



## Meeting Minutes

### Reorganisation of the Nigeria REDD+ Safeguards Working Group

*11 June 2015, Channel View Hotel, Calabar*

#### Introduction

Held in Calabar, Cross River State, the purpose of this meeting was to reorganise the REDD+ Safeguards Working Group (SGWG) of Nigeria, including revising the group's terms of reference, and reviewing and approving a draft work plan for their activities in 2015. The meeting was attended by 34 persons, representing government agencies, civil society organisations, communities and the media (please see Annex 1 for the participants list).

The meeting was organised by the Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme and the Cross River State (CRS) REDD+ Secretariat, with technical support from the UN-REDD Programme. It was facilitated by Mr Tony Atah (Stakeholder Engagement Specialist, CRS REDD+ Secretariat) and Mr Tijjani Ahmed (Safeguards & Multiple Benefits Officer, National REDD+ Secretariat). A copy of the agenda is provided in Annex 2.

#### Opening session

Mr Tony Atah opened the meeting with a prayer, and introductions were made by the participants. A welcome was given by Dr. Ms Effiom Edu, representing the Permanent Secretary of the Forestry Commission, who was attending the swearing in of House of Assembly representatives and sent her apologies. She stated their hopes that the group could find middle ground between the risks and benefits of REDD+.

Mr Atah then introduced the agenda for the day, noting that it would be a day focused on work; after a couple of presentations on technical background to REDD+ safeguards, the meeting would focus on agreeing a way forward for the Safeguards Working Group (SGWG) and upcoming work on safeguards.

#### Presentation: What are the REDD+ safeguards requirements applicable to Nigeria?

*Ms Emelyne Cheney (UNEP)*

Ms Cheney provided an overview of REDD+ safeguards, including the Warsaw Framework and UNFCCC requirements. She introduced the seven Cancun Safeguards in detail, noting that these are broad and can be clarified by countries according to their own context. She also discussed the World Bank operational policies, including the process followed and those considered applicable to Nigeria under the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF). Finally, Ms Cheney outlined some elements of a country approach to safeguards, noting that although these can be used just in order to meet the minimum requirements for countries participating in REDD+, Nigeria's safeguard approach could also serve additional purposes for the country. (Please see Annex 3 for a copy of the presentations given at the meeting).



*Photo: Emelyne Cheney presents on UNFCCC and World Bank safeguards policies at the meeting*

## **Presentation: Links between a country approach to safeguards and REDD+ strategies**

*Charlotte Hicks (UNEP-WCMC)*

Ms Hicks then discussed the country approach to safeguards in greater detail, noting that it is a stepwise approach that accords with national goals, builds on existing systems and involves stakeholder consultation. She provided an overview of links between safeguards and REDD+ strategies/action plans. In particular, the safeguards approach draws links between the REDD+ policies and measures (PAMs) that a state or country wishes to implement, the risks and benefits of these PAMs, and potential safeguards to mitigate risks and enhance benefits.

## **Discussion**

Some time for discussion and questions followed the two presentations.

- Responding to a request for an update on safeguards work carried out in Nigeria so far, Odigha Odigha noted the importance of governance issues and stakeholder involvement. The Participatory Governance Assessment (PGA) has helped build understanding of governance and natural resource management issues, from national to local levels. Given the links between deforestation and failures of governance, the recently completed drivers of deforestation and degradation analysis is another starting point for work on safeguards.
- The issue of land tenure was raised, related to safeguard c); how could this be interpreted, as all lands in Nigeria are vested in the government? Ms Cheney stated that it will be up to Nigeria to clarify this provision of the safeguards, and assess how its legal framework supports the principle of respecting people's rights as represented by safeguard c). The aim of REDD+ is to reduce emissions from deforestation and degradation; the safeguards should be respected but they cannot solve every forest governance or tenure issue. Understanding the principles of the safeguards, and analysing how current policies, laws and regulations support the safeguards is part of the work ahead in Nigeria.

