

Section A. Country Sharing and Analysis

Compilation from Countries' Participants on Needs Assessment of Strengths and Weaknesses related to REDD+ Readiness Social Inclusion and on Workshop Expectations

20 respondents by the 24th of April 2013

A. Strengths of existing REDD+ Readiness social inclusion mechanisms in the countries

CAMBODIA

1. The Forestry Law aims to ensure the sustainable management of the forest resources for their social, economic and environmental benefit and to recognize and ensure traditional users' right of local people living within or near forest area.
2. The National Forest Program endeavours to adapt to CC and mitigate its effects on forest-based livelihoods. Community Forests will be covered in 2 MHa. Protection Forests will be covered in 3 MHa.
3. REDD+ Readiness has developed awareness raising and capacity building on REDD+ mechanisms to the relevant stakeholders, especially IPs, forest dependent communities, CSOs, NGOs who work related to forestry. As the more they understand on REDD+ the more they participate and protect the natural resources
4. Participation and consultation: as it is a flat form for multi-stakeholders share their experiences, lesson learned, challenges and concerns. Then they can discuss and decide on the strategy and policy how to minimize the potential risks. Moreover, consultation shows the ownership, accountability, transparency and dissemination information among stakeholders. The conflict and grievances can be solved through full participation and consultation.
5. Other examples of social inclusion strengths are communities and stakeholders' participation (Leadership and decision making) and local communities livelihood improvement (Protection of biodiversity)

INDONESIA

1. Social inclusion mechanisms accommodate interests from diverse perspectives, rather than from a single group. This will support successful REDD+ implementation, given forests in Indonesia play different kinds of roles for many people.
2. Social inclusion mechanisms also facilitate common understandings and minimize conflicts when the implementation phase is enacted.

LAOS PDR

1. Social inclusion mechanisms include existing social organizations, Government related agencies working on social issues, and private sector in the REDD+ Task Force, e.g. Lao Women Union; Lao Front for National Construction; Private Sector, among others.
2. REDD+ social inclusion mechanisms are integrated with national policies to strengthen the locals (villagers) as operating units in forestry sectors.

3. There is multi-stakeholder participation in the REDD+ Task Force, including one representative of CSOs.
4. The policies that support REDD+ in Laos are inclusive of local communities
5. Some examples of strengths social inclusion mechanisms in REDD+ Readiness are:
 - a. Cultural and traditional activities related to natural and environment protection
 - b. Social and rural communities participation
 - c. Environmental and social safeguard/ common approach
6. I only have some idea about strength social mechanism in REDD+. Strengths point because Lao Government sign on REDD+. CSO can work by system and Local community will get benefit directly.

NEPAL

1. In Nepal, the Government has established a REDD+ Working Group, a decision-making body. If CSOs representatives participate in this Working Group, they can influence decisions.
2. The REDD+ Strategy is under development and trying to include the different dimensions of social inclusion in the document.
3. There are pilot projects at grassroots level, where Dalit, IPs and local communities are getting benefits from project activities.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

1. The activities conducted during the R-PP formulation under the PNG SESA allowed:
 - a. Stakeholder analysis and mapping. This process identified technically capable expertise able to execute REDD+ Readiness activities within PNG.
 - b. Draft FPIC Guidelines. A large percentage of PNG land is customarily owned. Therefore, having drafted the guidelines for a FPIC mechanism is in itself a positive step in the Readiness Phase with respect to PNG's national circumstances.
2. REDD+ Project Guidelines and Safeguard Criteria. REDD+ project guidelines and safeguard criteria have been developed by the REDD+ Technical Working Group and are currently being finalized based on stakeholder comments. They include social, environmental and fiduciary safeguards to ensure REDD+ falls into the broader development objectives of PNG and takes into account social and environmental benefits beyond GHG abatement, and particularly addressing the rights of resource owners.
3. Free Prior and Informed Consent Guidelines. The OCCD has drafted guidance for establishing Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) for the REDD+ project in PNG. The guidelines are undergoing consultation and will be aligned with the UN-REDD Programme Guidelines on FPIC. In Papua New Guinea, indigenous land groups and landowners should be afforded recognition, fair involvement in decision-making and well-informed consultation during initial awareness of project.
4. I think that one of the strengths of social inclusion for Papua New Guinea is through taking a holistic approach by engaging with a wide variety of stakeholders throughout the REDD + Readiness phase. The stakeholders include other government bodies, resource owners, NGO's, CBO's also development partners. They have been included in the whole process which include formulation of the National Climate Change and Development Policy these wide variety of stakeholders are also members of our technical working groups (TWG) for REDD+. I believe that the holistic approach taken by PNG is good to have a wider view of how we can develop an encompassing social inclusion mechanism for the development of PNG.
5. One strength of our social inclusion in PNG is through the Office of Climate Change and development establishing outreach, communication and consultative mechanisms on REDD+ stakeholders through the on-going consultation process. These consultation process include provincial consultations, community consultations, school visits, radio

