

Update on UNDP Actions Related to the FCPF “Common Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards for Multiple Delivery Partners”

June 2012

UNDP is undertaking several ongoing activities to ensure compliance with the FCPF “Common Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards for Multiple Delivery Partners” (Common Approach). As these are evolving processes UNDP will continue to share updates on the below.

UNDP Corporate Environmental and Social Safeguards

There are several evolving initiatives to further strengthen environmental and social safeguards across UNDP programming.

Item	Update on Progress
<p>1. UNDP environmental and social screening procedure (ESSP)</p> <p>The ESSP applies to proposed projects to identify if further environmental and social review and management is required.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The ESSP has been adopted by UNDP and has been integrated into UNDP’s Programming and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP).• There is a broader process underway to update UNDP’s overall programme and project management policies and procedures and as part of this, opportunities are currently being explored to more fully integrate environmental and social safeguards throughout the POPP.
<p>2. UNDP proposed compliance and grievance mechanism (UNDP AM)</p> <p>The UNDP AM will have two key functions:</p> <p>a) a compliance review process to respond to claims that UNDP is not in compliance with UNDP policies, procedures and project-specific commitments (e.g. Common Approach) related to environmental and social safeguards; and</p> <p>b) a grievance process that ensures individuals and communities affected by UNDP projects have access to appropriate dispute resolution procedures for hearing and addressing project-related disputes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The proposed mechanism was presented to the UNDP Associate Administrator in October 2011 with approval to proceed with establishing an interim mechanism for Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and GEF funded projects and initiate a broader consultative process for a corporate mechanism.• A broad consultation on the proposed design of the mechanism was launched in April 2012 and will conclude in June 2012.• Results of the consultation will be incorporated into the proposed design of the mechanism.• The proposal for the mechanism will undergo additional internal review, vetting and revision before being finalized and submitted for approval by UNDP senior management for implementation.

Common Approach

While the UNDP corporate processes related to safeguards will help to ensure that UNDP complies with the Common Approach, the corporate processes are not driven by this and therefore further requirements and interim mechanisms will be put in place specifically for FCPF projects where UNDP is a Delivery Partner.

Item	Update on Progress
<p>3. UNDP ESSP (see above)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific guidelines are being developed for UNDP Regional Technical Advisors (RTAs) working on REDD+ programming (including FCPF) to outline how the UNDP screening procedure will apply in the context of REDD+ Readiness.
<p>4. Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) UNDP Project Developers are required to mainstream environmental and social issues into project design for “upstream” strategic planning projects that are designated as Category 2 under the ESSP. SESA is one possible mainstreaming approach.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The guidelines mentioned under Item 3 include specific direction as to how the Common Approach requirement to produce ... “Guidelines and Generic Terms of Reference for Strategic Environmental and Social Assessments (SESAs) and Environmental and Social Management Frameworks (ESMFs)” will be built into projects when UNDP is a FCPF Delivery Partner. The new guidelines will include direction for RTAs as to how SEPC/BeRT can be applied during SESA work.
<p>5. Stakeholder Engagement UNDP Project Developers are required to take account of the “FCPF & UN-REDD Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement in REDD+ Readiness with a Focus on the Participation of Indigenous Peoples and Other Forest Dependent Communities” when developing FCPF projects. This meets the Common Approach requirement to take account of the “FCPF Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement in REDD+ Readiness Preparation”.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additionally, the guidelines mentioned under Item 3 will include specific direction as to how stakeholder engagement should be organised as part of SESA when UNDP is a FCPF Delivery Partner, and is developing projects under component 1 and component 2 of the harmonized R-PP.

<p>6. Interim Accountability Mechanism</p> <p>As highlighted in Item 2, UNDP is currently undertaking a consultative process to develop a UNDP-wide accountability mechanism. Because this will not be in place by the time FCPF projects are underway UNDP has agreed to put into place an interim AM for FCPF-supported UNDP projects. The interim AM will have two key functions:</p> <p>a) a compliance review process to respond to claims that for FCPF-supported UNDP projects, UNDP is not in compliance with UNDP environmental and social safeguard policies and procedures, including its environmental and social screening procedure and the terms of the Common Approach.</p> <p>b) a grievance process that ensures individuals and communities affected by FCPF-supported UNDP projects have access to appropriate dispute resolution procedures for hearing and addressing project-related disputes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP is currently recruiting two compliance specialists to carry out the functions of the compliance review. • UNDP is in the process of advertising a position to carry out the functions of the grievance process.
<p>7. National Level Grievance</p> <p>UNDP, as a partner to the UN-REDD Programme and a Delivery Partner for the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), in line with the requirements of the joint UN-REDD Programme/FCPF Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) Template and the FCPF Common Approach respectively, will support UN-REDD National Programmes and countries under FCPF-supported UNDP projects to develop, utilize, and institutionalize country-level grievance mechanisms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP is in the process of preparing a Guidance Note on UNDP Support to Country Level Grievance Mechanisms, including a methodology for UNDP to support countries to assess country capacity to set up such a mechanism, in collaboration with partners and in line with UN-REDD approach to support to national safeguards systems for REDD+.
<p>8. Disclosure Policy</p> <p>UNDP Project Developers are required to take account of UNDP's Information Disclosure Policy when developing FCPF projects. This meets the Common Approach requirement to take account of the "FCPF Guidance on Disclosure of Information".</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The guidelines mentioned under Item 3 include specific direction as to how information disclosure should be organised as part of SESA when UNDP is a FCPF Delivery Partner, and is developing projects under component 1 and component 2 of the harmonized R-PP.