

Workshop Report:

Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and Safeguards Workshop

Date: 1st October, 2013 from 09:00 to 16:00

Place: Top Ten Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Participants: 20 participants from different governmental and Non-governmental institutions...

Introductions;

The workshop was opened with brief opening remarks by Mr. Edward Felix from the World Bank, Who emphasized the need for great partnership among all the relevant stakeholders, in order to achieve the goals of REDD+ in Ethiopia. He insisted that targeted and enhanced consultations are vital in realizing ownership of the project and subsequently, its sustainability. Participants also got a chance to introduce themselves.

Session One:

In this session two presentations were done; the first one was on “*Status of REDD+ Readiness (R-PP Implementation)*” by Dr. Yitebitu Moges. His presentation covered the potential of Ethiopia REDD+ Potential; Milestones in REDD+ process in Ethiopia; Key elements of REDD+ Readiness; Budget for Readiness (R-PP implementation); Progress so far; challenges and opportunities. From this presentation the necessity of an inclusive SESA process was discussed. It shaped the participants expectations, and their link to the REDD+ process, including their roles and responsibilities.

The second presentation was “*Introduction to WB Safeguard policies*” by Edward Felix D., from the World Bank. He gave detailed description and country specific examples on the ‘10+1’ safeguards policies (Environmental, Social and Legal safeguards policies). This presentation as complemented by Mr. Victor Mosoti from the World Bank as well, who elaborated on the legal safeguards policies, The policies include Environmental assessment(EA),Natural habitats, Forests, Pest management, Physical Cultural property, Indigenous Peoples, Involuntary re-settlement, Safety of dams, Projects involving international waters, Projects in disputed area Plus consultation and disclosure policy. The plenary discussion raised some issues points highlighted include:

- ✓ REDD+ could harm neighboring regions especially access to wood and will result in cutting more trees in nearby regions.
- ✓ Pest may reemerge as practices for extensive agriculture use more fertilizers which may result in having pests
- ✓ We need to come up with a plan on addressing the consequences of REDD+ investment.
- ✓ REDD+ intervention should be community driven and they will guide on what and where to do. (Cultural property might not be affected much)

- ✓ For Ethiopian case all people are indigenous, there are ethnic groups which are underserved and marginalized and the issue of inclusion needs to be considered for those groups which are vulnerable and less privileged.
- ✓ Your investment is likely to result in the take of land from somebody (individual/community/..) which is:

1. physical displacement;
2. may restrict the access to assets which they are depending on for their livelihoods

Hence REDD+ investment could lead to this effect and there needs to be fully compensation using the prevailing market.

Safety of dams: hydropower dam construction needs to have dam safety canals for big dams. You may create small and micro dam facilities for refreshment but need to consider effects like water born diseases (health implication); safety issues like for kids and animals dissipated. Canals also created problems as protection only on the up catchment will have flooding in the lower catchment. Having a dam upstream and blocking water for lower steam countries. Small dam safety guideline can be considered.

Projects involving International water: There are five rivers emanating from Bale Mountain to Somalia and Kenya and the REDD+ project in the area will affect the lower catchment areas and notification needs to be done.

Projects in disputed areas: The REDD+ project will not have problem as it will not cross any neighboring country.

Consultation and discloser policy: consultation needs to be done at all levels. Every document needs to be accessed to the public unless the government requests to withhold some documents.

After the presentations comments, inputs and questions were raised from participants including:

- Clarification on issues like - EA, EIA, ESIA, and ESMF
- Is disclosure of documents and policies as simple as we talk about it??
- There must be appropriate compensation to individuals. However, some capitalize on the eviction for private interest. How can such issues be addressed?

Responses and clarifications were given by the presenters.

Session two:

In the second session presentation on “Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)” was made by Mr. Nicholas M. Soikan from the WB. His presentation focused on the SESA rationale, process, steps and outcomes. For REDD+, as an FCPF approach to sustainability; further, the Ethiopia SESA road map which includes the steps to be undertaken was discussed. This interactive presentation brought forward the following inputs:

- The need for the SESA Task force to conceptualize the Ethiopia REDD+ strategy options, as currently highlighted in the R-PP as well as the results of the study on drivers of deforestation.