- Displacement of emissions is a serious issue in Nigeria, where CRS is a pilot state for REDD+, while other states are not implementing it. Ms Cheney agreed, noting that the country has a state-level approach to REDD+ and that this issue will need to be embedded in its national REDD+ strategy. This is why a national forest reference emissions level, national forest monitoring system, etc., must look at the country as a whole.
- On a similar note, another participant asked about the potential for controlling cross-border displacement, e.g. to Cameroon. Ms Hicks agreed that this is a difficult issue. While the national strategy and systems will tackle local/national displacement, international displacement is a risk. Nigeria will need to understand the implications of this safeguard and determine a nationally-appropriate way to address this risk if it exists; they may wish to think about potential synergies with the FLEGT process in Cameroon, for example.
- A participant asked which of the UNFCCC or World Bank safeguards are more important for a country to address. Mr Atah noted that the safeguards need to be clarified and applied according to national circumstances, thus this meeting will help provide participants with the right information to support safeguards work in Cross River State and Nigeria.
- Regarding the potential negative impacts of REDD+ on the environment, Mr Atah replied that these risks can occur. The role of the SGWG will be to identify potential negative risks or impacts, and to develop an approach to mitigate these risks.
- A participant concurred that the PAMs are an important first step in the safeguards approach; in the future, would CRS use the draft or approved forest law as a basis for this work? Odigha Odigha responded that these should be considered 'living documents'; as REDD+ is implemented, new dimensions appear to improve the process and policies can be reviewed. The forest law should not be abandoned but improved. At the moment there is no forest policy, but this can be proposed to support the implementation of the law. Moreover, REDD+ policies and measures are not limited to the forestry sector, but also include other sectors like mining, agriculture, environment and many others. Therefore, there is a need for the SGWG to think broadly and identify risks and benefits that are REDD relevant, irrespective of which sectors are involved.
- Clarification on the summary of information on safeguards was requested; is it updated every time fresh issues come up? Ms Cheney noted that Nigeria is to develop a safeguards information system (SIS) at national level, and the main objective is to communicate with domestic stakeholders. The SIS can also help to produce the summary of information. The summary is an international product, and at a minimum is included in Nigeria's National Communication to the UNFCCC, i.e. every four years. It is not necessary to submit every time there is a new development, but you can also submit more regularly if desired, e.g. by uploading it to the UNFCCC web platform.
- Regarding overlaps between the World Bank and Cancun safeguards, it was noted that these don't have to be seen as two different sets of safeguards. Instead, Nigeria can identify synergies between the two; there are general provisions in both cases, which need to be refined for the national context.
- In response to a question about free prior and informed consent (FPIC), Mr Atah gave a quick overview of the FPIC principle and processes. Ms Hicks added that while some countries apply FPIC as a way to meet the principles of the REDD+ safeguards, it is not a requirement from either the UNFCCC or World Bank.

## Presentation: Key elements Nigeria's approach to safeguards

*Tijjani Ahmed (National REDD+ Secretariat)*



*Photo: Tijjani Ahmed presents proposed elements of Nigeria's country approach to safeguards*

Mr Ahmed's presentation outlined key elements in a potential Nigerian approach to REDD+ safeguards, noting that the safeguards are necessary for the implementation of REDD+ and can reduce risk and enhance benefits. The country approach will help Nigeria to respond to safeguards requirements, and the SGWG will play a large role in developing this country approach. Two key elements are: Nigerian safeguards principles and criteria, implemented at state level first (then extended to other states); and an SIS at national level, which brings together information from

the states, building on existing systems. The approach should align to both the UNFCCC and World Bank safeguards. The priority for 2015-2016 is to develop the principles and criteria and pilot them in CRS.

## Discussion and questions

- Mr Atah noted that before the SGWG, we had the Safeguards Task Team, established in January 2014. Some of the same participants are present at this meeting. He proposed that we agree to rename it as the SGWG, reorganise the group and nominate new members by the end of the day.
- Mr Atah proposed that because the safeguards will be piloted in CRS, it is important that we have leadership from CRS in the SGWG. It should have similar previous members, but with CRS ownership or leadership.
- A participant asked for clarification on how information will be collected by the SIS. Mr Ama responded that although the SGWG will be driven by CRS, the SIS will be a national system that will draw on information from states. This will become clearer as the SIS evolves; a framework is needed before the content can be determined.

## Review of SGWG terms of reference

Bridget Nkor led the participants through a review of the terms of reference (ToR) for the members of the SGWG. The final draft ToR are provided in Annex 4.

The main changes made to the document included the following:

- Under 'overall role', changed 'in response' to 'in compliance with', as meeting requirements not reactive, and added reference to 'guideline', as will be producing something substantive.
- Under 'specific responsibilities': added that safeguards principles and criteria piloted in CRS will be subsequently extended to other states, as REDD+ is a national programme;
- Simplified 'formulate recommendations' to 'make recommendations'

- Recognising that there will be multiple consultations, added that these will be at 'state and national levels';
- 'Methodological guidelines' simplified to 'methods/guidelines';
- Clarified that stakeholder consultations on SIS are related to its 'development and operation'
- Clarified that SGWG will provide inputs to multiple materials/reports, not just those published by the REDD+ Technical Committee.

