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| UNDP_Logo-Blue%20w%20Tagline-ENG | **Back to Office Report****Submitted by:** Clea Paz-Rivera**Title: BTOR mission to Mexico** **Date submitted: April 26, 2016** |
| 1. Practice area : BPPS |
| 2. Mission period (incl. of travel days) From: April 19 to: April 22  |
| 3. Type of mission: Official | 4. Clients CONAFOR, participants of the REDD+ safeguards workshop, UNDP CO |
| 5. Purpose of mission 1. Participate in the UN-REDD supported workshop on “National Safeguards Interpretation and initial SIS Considerations”2. Deliver a ppt on behalf of the inter-agency team3. Meet with UNDP CO to follow up on all REDD+ related issues | 6. Documents, materials, resources * Workshop Agenda
* PPT
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| 7. Mission members * Edgar González (UNDP CO)
 | 8. Costs |
| 9. Brief summary of the mission *9.a Findings*.**Safeguards workshop:****Objectives:*** to update Mexico’s stakeholders (civil society, private sector, indigenous representatives, and academia) on the progress on the National Safeguards System
* to request feedback on a proposed national interpretation of safeguards consisting on: Analysis of each safeguard in relation to the national context, description of the elements, and a proposed narrative
* to share safeguard experiences from other countries

**Results:*** Overall the workshop was successful, included in-depth discussions an analysis of REDD+ safeguards in relation to the National context, and a space to clarify the nature of the SIS as part of the SNS
* The workshop had 53 participants from civil society, academia, private sector and indigenous people’s organizations.
* Ana Karla Perea and Francisco Moreno, from CONAFOR and Clea Paz from UN-REDD opened the workshop
* Key messages/outcomes included:
* Appreciation for the space provided to retrieve feedback on the proposed national interpretation, and to clarify outstanding questions on the SIS and SNS
* Recommendations to revise text for each safeguard constitutive elements and narrative
* Recognition of CONAFOR’s efforts to ensure a participatory process is applied to the safeguards work
* Good reception of UN-REDD’s presentation, that generated a lively discussion on the differences among countries, challenges to harmonize SESA and SIS, and the links between the REDD+ activities (national strategy) and safeguards
* Next steps include the distribution of the revised text in a month, with an additional window to provide comments within a week, to then finalize the proposed national interpretation on safeguards.
* In terms of the UN-REDD targeted support, this will be followed by completing the legal, institutional, and compliance framework analysis, and finalize the proposed SNS including SIS in December 2016

**Other matters:*** A. Perea informed us that she is leaving CONAFOR on April 30th. Her position won’t be replaced and apparently her functions will be divided among her team. For safeguards issues the contact persons are Francisco Moreno and Josefina Copian, the latter will be the focal point for the FCPF, and Armando Alanis for the National REDD+ Strategy.
* Potential technical backstopping to Mexico’s National REDD+ Strategy (operationalizing through Programs and projects) was discussed with F. Moreno

*9.b Results achieved (key outputs)** National Interpretation of Safeguards consulted with national stakeholders and feedback received
* UN-REDD’s experiences on safeguards shared with CONAFOR and national stakeholders
* Improved capacities of 53 participants

*9.c Expected outcomes and impacts** As a result of this mission, the UN-REDD Programme is positioned as trusted partner to CONAFOR on safeguards
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| 10. Key counterparts* CONAFOR and workshop participants
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| 11. Follow up action matrix |
| Action to be taken | By whom | Expected completion date |
| Prepare BTOr report  | Clea | done |
| Follow up on potential support to NRS | Clea, Edgar and F. Moreno | Mid-May |
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| 12. Distribution list* UN-REDD’s safeguards coordination group, UN-REDD Mexico’s focal point, UNDP-UN-REDD team
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