talk back shows, REDD+ and MRV TWG consultation meetings, Community REDD+ engagement process.

VIETNAM

1. Stakeholders are interested on REDD+.
2. The stakeholders' consultation process has been done for a long time in close collaboration with the UN-REDD Vietnam Programme and other projects and programmes and with active participation of NGOs and research institutions
3. A Community Forest Management project, sponsored by TFF- Trust Fund for Forest, was successfully performed in Phase I. Now Phase II is being implemented, incorporating lessons and experiences learned and helping consolidate good practices on community involvement in forest management processes.
4. FPIC and BDS (benefit distribution system) have both been tested in Vietnam. The values that we learned from the PFES (payment on forest environmental services) in Son La and Lam Dong provinces allow Vietnam to cope with social inclusion in later phases, including PCM or MRV.
5. The existence of Governments plans, policies and programs that aim to promote the participation minority groups who inhabit in the forested areas. Without the participation of minority communities, the REDD program will not be successful, following some lessons learned from other program in Vietnam.
6. The accumulated experiences on building social inclusion mechanisms, learned from previous programs such as the "5 Millions Reforestation Program" or the "National Poverty Reduction Program".
7. In Viet Nam, the resident play the most important role in protecting the forest and beginning of UN-REDD readiness such as Lam Dong province has been trying a project. The success of REDD depends on the participation of the residents. The recession of the forest is killing our environment, so it's very necessary to do things that grows carbon up and reduce the bad changing climate.
8. The government of Viet Nam needs to get money from REDD+ and the residents need taking part in the project and do themselves by the responsibility, belief and they could know everything clearly. This leads to the success of the REDD+. REDD+ have been trying to build Viet Nam into a powerful and prosperous country, especially it has been giving the residents who are living base on the forest better day by day.
9. Personally, 2 examples of strengths of social inclusion in Vietnam pertaining to REDD+ readiness are the application of the principles of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and Benefit Distribution Systems (BDS) Research.
10. FPIC was first initiated in 2 districts in Lam Dong province, Vietnam under UN-REDD Vietnam Phase 1, this program took into account the country-specific circumstances and the local contexts in Lam Dong Province throughout the whole FPIC process.
11. Through a number of REDD+ projects in Vietnam, at a very first step, the awareness raising and capacity building programs to local authorities and local people were really efficient and they will enhance and promote/support the REDD+ readiness in Vietnam.

THAILAND

1. Inclusion of all involved stakeholders in REDD+ Readiness – this will build effective and meaningful participation of all stakeholders in the design, implementation and evaluation of REDD readiness activities.
2. Addressing specific issues such as land and resource rights – this will safeguard rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.

B. Key challenges/weaknesses/gaps with regards to social inclusion mechanisms in REDD+ Readiness

CAMBODIA

1. Capacity and participation of different authorized institutions and stakeholders in order to develop safeguards for REDD+ need to be enhanced.
2. There is a different understanding, focus and interest of stakeholders involved in REDD+ safeguards' development.
3. Consultation with relevant stakeholders, especially IPs and forest depended communities, has been limited. Fund support for consultation has also been narrow.
4. Knowledge on related law and policies (local and international) including UNDRIP, FPIC and policies on safeguards is limited.
5. Deforestation and forest degradation continue in Cambodia: forest fire, illegal cutting, forestland encroachment by migrants. Forestland is being converted to other uses.

