

Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Carbon Fund

World Bank Safeguard Policies and the UNFCCC REDD+ Safeguards

August 28, 2013

Background:

In June 2012, the Participants Committee (PC) of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) adopted the “guiding principles on the key methodological framework and policy guidance on a pricing approach for the Carbon Fund” (Guiding Principles). One of the Guiding Principles provides as follows: “The [Emission Reductions (ER)] Program meets the World Bank social and environmental safeguards, promotes and supports the safeguards included in UNFCCC guidance related to REDD+, and provides information on how these safeguards are addressed and respected, including through the application of appropriate grievance mechanisms.” In light of this Guiding Principle, and in the context of developing the Methodological Framework for the Carbon Fund of the FCPF, the Carbon Fund Participants have requested that the Facility Management Team of the FCPF (FMT) demonstrate how the World Bank safeguards relate to the safeguards included in the UNFCCC guidance related to REDD+.¹

In response, the FMT has prepared the table in the following section, which lists the seven principles of the UNFCCC safeguards for REDD+ and a non-exclusive list of provisions of the World Bank environmental and social safeguard policies corresponding to these principles. While the verbatim texts of the World Bank environmental and social safeguard policies and the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards are not identical, the required application of the World Bank’s safeguards (consisting of policies, procedures, and practices) to ER Programs supported by the FCPF Carbon Fund should be sufficient to ensure that the World Bank’s safeguards successfully promote and support the UNFCCC safeguards for REDD+.

Further, the FMT has developed a number of draft criteria and indicators that address the Guiding Principle mentioned above, and included them in the latest version of the Methodological Framework. These draft criteria and indicators 1) require that an ER Program for the Carbon Fund meets the World Bank safeguards and promotes and supports the safeguards included in UNFCCC guidance related to REDD+; 2) state that, during its implementation, the ER Program provides information on how relevant safeguards are complied with or addressed and respected; and 3) provide that an appropriate feedback and grievance redress mechanism exists before negotiating an Emission Reductions Payment Agreement (ERPA).

¹ For the purpose of this document, “UNFCCC guidance related to REDD+” includes the UNFCCC COP Decision adopted in Cancun in December 2010 (on the “Cancun Safeguards,” Decision 1/CP.16, appendix I) and the UNFCCC COP Decision adopted in Durban in December 2011 (on the “Safeguard Information System”, Decision 12/CP.17).

UNFCCC REDD+ Safeguards and the World Bank Safeguard Policies:

UNFCCC Safeguards for REDD+ ²	Sample of Relevant World Bank Safeguard Policies and Procedures ³
(a) That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements;	OP 4.01 on Environmental Assessment , in particular paragraph (“para.”) 3 OP 4.36 on Forests , in particular paras. 14 and 6
(b) Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty;	Access to Information policy, in particular para. 1 OP 4.01 on Environmental Assessment , in particular paras. 3 and 13 OP 4.36 on Forests , in particular para. 14 BP 4.04 on Natural Habitats , in particular para. 5 BP 4.10 on Indigenous Peoples , in particular para. 10 BP 4.12 on Involuntary Resettlement , in particular para. 2
(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;	OP 4.10 on Indigenous Peoples , in particular para. 1; para. 16 and footnote 17; paras. 19 to 21 OP 4.36 on Forests , in particular paras. 10 and 14 BP 4.36 on Forests , in particular para. 4
(d) The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities, in the actions referred to in paragraphs 70 and 72 of this decision;	OP 4.01 on Environmental Assessment , in particular paras. 14 and 15 OP 4.10 on Indigenous Peoples , in particular para. 1 and footnote 4 OP 4.04 on Natural Habitats , in particular para. 10 OP 4.12 on Involuntary Resettlement , in particular para. 7 OP 4.36 on Forests , in particular paras. 11 and 12
(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 ⁴ ;	OP 4.04 on Natural Habitats , in particular para. 1 and Annex A, para. 1(a); para. 4 and Annex A, para. 1(c) OP 4.36 on Forests , in particular paras. 1, 2, 5, and 7

² These are also known as the “Cancun safeguards” as they were adopted during COP16 in Cancun, Mexico in December 2010, as part of Decision 1/CP.16, appendix I, paragraph 2

³ The safeguard policies and procedures listed are those that are considered most relevant for REDD+ operations, and should not be seen as representative of the range of such policies or procedures that could be triggered by an ER Program supported by the FCPF Carbon Fund. For more information on the World Bank’s safeguards system, see <http://go.worldbank.org/WTA1ODE7T0>.

⁴ Safeguard (e) includes the following footnote: “Taking into account the need for sustainable livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities and their interdependence on forests in most countries, reflected in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as the International Mother Earth Day.”

(f) Actions to address the risks of reversals	<p>OP 4.01 on Environmental Assessment, in particular paras. 1 and 2</p> <p>OP 4.36 on Forests, in particular para. 14</p>
(g) Actions to reduce displacement of emissions.	<p>OP 4.01 on Environmental Assessment, in particular para. 2 and footnote 3; para. 3 and footnote 5</p> <p>OP 4.04 on Natural Habitats, in particular para. 4 and Annex A, para. 1(c)</p>