There was considerable discussion of the composition of the SGWG. After examining the membership of the previous Task Team, the issues raised included:

- Status of Cross River National Park, which is neither a government ministry, department or agency (MDA) or a civil society organisation (CS);
- Whether a national level CSO should be included;
- Whether a media organisation should be included;
- That principles such as levels of expertise/knowledge, capacity and interest to undertake work, and gender balance should be respected in determining the membership.
- The membership should be limited to 10-15 people.

A membership of 15 people, agreed to at the meeting, included the following:

- The Federal Ministry of Environment (2 people) (Tijani Ahmed and Moses Ama)
- The Cross River State Forestry Commission (2) (Dr Edu Effiom and Emmanuel Egbe)
- Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) (1) (Nkor Nathaniel)
- Ministry of Environment (MOEnv) (1) (Okon Isoni)
- Cross River National Park (1) (Caroline Olory)
- State Planning Commission (SPC) (1) (Patrick Coco-Bassey)
- CSOs (2, 1 national & 1 state) (Ch. Edwin Ogar & Vincent Ayang)
- Private sector (1) (Mrs. Thelma Bello of the Calabar Chamber of Commerce, TBD)
- Academia (2) (Prof. A Ogogo and Dr Andrew-Essien)
- Media organizations (1) (Past. Ndoma Akpet)
- Cross River State forest dependent communities (1) (Martins Egot)

The role of the Chair of the SGWG was also discussed. It was pointed out that strong leadership should come from CRS in the current phase, while the national level would continue to play a coordinating role. In addition, the Chair should be someone with capacity and interest, and the ability to travel and interact at the national level.



*Photo: Bridget Nkor facilitates review of the Working Group's ToR*

Other factors raised by participants included the person's rank, and the opportunity to bring in voices from outside of the forest sector. This topic links into a wider discussion about how to involve other sectors in REDD+, and prompted sharing of different views among the participants. On the one hand, if REDD+ related work devolves too much to outside agencies, then the context and commitment to REDD+ may be lost. It may be unrealistic to expect a non-forest MDA or actor to be fully involved; safeguards work relates to an international commitment and it needs responsible and accountable ownership. On the other hand, it is recognised that the forest is being depleted, and that many activities harming forests originate from outside of the forest sector. REDD+ will need the involvement of other sectors, and giving this role to another MDA may build their ownership.

The question of the Chair was not resolved, and the group indicated that a final decision will be made at their next meeting. The nominations for the position of Chair suggested at the meeting were:

- Patrick Coco-Bassey (SPC)
- Dr Edu Effiom (CRSFC)

#### **Remark by the Permanent Secretary**

The Permanent Secretary of the CRS Forestry Commission was able to attend the meeting in the afternoon. She gave a warm welcome to all visitors to Calabar, and apologised that she had been busy with the change in government. She noted that the CRS Forestry Board had been dissolved, and was without a Chair until reconstituted. However, a new coordinator for REDD+ in the state had been selected and is awaiting official confirmation by the State Governor. The Anti-Deforestation Task Force has also been disbanded, and so CRSFC staff are busy fulfilling this role too now. She wished the REDD+ Programme good results, and hoped for an opportunity soon to speak to the State leadership about REDD+.



## **Review of the draft workplan**

Mr Atah introduced the draft workplan for the SGWG (see Annex 5), noting that it is limited to the next 18 months (June 2015-December 2016), and calling for the participants to review the document and make suggestions for revisions.

The workplan comprises three main activities, all of which were deemed appropriate by the meeting participants. Issues and questions discussed included:

- Will the development of policies and measures for CRS be based on existing information, such as the drivers analysis and the PGA? The timeline for these activities seems appropriate, provided the existing information is available.
- It was clarified that recommendations (e.g. under activity 3.3) would be submitted to the state REDD+ Technical Committee (i.e. before submission up to national level).
- Under activities 3.2 / 3.3; should have SH forum validate draft P&C too. It was clarified that validation of the principles and criteria should happen, but was not covered by this workplan. This will require the active role of the National REDD+ Secretariat and others at the national level, rather than being the purview of the SGWG alone.

After minor revision, the workplan was adopted.

## **Update on the Green Economy Working Group**

Mr Daniel Pouakouyou (UNEP) provided an update on Nigeria's Green Economy Working Group (GEWG) and related activities.