INDONESIA

1. Social inclusion requires 'enough' time, while often time is the constraint
2. Social inclusion demands 'patient and motivation' to continue the process.
3. Social inclusion demands consistency and commitment from policy makers and or community leaders
4. Social inclusion demands strong leadership, while the political context as a whole influence leaders' decisions.

LAOS PDR

1. There is a need to enhance the engagement and promote meaningful and equally participation of vulnerable groups as women and ethnic groups.
2. In order to effectively and meaningfully disseminate REDD+ information and raising awareness among local people, there is a need for more capacity building on REDD+ for Government staff and CSO/NGOs staffs working on social issues.
3. Social inclusion in REDD+ is still limited, notably at the grassroots level that also lacks of adequate information.
4. Lack of expertise is an issue in the country.
5. Policies support is strength, but the implementation mechanism is still challenging.
6. Three keys challenges/ weaknesses/ gaps with regards to social inclusion in REDD + Readiness:
 - a. Economics of REDD
 - b. Benefit Sharing
 - c. REDD+ Financing
7. Lack of updated information for CSO, Local Community and it is not access to Local community. It is not clear about REDD+ and policy and strategy in the National level even CSO do not have time join on meeting

NEPAL

1. Dalits are one of the marginalized communities in Nepal.
2. Madhesi (Terai community) are also marginalized and do do not have access and control over forest in Terai.
3. Women, youth and IPs are also not getting support to participate in REDD+ discussions.
4. In this context,
 - a. Forest policy and regulations are not inclusive for all marginalized communities;

- b. Government and other support organizations are also providing support but just as business as usual; some groups and elites control our cultural aspects and political structure; they are not ready to provide opportunities to marginalized communities.
 - c. There is a lack of financial resources for social inclusion.
5. There is a lack of institutional capacity and legislative framework.
 6. There is a lack of awareness of relevant stakeholders, as remote/rural communities, due to limited accessibility and insufficient transfer of information.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

1. Land Tenure. Approximately 90 percent of PNG's land is customarily owned. Social mapping must be done effectively so as to correctly identify genuine landowners. This will be very challenging given PNG's topography.
2. Benefit Sharing and Distribution Mechanisms. With regard to customary land ownership within the country, there is the issue of equality in Benefit Sharing. The formulation of an effective BSDM mechanism is a challenge.
3. One key gap for PNG in the social inclusion is through institutional arrangements between our National and Sub-National levels of government. We are still in the process of formulating a system where we have an arrangement put into place so that real development issues can be addressed due to the fact our provincial governments and local level governments are the people on the ground and are more in tuned to the real development needs of the people.
4. One of the fundamental gaps identified within the consultation and participation process is the sustainability of the process at the community level. This process can only be effective if there are mechanisms established within the provinces to ensure its sustainability. Papua New Guinea is a large country, with a population of 7.0 million people¹ with a population density of 15 people per square kilometer. As such, the real challenge is to be able to implement the work in real time with limited capacity.

VIETNAM

1. Possession rights for carbon are not yet clearly defined; also the legal framework for land and forest tenure may disqualify personal ownership.
2. The concepts "community" and "community forest" in Vietnam do not fully cover all the necessary aspects as ideally wished for in REDD+.
3. Local people still have limited capacity.
4. The involvement of NGO's in the REDD + programme of the government is not much, because there is no mechanism for comments from NGOs.
5. The unclear benefit sharing mechanism might reduce the participation of relevant stakeholders, especially minority groups.
6. The lack of a feedback mechanism might result in conflicts during the implementation of REDD+ program.
 - a. Shortage of documentary to build the plan persuadably.
 - b. Investing money in business is not persuadable enough forest degradation and deforestation.
7. FPIC I was mentioned above is one of the strengths in REDD+ readiness, however FPIC itself has weaknesses. The FPIC piloting exercise implemented by the UN-REDD Viet Nam Programme did not give enough time for people to discuss among themselves, to think about the meaning of REDD+ or to think about the various decisions they would have to make. There are many new terms which are not familiar and too comprehensive to the local people.
8. In Vietnam, we have REDD Network and six Sub-Technical Working Groups (STWGs) that contribute to research, development and decision-making processes in REDD+

Readiness. However, they are not really technical working group, if not only sharing information, do not have specific working plan and outputs, not inclusive.

