



Nigeria's Experiences on Safeguards for REDD+

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Salisu Dahiru
Nigeria's National Coordinator REDD+
sdahiru85@yahoo.com
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Background

UNFCCC - Cancun 2010

REDD+

**Reducing Emissions from
= Deforestation and
forest Degradation**

+

**Conservation of forest carbon stocks
Sustainable management of forests
Enhancement of forest carbon stocks**



Background (contd.)

- The “Plus” – side represents multiple benefits of REDD+;
- REDD+ has potentials to deliver **multiple benefits** (social & environmental benefits);
- However, there are also potential **risks** associated with implementation of REDD+;
- Safeguards have therefore been developed to ensure that REDD+ activities do not lead to negative impacts on multiple benefits;
- Safeguards recognize the risks & opportunities of REDD+;



Safeguards in Nigeria's REDD+ process

- In Nigeria, appreciating the linkage between multiple benefits and improved rural livelihoods is critical in securing the participation of forest dependent communities in REDD+;
- Thus, Nigeria incorporated enhancing social & environmental benefits as well as safeguards early in the design of its REDD+ programme;
- A workshop in August 2011 reviewed both Nigeria's draft UNREDD National Programme Document (NPD) & the UNREDD Programme's draft Social & Environmental Principles & Criteria;





Safeguards in Nigeria's REDD+ process (contd.)

- **Outcomes: Revealed that Nigeria's draft UNREDD-NPD already included many elements that would help to enhance multiple benefits and reduce risks of REDD+ activities;**
- **Identified several potential benefits of REDD+ actions, such as improved conservation of biodiversity & supplies of NTFPs; enhanced food security; empowerment of women & youth; employment; etc;**
- **Identified risks of some kinds of REDD+ actions, such as loss of revenue or employment; disruption of traditional customs; and conflict over ownership rights (for land & carbon)**



Stakeholder participation in dialogue on safeguards

- Biodiversity experts, Indigenous and Local Communities have been included as statutory members of REDD+ governance bodies at National & Cross River State levels;
- Ensuring their active participation in REDD+ planning from the on-set, including safeguards;
- Particularly, Civil Societies & Local Communities are principal actors in Nigeria's PGA process;
- NGOCE is a member of the PGA steering committee





Future work on safeguards of REDD+

- **Assessment of ecosystem multiple benefits at national and local levels as part of future work on safeguards (on-going), including;**
- **Identification and mapping of risks & opportunities;**
- **Operationalization of Safeguards;**
- **Participatory & community based monitoring of biodiversity impacts, enhancement of women groups' participation in CRS;**
- **Promotion of alternative livelihood options; such as snail & bush meat production; Renewable energy options, etc.**
- **Phasing of activities;**
- **Continuous awareness creation, capacity building & stakeholder involvement ; and promoting synergies.**



Concluding Messages

- **For REDD+ to succeed, it must include safeguards in early REDD+ planning;**
- **Stakeholder participation is a critical requirement in understanding and operationalizing safeguards;**
- **Forest Dependent Communities must be supported with requisite capacity building towards monitoring safeguards;**
- **Enhancement of alternative livelihoods for FDCs, while waiting to advance past the Readiness phase must be assured;**
- **REDD+ countries need to prioritize & standardize their biodiversity & multiple benefit needs;**

*Thank you for your
attention!*