By end of June, the GEWG are expected to validate draft ToR for a study on the valuation of CRS forests (including direct & indirect use). It is important to have good information on the value of forests and to provide this to decision makers. UNEP is playing an advisory role, providing advice and options based on how this issue has been studied in other countries. The team in CRS will decide which option to apply. The study will aim to bring together local as well as international expertise.

A participant asked whether it was possible to benefit from or marketise other, non-tangible forest benefits. Mr Pouakouyou responded that this decision is up to Nigeria; REDD+ has tangible and non-tangible benefits, and how to prioritise these in the design of policies and measures is a national decision. Mr Dahiru added that the green economy concept is that there is a win-win, where conservation can provide additional benefits as well, and these benefits may be lost if the forest is over-exploited.

## **Closing remarks**

Mr Salisu Dahiru (National REDD+ Coordinator) gave the closing remarks at the meeting, noting that REDD events in Calabar are always oversubscribed, with active participation. Safeguards have been a longstanding element of REDD+, and the Warsaw Framework provides a mandate for putting in place an SIS. The benefits of REDD+ won't be realised without an effective SIS in place. We now have a SGWG and a workplan; those working on this should consider it a critical component of REDD+ in Nigeria. Although the demonstration is in CRS, Nigeria now has two more states considering REDD+, and the safeguards developed in CRS will be replicated.

We hope to have a tripod of three states to aggregate information and use as a basis for a national SIS. He asked the participants to take this assignment seriously, and to contribute to REDD+

irrespective of whether they are in CRSFC, in another MDA, or in a CSO. The closing prayer of the meeting was given by Mr Tijjani Ahmed.



*Photo: Salisu Dahiru gives the closing remarks at the meeting*



*Photo: Odigha Odigha talks about REDD+ in CRS with members of the media*





*Photo: The participants at the Safeguards Working Group reorganisation meeting*

## Annex 1: List of participants

A total of 34 people participated in the meeting, including (9) women, (9) from government, (5) from civil society, (3) from communities, (2) from Institutions and (3) from the media. There were (12) participants representing the UN-REDD Programme.

Name	Position & organisation
Edu Effiom	Forest Officer, Cross River State Forestry Commission (CRSFC)
Patrick Coco Bassey	Director, State Planning Commission
Caroline Olory	Assistant Conservator of Park, Cross River National Park
Okon Isoni	Director, EBCD, Ministry of Environment, CRS
Nathaniel Nkor	Desk Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, CRS
Salisu Dahiru	National Coordinator, National REDD+ Secretariat
Tijjani Ahmed	Safeguards & Multiple Benefits Officer, National REDD+ Secretariat
Moses M. Ama	MRV Officer, National REDD+ Secretariat
Kingsley Nwawuba	GHG Specialist, National REDD+ Secretariat
Allen Turner	Chief Technical Advisor, Nigeria Readiness Programme
Martins Egot	REDD+ Pilot site Coordinator
Tony Atah	Stakeholder Engagement Specialist, Cross River State (CRS) REDD+ Secretariat
Rosemary Obo	PGA Coordinator, CRS REDD+ Secretariat
McStephen Kembre	Afi/Mbe Pilot Site Coordinator
Asuquo Okon	Mangrove Pilot Site Coordinator
Bassey Ituen	CRS REDD+ Secretariat
Ndoma Akpet	National Union of Journalists (NUJ)
Emerald Ojong	Chair, Civil Society Organisation
Nkese Archibong	CRBC
Ndekhedehe Effiong	CRBC
Vincent Ayang	Assistant Programme Officer, Nigeria Conservation Foundation (NCF)
Chief Edwin Ogar	Program Coordinator, Wise Administration of Terrestrial Environment and Resources (WATER)
Elizabeth Andrew-Essien	University of Calabar
Prof. Augustine U. Ogogo	University of Calabar
Godwin Ugah	Programme Manager/Natural Resources Manager Policy, CUSO International
Bridget Nkor	Head Of Unit Geographical Information System/Forest Monitoring, CRSFC
Egbe Emmanuel	CRSFC
Carswel Nkoro	CRSFC
Odigha Odigha	
Oliver Enuoh	
Rasak Adekola	FAO, MRV Expert
Daniel Pouakouyou	Regional Advisor, UNEP/UN-REDD
Emelyne Cheney	Regional Technical Advisor, UNEP/UN-REDD
Charlotte Hicks	Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC/UN-REDD

