

Democratic Governance Assessments for REDD+

Why citizens, national ownership and
accountability matter

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Governance for REDD+

- *Forest* governance is a subset of the larger governance framework of a country needed for REDD+ to work.
- Citizens and forest communities play a crucial role in strengthening forest governance and the quality of the broader governance agenda
- National and local ownership of a governance assessment and the REDD+ process is a condition of viability of mitigation and REDD+ initiatives.



Key Principles of a Country-led Democratic Governance Assessment

- Accountability
- Participation
- Transparency
- Legitimacy



Operational features

1. Alignment to national political priorities and processes
2. Assessment is country-contextualized
3. Methodology is rigorous
4. Selection of indicators is transparent and participatory
5. Results are stored in a public national database
6. Indicators are pro-poor and gender-sensitive
7. Capacity of national stakeholders is developed
8. Cost-effectiveness and timeliness
9. Results are widely communicated
10. Assessment is repeated



Democratic Governance Assessments for REDD+

- Mean an assessment developed and owned by the key stakeholders and citizens of a given country
- Help to build the national and local capacity of the government and local, forest-dependent communities
- Have more validity and impact than externally driven assessments
- Are a practical and political approach



More information

- [UN-REDD Web site : www.un-redd.org](http://www.un-redd.org)
- Governance Assessment Portal www.gaportal.org