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Harmonized 'Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement in REDD+ Readiness'

Joint Meeting between the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board and FCPF Participants Committee, Paraguay, 27 March 2012

Charles McNeill on behalf of FCPF and the UN-REDD Programme



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Harmonizing Approaches to Support Countries

- One of the first efforts to harmonize FCPF & UN-REDD work
- One shared/common approach to support stakeholder engagement in REDD+ readiness activities
- Intention to reduce the burden on countries by having one Stakeholder Engagement process instead of two



Objective of the Guidelines

Objective: To support effective stakeholder engagement for REDD+ readiness with a focus on indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities

Based on the understanding that:

- REDD+ can deliver benefits to indigenous peoples and local communities, but also carries risks
- Legal and/or customary rights holders but often not engaged in decision-making
- Need to ensure that their rights are fully respected throughout the REDD+ program cycle



Consultation Process on Harmonized Guidelines

- Extensive consultations undertaken by both FCPF & UN-REDD to develop their original guidance
- Harmonized Guidelines also underwent consultations: through CSO advisory reviews and a public process
- Comments called for:
 - Improving ‘consultation steps’ section
 - Including guidance on indigenous and tribal peoples in voluntary isolation
 - Clarifying when different standards may apply



Contents of the Guidelines

1. Importance of IPs and other forest-dependent communities
2. Relevant FCPF and UN-REDD Programme Policies
3. Principles for Effective Stakeholder Engagement
4. Practical Steps for Carrying out Effective Consultations

Annexes: Relevant WB & UN Policies
Relevant Resources & Tools



Application of Guidelines (1)

- Revised Guidelines are on FCPF and UN-REDD websites
- Countries have been actively using Guidelines to support stakeholder engagement (e.g., Cambodia, DRC, Ecuador, Indonesia, Mongolia, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Republic of Congo, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam, Zambia)
- Guidelines are a “living document” guiding REDD+ readiness in UN-REDD and FCPF partner countries



Application of Guidelines (2)

- These Guidelines are integrated into R-PP template as requirement for FCPF, UN-REDD and delivery partners under the Common Approach
- These Guidelines also integrated in up-coming UN-REDD ‘Handbook to Support National Actions’
- Support to be provided to countries & stakeholders to apply Guidelines (e.g. activity funds under R-PP/National Program; financial support to stakeholder engagement in-country; dedicated regional stakeholder engagement specialists, etc.)