## Annex 2: Meeting agenda

### Meeting Agenda

#### *Reorganisation of the Nigeria REDD+ Safeguards Working Group*

11 June 2015, Channel View Hotel, Calabar

Time	Activity	Presenter/facilitator
08:30	Registration	
09:00	Welcoming by the Permanent Secretary	
09:30	Introduction to REDD+ safeguards	Emelyne Cheney (UNEP)
10:00	Links between safeguards and REDD+ strategies	Charlotte Hicks (UNEP-WCMC)
10:30	Questions/discussion	
10:45	Tea break	
11:00	Key elements of Nigeria's approach to safeguards	Tijjani Ahmed (National REDD+ Secretariat)
11:30	Terms of Reference for Safeguards Working Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Overall role</li><li>- Responsibilities</li></ul>	Bridget Nkor (CRSFC)
13:00	Lunch	
14:00	ToR, cont. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Membership, chairing, reporting</li></ul>	Bridget Nkor (CRSFC)
15:00	Proposed workplan for safeguards activity, 2015-2016 and discussion	Tony Atah (CRS REDD+ Secretariat)
17:00	Closing remarks by National REDD+ Coordinator	

## Annex 3: Presentations

**UN-REDD PROGRAMME**

**WHAT ARE THE REDD+ SAFEGUARDS REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO NIGERIA?**

Calabar, Nigeria, June 2015




**UN-REDD PROGRAMME**

**Overview**

1. Safeguards and the Warsaw framework
2. UNFCCC Requirements:
  - a) Promote & support Cancun Safeguards
  - b) Safeguard Information System
  - c) Summary of Information
3. World Bank/FCPF safeguards





**UN-REDD PROGRAMME**

**Safeguards & the Warsaw Framework**

National Strategy/Action Plan (NS/AP)

National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)

Safeguards Information System (SIS)

Forest reference emissions level (FREL/REL)




**UN-REDD PROGRAMME**

**3. UNFCCC SAFEGUARDS REQUIREMENTS**




**UNFCCC Cancun safeguards**

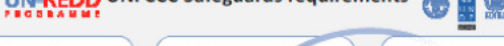

Governance	Social	Environmental
(a) Consistency with national objectives and international agreements		
(b) Transparent, effective forest governance and sovereignty		
	(c) Respect for knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities	
	(d) Full and effective participation of stakeholders	
		(e) Natural forest, biological diversity and enhancement of benefits
		(f) Address the risks of reversals
		(g) Reduce displacement of emission




**UN-REDD PROGRAMME**

**UNFCCC Safeguards requirements**

1. Countries **promote and support** the **Cancun Safeguards** throughout REDD+ implementation
2. **Safeguard information system (SIS)** to provide information on how the country is **addressing and respecting** the Cancun safeguards
3. **Summary of information** on how the Cancun safeguards are being **addressed and respected** submitted before Results-Based Payments

**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** Safeguard (a)

*a) That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements;*

e.g. Reforestation through REDD+ may also contribute to national forest policy targets






**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** Safeguard (b)

*b) Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty;*

e.g. Access to information on the implementation of REDD+



**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** Safeguard (c)

*c) Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the UNGA has adopted the UNDRIP;*

e.g. Avoiding involuntary resettlement of forest-dependent communities for REDD+



**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** Safeguard (d)

*d) The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities, in the [REDD+] actions;*

e.g. Legal requirements for community consultation on REDD+




**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** Safeguard (e)

*e) That actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that the [REDD+] actions are 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;*

e.g. Ensuring that REDD+ strengthens the management of areas of biodiversity importance



**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** Safeguard (f)

*f) Actions to address the risks of reversals;*

e.g. Ensuring the institutional sustainability of REDD+






**UN-REDD PROGRAMME**

Safeguard (g)

g) Actions to reduce displacement of emissions.

e.g. National land-use planning embedded in REDD+



**UN-REDD PROGRAMME**

## 4. WORLD BANK SAFEGUARDS REQUIREMENTS (FCPF)



**WB operational policies applicable**

Governance	Social	Environmental
OP/BP 4.01 Environmental and social assessments (leading to preparation of environmental & social management frameworks)		
OP/BP 4.11 Physical cultural resources (reduce impacts on physical cultural resources)		
OP/BP 4.12 Involuntary resettlement (avoid resettlement to extent feasible, or minimise/mitigate adverse social and economic impacts where resettlement cannot be avoided)		
OP/BP 4.04 Natural habitats (taking into consideration conservation of biodiversity, environmental services and products provided by natural habitats)		
OP/BP 4.36 Forests (reduce potential impacts on natural forest and improve forest management)		
OP/BP 4.09 Pest management (full applicability still to be determined)		




**UN-REDD PROGRAMME**

## Key points

Nigeria's approach to REDD+ safeguards will serve to ensure that:

- UNFCCC Cancun safeguards are addressed and respected
- Applicable WB Operational Policies are addressed and respected
- A national Safeguards Information System is in place and functional
- Summaries of information on safeguards are produced and submitted periodically to the UNFCCC

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Key points

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Minimum requirements! There may additional (domestic) objectives to Nigeria's approach to REDD+

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THANKS!