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- There are different documents in each institution but what we are lacking is implementation, therefore the question on how the ESMF will be implemented, and fully supervised and monitored, was raised.
- The consultancy firm will have a responsibility to undertake consultations and the responsibility of the SESA C&P task force needs to be clear. It was clarified that the Task Force main role will be to guide and review what is being done by the consultant.
- In relation to the consultation process it needs to address the issues of gender and vulnerabilities.
- How has the media i.e. local radio and television be used in countries to address the issue of REDD? To conduct awareness? Consultations?

Case study: Bale mountain REDD+ project Consultation and Participation process, and FPIC

Farm Africa/SOS Sahel presented a detailed process on how's consultations and FPIC were done for the Bale Mountain REDD+ project. Then questions were raised from participants including:

- What was the cost for the consultations and FPIC process? In relation to benefit sharing are you involving those outside the forest? The carbon market is going slow and expectations are growing? How can this be handled? What about the local language materials used?

The presenter responded to the questions raised as follows: The FPIC methodology guidelines were used on selecting specific sites for consultations. The benefit sharing is for those in the project area (61 kebeles) as primary beneficiaries but there are also other communities which are outside the area which will have benefits as well (indirect beneficiaries). The expectations are high but they are also benefiting via selling timber and the other benefit is to come and we brief them every time. The translation: we do not have a local language for REDD+ and CC but on PFM we have in local language.

Session three:

In the afternoon, Terms of Reference for the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and Consultation and Participation Task Force (TF) for REDD+ in Ethiopia was presented. It covers objectives of SESA; aim and objective of TF; roles of the TF; members and structure as well as working arrangements.

In moving forward, the following issues were discussed;

- The ToRs for the Task force will be reviewed by all members, and circulated to all TF members.
- The inputs from the members will be recorded for review, and ensuring that they are considered.
- How do we manage to work with the consultant and what are the benefits of this task force? (This question will be answered by the REDD+ secretariat during the next meeting)

- This group is to monitor and provide oversight and will not be fully engaged on a day to day basis, but might be required depending on the workload.
- The timelines for the SESA process will be shared to the committee for input.

Meeting Conclusions and Next steps:

There is a need to avoid conflict of interest as a consultant and as a task force member. Participants discussed the potential members to be involved in the SESA C&P Task Force. Specifically the following will form the Task Force, that shall be formally appointed by the State Minister, where the REDD+ secretariat will be housed;

1. Ministry of Agriculture(Food security), NRM, Women Affairs, Environment Unit, Ministry of Environ, and Forestry (2)
2. (International organizations rep.)
3. Farm Africa
4. The National Civil Society Organizations Network Representative (Climate Change Forum)
5. The Private Sector representative
6. Representative from an organization working with the underserved communities(ILCA)
7. Media rep
8. Pastoralist Forum
9. Gender organizations representative
10. Federal state ministry representative
11. PFM groups/co-operatives representatives
12. World Vision
13. Ethiopian Forestry Society
14. Ethiopian Institute of Agr./forestry research

The REDD+ secretariat, the Co-chairs i.e. Farm Africa and the Climate Change Forum-Ethiopia shall meet by Friday, 4th October 2013, to select the 11 members to be appointed by the Minister.

The next meeting of the SESA C&P Task Force will be held on November, 1st 2013 at the same venue.

