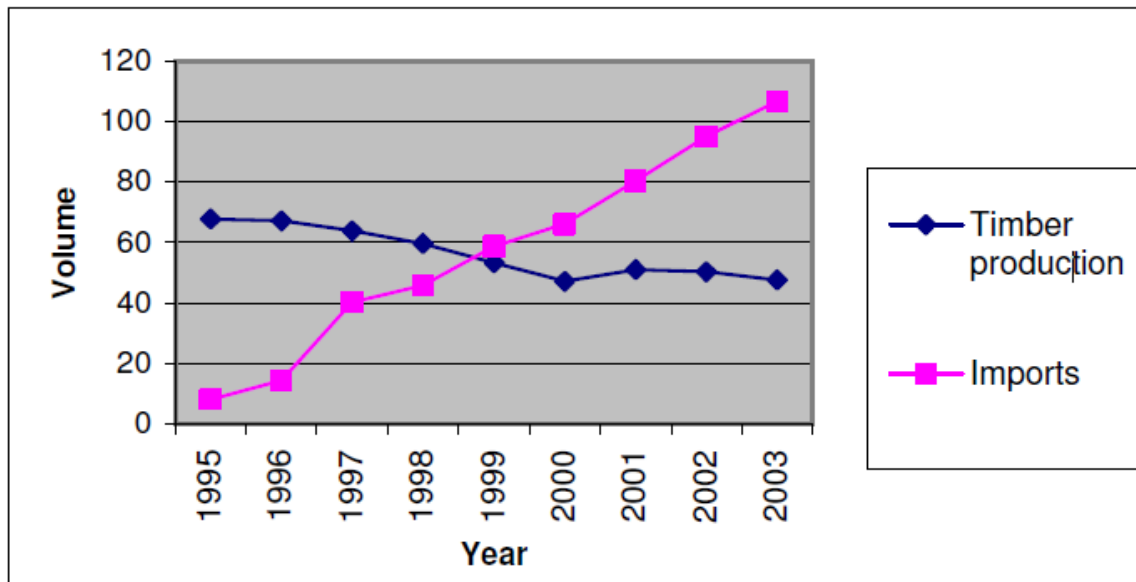
REDD+ intervention:

- Reforestation of degraded land
- Maintenance of existing forest

Forest B

Net loss to
climate resulting
from REDD+
action

Example environmental risk – leakage across national borders



- China, 1998 floods
- Logging ban in 17 provinces to protect watersheds
- Increase in timber imports
- Displacement of emissions across borders

China's Timber Production and Timber Imports, 1995 – 2003

Lang & Chan (2005) Southeast Asia Research Centre Working Paper Series, No. 77

Example risk – invasive species

- *Eucalyptus sp.*
- High carbon returns
- Invasive along drainage lines
- Low biodiversity value (monoculture)





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What are REDD+ safeguards?

- Safeguards are measures that can enhance the multiple benefits of REDD+, and protect against social and/or environmental harm as a result of REDD+ actions.






UNFCCC safeguards - environmental (2010)

- Negotiations at the UNFCCC Climate Change Conference in Cancun in 2010 resulted in an agreement that certain safeguards for REDD+ should be promoted and supported, including:
 - (a) That actions complement or are **consistent** with the objectives of **national forest programmes** and **relevant international conventions** and agreements;
 - (b) **Transparent and effective** national forest **governance** structures, taking into account national legislation and **sovereignty**;

Cancun Agreements:
FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.1




UNFCCC environmental safeguards (2010)

- Negotiations at the UNFCCC Conference in Cancun in 2010 resulted in an agreement that certain safeguards for REDD+ should be promoted and supported, including:
 - (e) That actions are consistent with the **conservation of natural forests and biological diversity**, ensuring that ...[REDD+ is]...**not** used for the **conversion of natural forests**, but are instead used to **incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests** and their **ecosystem services**, and to **enhance** other **social** and **environmental benefits**;
 - (f) Actions to address the **risks of reversals**;
 - (g) Actions to reduce **displacement of emissions**

Cancun Agreements:

FCPP/CP/2010/7/Add.1



The UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria (SEPC)

The SEPC have been developed as a guiding framework for the UN-REDD Programme


- ➔ Address social and environmental issues in UN-REDD national programmes and other UN-REDD funded activities
- ➔ Support countries to develop national approaches to REDD+ safeguards in line with UNFCCC



The UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria (SEPC)

Example:

- **Principle 5** - Protect natural forest from degradation and/or conversion
- **Criterion 18** - Ensure that REDD+ activities do not cause the conversion of natural forest, to planted forest, unless as part of forest restoration, and make reducing conversion of forests to other land uses (e.g. agriculture, infrastructure) a REDD+ priority.



The Benefits and Risks tool (BeRT)

Applying the SEPC – the Benefits and Risks tool (BeRT)

- The BeRT prompts users to address questions intended to help assess potential risks and benefits of a national REDD+ programme in relation to the SEPC.
- The tool is designed to provide a structure for thinking through and assessing a complex and multi-dimensional problem and enable informed decision-making.



Other safeguard approaches

1. Forest Carbon Partnership Facility Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (FCPF SESA)

- FCPF - Global REDD+ partnership
- Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) - promotes integration of safeguard policies and procedures into national REDD+ strategy process and activities



Other safeguard approaches

2. REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards

- Voluntarily developed by CARE International and Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance
- Multi-stakeholder assessment process for country-specific interpretation and application of standards and associated assessment process, including monitoring and reporting



Other safeguard approaches

3. Project scale standards

- a) **Verified Carbon Standard** - VCS sets out requirements for the approval of projects, the measurement of GHG emissions and removals and the issuance of credits, or Verified Carbon Units (VCUs).
- b) **Plan Vivo Standard – Community Carbon Standard**
- c) **Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA)** – non carbon standard with a community and biodiversity focus



Summary

- REDD+ has the potential to result in multiple benefits beyond carbon
 - Multiple benefits are not a guaranteed outcome - risk of negative impacts
 - Trade-offs between carbon and non-carbon benefits possible
- Safeguards can help to enhance the benefits and protect against risks associated with REDD+
 - UNFCCC Cancun Safeguards
 - UN-REDD SEPC and associated BeRT can support a country develop its safeguard approach

Questions?