Emeyne Cheney  
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**UN-REDD PROGRAMME**

**LINKS BETWEEN A COUNTRY APPROACH TO SAFEGUARDS & REDD+ STRATEGIES**

Charlotte Hicks (UNEP-WCMC)

Calabar, 11 June 2015

**UN-REDD PROGRAMME**

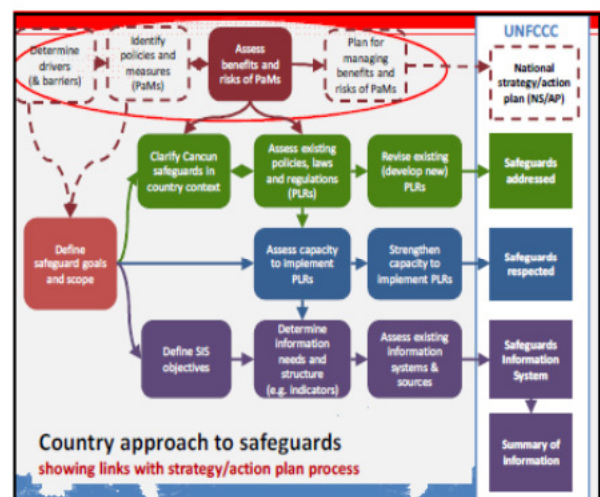
**Recap**

- **Safeguards** help to ensure that REDD+ activities “do no harm” to people or the environment, but rather enhance social and environmental benefits.
- Nigeria’s approach to safeguards will serve to ensure that:
  - the relevant REDD+ safeguards are addressed and respected;
  - that a national Safeguards Information System is in place; and
  - that summaries of information on safeguards are produced and submitted.

**UN-REDD PROGRAMME**

**Developing a country approach to safeguards**

- A country approach to safeguards allows a country to meet international safeguards, in harmony with national goals and building on existing systems.
- Step-wise, iterative approach.
- Building on existing policies, laws, regulations, institutions, information systems, etc.
- Involving consultation/participation with stakeholders.

**UN-REDD PROGRAMME**

**Safeguards and REDD+ Strategies/Action Plans**

- Proposed REDD+ policies and measures are an important starting point for developing a safeguards approach.
- Assessing environmental and social benefits and risks of proposed policies and measures focuses the approach on the most relevant safeguards issues.
- It also contributes to the selection and design of REDD+ policies and measures.

**UN-REDD PROGRAMME**

**Safeguards and REDD+ Strategies/Action Plans**

**EXAMPLE 1:**

**Measure:** Strengthened protection of forest reserves (to reduce deforestation)

**Risk:** Local people could lose access to forest resources

**Benefit:** Improved conservation of biodiversity

**Safeguard:** Policy to ensure respect of customary forest access rights



**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** **Safeguards and REDD+ Strategies/Action Plans** 

**EXAMPLE 2:**

**Measure:** Restoration of degraded forest areas (to enhance carbon stocks)

**Risk:** Negative impact on biodiversity possible

**Benefit:** Reduced soil erosion

**Safeguard:** Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) & management plan to protect/enhance biodiversity



**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** **Safeguards and REDD+ Strategies/Action Plans** 

**EXAMPLE 3:**

**Measure:** Sustainable intensification of agriculture (to reduce deforestation)

**Risk:** More profitable agriculture could encourage expansion into new forest areas (reversal)

**Benefit:** Improved livelihoods for farmers

**Safeguard:** Land-use planning process ensures allocation of appropriate land



**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** **Summary** 

- Country approach to safeguards aims to meet the international REDD+ safeguard requirements in accordance with national goals and circumstances, and builds on existing systems.
- Proposed policies and measures are an important starting point for developing a safeguards approach:
  - They focus the safeguards approach;
  - And assessing risks and benefits strengthens the design and selection of PAMs



**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** 

**Thank You!**

**Charlotte Hicks**  
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Website: <http://www.un-redd.org>



**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** 

## KEY ELEMENTS OF NIGERIA'S APPROACH TO SAFEGUARDS

Tijjani Ahmed, National REDD+ Secretariat  
Calabar, 11 June 2015




**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** 

## Introduction


- REDD+ can bring significant benefits to Nigerian people and the environment; it also has the potential to have negative impacts
- Safeguards can help to reduce risks and enhance benefits in the implementation of REDD+
- A country approach can help Nigeria respond to REDD+ safeguards requirements