Attached:

1. Meeting agenda



Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and Safeguards Workshop

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 1st October, 2013,

From 09:00 to 16:00

VENUE: Top Ten Hotel;

SESA and safeguards for Ethiopia REDD+	
09:00	<u>Opening</u> – Edward Felix Dwumfour AND Andre Aquino
09:00	<p><u>Session 1 Part 1: What will it take for a country to be “REDD+-ready”?</u></p> <p>Background: The ultimate objective of the REDD+ readiness preparation phase is to build technical and institutional capacity, design policies and strategies that will be essential to participate in REDD+ performance system under the UNFCCC and to pilot carbon finance operations (such as under the FCPF Carbon Fund), or at least make credible progress towards this goal..</p> <p>Objective of the Session: The session will discuss the readiness progress by Ethiopia. Ethiopia presented its R-PP and was approved by the PC. It's made some good progress so far, and additional financing has been sort to advance this work. The participants should understand the work plan as well as their responsibilities.</p> <p>Andre Aquino, and Dr. Yitebitu (1.30 minutes) followed by an <i>open discussion with Feedback</i></p> <p>Background Documentation: Ethiopia RP-P</p> <p>Session 1: Part 2:</p> <p>WB Environmental Safeguards: Edward Felix D.</p> <p>Update to the group on the WB Environmental Safeguards.</p> <p>Discussions</p>
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:30– 1:00	<u>Session 2: Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA)</u>
	<p><u>Background: The multi-sectoral, programmatic nature of REDD+ requires a strategic approach starting from the readiness phase, as well as from a safeguards perspective. The Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) has therefore been selected as the appropriate approach for incorporating relevant environmental and social sustainability considerations into the formulation of National REDD+</u></p>

	<p><u>strategies with the objective to prevent and minimize social and environmental risks and enhance positive benefits. Complementing the SESA, REDD+ countries are also receiving support in setting up a feedback and grievance redress mechanisms.</u></p> <p><u>Objective of the Session: As more and more countries are moving into the R-PP implementation stage, they are also rolling out the SESA approach presented in their R-PP. Early experiences with SESA implementation have shown to improve stakeholder engagement in national and local-level discussions. However, not much practical experience is yet available on the implementation of the strategic dimension of the SESA approach, i.e. the upstream incorporation of social and environmental considerations into REDD+ strategy development. We now need to move from a theoretical approach to a more practical one. The session will be the opportunity to hear about the expectations and inputs from the participants, and the WB Social team.</u></p> <p><u>Consultation and Participation: Enhanced consultations, with targeted outreach will be critical in REDD+. A Session on C&P plan will also focus on how, where, who is relevant to be consulted etc., will give participants a chance to ensure that they brainstorm on the best way to reach out to all relevant stakeholders, and communicate in the best way possible.</u></p> <p><u>Structure of the Session: The session is designed to give participants the opportunity to learn more on the SESA process and their roles, as well as responsibilities.</u></p> <p><u>Background Documentation: Common Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards: http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/fcp/node/310 &Draft toolbox on addressing grievances: https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/fcp/node/819</u></p> <p><u>Nicholas Soikan – Social Development Specialist Will lead this session – time 1.30mins.</u></p> <p><u>Ato Eyob – Safeguards, Specialist MoA, and Ethiopia will also share on the progress for ToRs, and give his input. Experiences on other safeguards conducted by the ministry will also be shared SLMP?</u></p> <p><u>Discussions</u></p>
1pm – 2:40pm	<u>Lunch</u>
	<u>Session 3: World Bank Operational policies;</u>
2:40 – 3:30	<p><u>Safeguards: World Bank safeguards and other internationally agreed safeguards will be triggered while implementing REDD+ depending on country context. These safeguards will be implemented by Ethiopia, and therefore it creates need for awareness.</u></p> <p><u>The safeguards to be triggered will depend on the outcomes of SESA. It is imperative therefore, to ensure that SESA identifies critical environmental and Social issues, which are framed in the ESMF.</u></p> <p><u>This session will highlight some of the WB OP that will be triggered depending on the SEA outcome.</u></p> <p><u>Chukwudi H. Okafor</u></p> <p><u>Discussions</u></p>
3:30-4:00	<p><u>Next Steps</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>ToRs for the SESA, C&P Task Force</u> - <u>Review of the Task Force membership</u> - <u>Work plan for the Task Force and timelines</u> <p><u>Karin and Dr.Yitebitu</u></p>

2. List the MRV work shop of participants

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