**Technical Consultation on Social and Environmental Safeguards in Nigeria**

**Annex Document**

On 2-4 August 2011 in Abuja, Nigeria, a technical consultation was held to review the Nigeria National Programme Document in conjunction with the draft UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria. Through the course of the consultation 15-20 participants from the Federal Government, Cross River State Forestry Commission, federal and state NGOs and UNEP discussed aspects of social and environmental safeguards for REDD+ in Nigeria. After an initial day discussing the multiple benefits and risks of REDD+, the participants simultaneously reviewed the National Programme Document and the draft Principles and Criteria. This joint review process reinforced both the strengths of the Nigeria National Programme and the relevance and applicability of the draft Principles and Criteria.

For the National Programme, the consultation focused on the results framework and corresponding activities, the institutional arrangements, and narrative sections of the document as relevant, e.g. gender. It also took into account, and identified responses to relevant comments from the Independent Technical Reviewers and Policy Board Members. Specific sections of the document were highlighted as clearly indicating that the National REDD Programme satisfies the criteria, while in several instances additional wording and clarification were added to activities in the results framework and/or the narrative. Some activities were modified, and a few were added, and there were modifications to the institutional arrangements to respond to needs identified in the light of the principles and Criteria.

Some notable changes included: increasing the clarification of when special consideration needed to be paid to women, youth and other vulnerable groups; ensuring that oversight of monitoring and reporting from NGOs/CSOs; inclusion of fiduciary oversight in the institutional arrangement; a proposal for a State Technical REDD+ Committee; support to research; explicit attention to multiple functions of forests in activities like monitoring and national stratification of forests; and incorporating a section on Addressing Indirect Effects. The consultation also identified cross-cutting changes, relevant for a variety of criteria which included the need to specify the particular types of training and awareness raising that are needed, including training in multiple benefits and in the role and importance of land use planning, specifically community-based land use planning.

The consultation confirmed the usefulness of the UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria as an aide in formulating national REDD+ programmes that accord with the Cancun safeguards and in reviewing national programmes seeking UN-REDD funding. It also provided input and suggestions for consideration by the drafting committee of the Principles and Criteria, including clarifications, suggestions for the development of the risk assessment and mitigation tool, and a recommendation for an additional criterion.