**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** 

## Nigeria's approach to safeguards

- Two main elements:
  - Nigeria's REDD+ safeguards
  - National Safeguards Information System
- Nigeria's approach to safeguards should align with UNFCCC Cancun safeguards and the relevant World Bank policies



**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** 

## Main characteristics of Nigeria's approach to safeguards

- Principles and criteria applicable at state level to be developed (first piloting in CRS, then extended to other states)
- Each state will develop its own small set of indicators to inform the principles and criteria
- Safeguards Information System to be developed at national level, building on existing systems and sources




**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** 

## Priority for 2015-2016

- Developing the principles and criteria applicable at state level and piloting them in CRS.




**UN-REDD PROGRAMME** 

## Thank You!

Tijjani Ahmed

Website: <http://www.un-redd.org>





## Annex 4: Terms of Reference

### Terms of Reference

#### Nigeria REDD+ Safeguards Working Group

Version: 8 July 2015

#### 1. Background

Nigeria joined the UN-REDD Programme in 2009 and has since developed the Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme (NRP). The NRP will simultaneously build capacities at federal (national) and state (sub-national) levels, using Cross River State (CRS) among others as a demonstration model.

The NRP should result in well-planned REDD+ policies and measures being implemented, leading to multiple benefits such as conservation of biodiversity and maintenance or enhancement of ecosystem services from forests that would otherwise have been destroyed or degraded. Conversely, without adequate planning, benefits may not be achieved from REDD+, and poorly planned or implemented REDD+ policies and measures may even cause social and/or environmental harm. As noted in Nigeria's NRP document, the development of robust and viable safeguards is core to the design of the country's REDD+ mechanism. Taking into account the UNFCCC's *Cancun Agreements* (see Box 1 below), Nigeria has designed the programme to promote a REDD+ mechanism that delivers on benefits beyond carbon and avoid potential risks to the environment and social well-being. The NRP workstream on social and environmental safeguards will be initially and principally carried out in CRS, while full federal involvement will be ensured, as well as participation of other states that are likely to follow on REDD+ readiness.

Nigeria has made progress in efforts to build its own approach to REDD+ safeguards and align its work with the Cancun safeguards adopted under the UNFCCC. While the Cancun safeguards were internationally agreed upon, it will be important to interpret them in the specific Nigerian context and design national approaches to safeguards accordingly. Nigeria's approach to safeguards, specifically the design of social & environmental safeguards and the development of a safeguards

##### **Box 1. The REDD+ safeguards in the *Cancun Agreements* (2010)**

- (a) 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;
- (c) Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- (d) The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular, indigenous peoples and local communities, in actions referred to in paragraphs 70 and 72 of this decision;
- (e) Actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that actions referred to in paragraph 70 of this decision are 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.

information system, will be developed. The Nigeria REDD+ Safeguards Working Group will play a key role in this process.

## **2. Purpose and role of the Working Group**

### **2.1 Overall role**

The overall role of the Nigeria REDD+ Safeguards Working Group is to inform the development of a country approach to safeguards, in compliance with the UNFCCC and World Bank safeguard requirements for REDD+ and in the context of state and national REDD+ strategies.

The Safeguards Working Group will provide guidance, including guidelines where necessary, both for the design of the means by which safeguards are to be addressed and respected, as well as the development of a national level Safeguards Information System.

### **2.2 Specific responsibilities**

- The REDD+ Safeguards Working Group will collaborate with national and state partners to identify the risks and benefits of Nigeria's REDD+ policies and measures at state and national levels. This will include:
  - Carry out an analysis of the risks and benefits of candidate REDD+ policies and measures for Cross River State, and subsequently to other states as necessary;
  - Facilitate stakeholder consultations on the risks and benefits of REDD+ policies and measures in Cross River State, and subsequently to other states as necessary;
  - Formulate recommendations to state and national REDD+ Technical Committees for the incorporation of risks and benefits analysis in the selection of REDD+ policies and measures.
- The REDD+ Safeguards Working Group will collaborate with national and state partners to inform the design of Nigeria's social and environmental safeguards. This will include the following elements:
  - Draft social and environmental safeguards (principles and criteria) and contribute to their piloting in Cross River State, before extension to other states;
  - Support stakeholder consultations for the validation of Nigeria's safeguards at the state and national levels;
  - Review existing policies, laws and regulations that are relevant to the application of Nigeria's safeguards principles and criteria, and identify where further processes may be needed to establish new policies and laws for safeguards;
  - Make recommendations to the national and state REDD+ Technical Committees for the incorporation of the Nigeria's safeguards in state and national REDD+ strategies.
- The REDD+ Safeguards Working Group will collaborate with national and state partners to inform the development of Nigeria's national level safeguards information system. This will include the following elements:
  - Review existing information systems and sources relevant to the application of Nigeria's safeguards to REDD+ policies and measures;