THAILAND

1. Implementation on the ground – it's not difficult to create social safeguard mechanism but implementation remains a challenge.
2. Understanding of involved stakeholders including general public on social and environmental safeguards issue is also challenging as each group may have different perspective and ways of working.

C. Expectations with regards to the Workshop

CAMBODIA

- Learn good experiences from others countries, in order to adapt and develop safeguards for REDD+ in Cambodia.
- More understanding on consultation and participation process
- More understanding on environmental and social assessment
- More understanding on feedback, grievance, redress and conflict management

INDONESIA

- To learn from and discuss experiences with others
- To understand about the concepts of feedback and grievance redress in REDD+, how the mechanism may be built and how Indonesia can be pushed to implement this concept

LAOS PDR

- More experience and knowledge about REDD+
- To share, to learn and be able to develop a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment, and other alternative social inclusion approaches in REDD+ Readiness
- The workshop will provide new approaches, lessons and useful documents
- Learn how REDD+ issues are addressed at the global level and which countries have good experiences to share, including guidelines for future implementation
- Learn how to promote full participation of local people/communities as well as CSOs
- Learn about guidelines tackling inclusive strategies at national level, appropriate for different countries' contexts
- I representative of CSO Lao would like to learn/ exchange experience among participants
 - I want to learn how to encouragement the participation and contribution of various stakeholders in design of REDD+ Readiness for change with support/cooperation of government
 - I want to learn how to well identifying target beneficiaries' capacity gaps and needs in their communities for further improvement of their living conditions, and for better coordination, information sharing, services etc.
 - I want to learn how to communicate/negotiate with local government for recognition and participation of CSOs.

NEPAL

- Learn about the tools to use for advocacy on feedback, grievances and conflict management.
- Learn details about SESA and other means of social inclusion.

- REDD+ Working Group of Nepal is not inclusive. It has 12 members, out of them only 2 are from civil society. There is no representation of women and Dalit (untouchable group in South Asian context).
- Get a clear understanding about the SESA process, social inclusion, safeguards and World Bank safeguard policies
- Learn how other Asian countries are preparing REDD+ readiness
- Networking and experience sharing with Asian CSOs

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

- Gain the capacity to fully and effectively utilize the FCPF for Papua New Guinea REDD+ Readiness
- Attain a better understanding of the concept of Social Inclusion in REDD+ Readiness
- I hope to gain further knowledge on the areas of SESA and ESMF and also on grievance redress mechanisms. This will be helpful to me as a person who will be actively involved in implementing the R-PP through the Office of Climate Change and Development. I expect to come out of this workshop gaining knowledge to strategically assist PNG in developing a social inclusion mechanism that can be all encompassing.

VIETNAM

- Share and learn experiences with/ from other countries
- Build a social inclusion enhancement plan for REDD+ in Vietnam
- Network with other experts for later cooperation
- Get updated information on social inclusion in REDD+
- Gain more knowledge on REDD+ Readiness
- Understand FCPF guidance to develop strategies and actions for social inclusion in REDD+ Readiness well
- Learn lessons and experiences in social inclusion in REDD+ Readiness from other countries
- To know and understand more about the process of REDD+ from other countries in Asia, especially South east Asia.
 - To get more experience about the process of the REDD+.
 - To know more how useful carbon is in developing forest
- I am a Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer (Focusing more on Environment). However, I have just started my jobs for 2 weeks, hence I am really a newcomer to REDD+ community not only in Vietnam but also worldwide. This workshop will be indeed a very good opportunity for me to get to know more about social inclusion which is exactly what I have been working for, this workshop will also be a big forum for every participants from varied countries to share and to learn experiences from the others and will apply to their own country. The program is quite intensive so I hope I will gain a lot of knowledge, experiences and partnership with all the participants.

THAILAND

- Understanding about SESA and able to use it for assisting communities.