- Provide technical support to the drafting of state-specific indicators, for the collection of information on the application of Nigeria's safeguards;
- Establish policies and procedures for managing both the development of a safeguards information system and its operation, for review by the national REDD+ Technical Committee;
- Develop methods/guidelines for information collection on defined state-level indicators;
- Support stakeholder consultations relating to the development and the operation of the safeguards information system as needed.
- The Safeguards Working Group will also provide inputs to the REDD+ national and state Technical Committees on publications and communication materials regarding safeguards, including:
  - Relevant reports, e.g. on potential areas for REDD+ and their multiple benefits in CRS;
  - Educational and awareness-raising materials to support consultations and communications on safeguards.

### **3. Composition of the Working Group**

The REDD+ Safeguards Working Group will be a multi-sector arrangement, with representation from key government departments and agencies, civil society organizations, academia and community groups involved in REDD+ in Cross River State and at the national level in Nigeria.

It will be important to ensure that there is a good gender representation on the Working Group. The membership of the group shall also provide the relevant expertise to ensure the provision of sound recommendations.

The Working Group will include representatives from:

- The Federal Ministry of Environment
- The Cross River State Forestry Commission
- And other relevant government ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) in Cross River State
- Relevant civil society organizations (CSOs), private sector, academia, and media organizations
- Cross River State forest dependent communities.

The size of the Working Group is recommended to be 10-15 persons, with one person designated as a chair.

#### **Safeguards Working Group Membership**

- The Federal Ministry of Environment (2)
- The Cross River State Forestry Commission (2)
- And other relevant government ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) in Cross River State
  - MOA (1)
  - MOEnv (1)
  - CRNP (1)
  - SPC (1)
- Relevant civil society organizations (CSOs) (2 - 1 national 1 state)
- Private sector (2)

- Academia (1)
- Media organizations (1)
- Cross River State forest dependent communities (1)

#### **4. Meetings**

The REDD+ Safeguards Working Group will meet on an ad-hoc basis, as needed to complete the required activities and address particular needs in the safeguards development process.

#### **5. Communication and reporting**

The REDD+ Safeguards Working Group will report to the state and national REDD+ Technical Committees.

## Annex 5: Workplan for SGWG, 2015-2016

Final draft workplan – safeguards activities, June 2015 – Dec. 2016											
<b>Objective:</b>											
Develop principles and criteria to meet the safeguards requirements of UNFCCC and World Bank, and pilot them in Cross River State											
<b>Activities:</b>				<b>Responsible actors</b>	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>1. Reorganisation of SGWG</b>											
1.1 Clarify role of SGWG and adopt workplan established				SGWG with support of UN-REDD							
<b>2. Risk &amp; benefit analysis of (potential) REDD+ policies and measures in C</b>											
2.1 Compile existing info on risks & benefits into report				SGWG with support of UN-REDD							
2.2 Consultation with REDD+ Stakeholder Forum, led by CRS REDD+ Technical Committee				Committee convenes; SGWG facilitates with support of UN-REDD; REDD+ Sec't supports organization							
Technical Committee for validation of risks & benefits analysis				SGWG with support of UN-REDD							
<u>Result: risks and benefits informing final decision on policies and measures selected by CRS</u>											
<i>(Note on timing: next stage needs clarity on PAMs for CRS)</i>											
<b>3. Development of state level principles and criteria to mitigate risks and enhance benefits</b>											
3.1 SGWG drafts principles and criteria				SGWG with support of UN-REDD							
3.2 Consultations at local, CRS and national levels to check the applicability of the principles & criteria				Committee convenes; SGWG facilitates with support of UN-REDD; REDD+ Sec't supports organization. National REDD+ Sec't supports at national level.							
3.3 SGWG presents final proposal for principles & criteria for adoption by CRS REDD+ Technical Committee				SGWG with support of UN-REDD							
<u>Result: Final principles and criteria prepared and submitted to national coordinator</u>											
<i>Note: Testing of principles and criteria in other states deemed necessary before validation at national level, depending on whether budget/support available</i>											