



**Institute for Global Environmental Strategies**

公益財団法人 地球環境戦略研究機関

2108-11 Kamiyamaguchi, Hayama, Kanagawa 240-0115 Japan

神奈川県三浦郡葉山町上山口2108-11 〒240-0115

Phone: +81-46-855-3700 Facsimile: +81-46-855-3709 <http://www.iges.or.jp/>

**A submission on views on the type of information from systems for providing information on how the safeguards are being addressed and respected that would be helpful and that may be provided by developing country Parties.**

**Forest conservation team  
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)**

#### **UNFCCC decision**

Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 71, requests developing country Parties undertaking activities described in paragraph 70 to develop a system for providing information on how the safeguards referred to in appendix I to the decision are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of the activities. Decision 12/CP.17, paragraph 1, states that the implementation of the safeguards, and information on how these safeguards are being addressed and respected, should support national strategies or action plans and be included in, where appropriate, all phases of implementation referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 73, of the activities.

In Decision 12/CP.17, paragraph 2, Parties agree that systems for providing information on how the safeguards are addressed and respected should, taking into account national circumstances and respective capabilities, and recognizing national sovereignty and legislation, and relevant international obligations and agreements, and respecting gender considerations: (a) Be consistent with the guidance identified in decision 1/CP.16, appendix I, paragraph 1; (b) Provide transparent and consistent information that is accessible by all relevant stakeholders and updated on a regular basis; (c) Be transparent and flexible to allow for improvements over time; (d) Provide information on how all of the safeguards referred to in appendix I to decision 1/CP.16 are being addressed and respected; (e) Be country-driven and implemented at the national level; (f) Build upon existing systems, as appropriate. In paragraph 3 of the same decision, Parties agree that developing country Parties undertaking the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, should provide a summary of information on how all of the safeguards referred to in decision 1/CP.16, appendix I, are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of the activities. Paragraph 6 requests the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, at its thirty-sixth session, to consider the need for further guidance to ensure transparency, consistency, comprehensiveness and effectiveness when informing on how all safeguards are addressed and respected and, if appropriate, to consider additional guidance, and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth session.

#### **Proposal for a template for the summary of information**

The following template is proposed as a voluntary option for governments to formulate their summary of information. Governments are encouraged to elaborate this further by referring to relevant standards developed through international and multi-stakeholder processes. These standards could include: REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards (REDD+ SES), UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria (SEPC), the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standard, the standards of voluntary forest certification schemes, amongst others.

## Template for Safeguard Summary of Information

### **Consistency with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements**

- What are the objectives of the national forest programme?
- What relevant international conventions and agreements has the country ratified and what other international commitments relevant to the safeguards has it made?
- How is the national strategy or action plan consistent with the objectives of the national forest programme?
- How does the national strategy or action plan comply with applicable local and national laws and international treaties, conventions and other instruments?
- If any inconsistencies were identified, how were these resolved?

### **Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty**

- What is the governance structure of the national strategy or action plan?
- What efforts were made to ensure it is transparent, effective and accountable?
- How does the national strategy or action plan aim to promote governance in the forest and other relevant sectors?
- How does the national strategy or action plan coordinate effectively with existing strategies and plans in all relevant sectors and levels?
- What systems have been established to ensure free and ready public access to information about the national strategy or action plan?
- How have traditional forest governance structures been respected in all phases - design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation - of the national strategy or action plan?
- Are there cases of competing claims of forest resources and land and, if so, how are these dealt with transparently and equitably?
- What steps have been taken to ensure that finances associated with the national strategy or action plan are managed with integrity, transparency and accountability?
- How is comprehensive and transparent monitoring of impacts on governance conducted?
- How are impacts of the monitoring fed back to further strengthen governance?
- Has the national strategy or action plan contributed to strengthening governance?

### **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**

- What are the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities to lands, territories and resources relevant to the national strategy or action plan?

*Note: Rights should be described in terms of statutory and customary rights; individual and collective rights; tenure/use/access/management rights; rights of women and marginalized and/or vulnerable people; and overlapping or conflicting rights. 'Customary rights' to lands and resources refers to patterns of*

*long-standing community land and resource usage in accordance with Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' customary laws, values, customs, and traditions, including seasonal or cyclical use, rather than formal legal title to land and resources issued by the State.*

- How are the identified rights respected in all phases – design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation – of the strategy or action plan?
- How does the national strategy or action plan implement free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities for any activities affecting their rights to lands, territories and resources?
- How does the national strategy or action plan build on and protect the knowledge of indigenous peoples and members of local communities in terms of their traditional and other knowledge?
- How does the national strategy or action plan build on, respect, support and protect the decision-making structures and processes of indigenous peoples and local communities?
- How does the national strategy or action plan ensure free, prior and informed consent is obtained for any use of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities?
- How is comprehensive and transparent monitoring of impacts on knowledge and rights conducted?
- What are the results of the monitoring and how were these fed back to further strengthen the approach to knowledge and rights in the national strategy or action plan?

**Full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities**

- Who are the stakeholders in the national strategy or action plan and what are their rights to lands, territories and resources relevant to the national strategy or action plan?
- What opportunities and capacity building are provided for all stakeholder groups, especially indigenous peoples and local communities, to fully and effectively participate in all phases – design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation – of the national strategy or action plan?

*Note: Special attention should be given to whether: sufficient information is made available in a timely manner for full and effective stakeholder participation; specific support is provided for full and effective participation of women and marginalised or vulnerable people; procedures are transparent, impartial, safe and accessible for all relevant stakeholders; consultations use socially and cultural appropriate approaches; stakeholder groups are able to select their own representatives; and whether stakeholder representatives collect and disseminate all relevant information from and to the people they represent.*

- What processes exist to resolve grievances and disputes related to the design, implementation and evaluation of the national strategy or action plan?
- How is comprehensive and transparent monitoring of participation conducted?
- What are the results of the monitoring and how were these fed back to further strengthen the approach to participation in the national strategy or action plan?

**Consistency with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity (avoiding conversion; incentivising the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services; enhancing other social and environmental benefits)**

- What are the biodiversity and ecosystem services that could be impacted by the activities promoted in the national strategy or action plan?

*Note: Attention should be given to priorities in national biodiversity strategies and action plans; gap analyses supporting the Convention on Biological Diversity targets; key biodiversity areas; high conservation value areas and other relevant systematic conservation planning approaches; areas of significance for threatened or endemic species, for significant concentrations of a species during any time in their lifecycle, and for ecosystem services of economic, climate change adaptation, cultural, religious importance, particularly to indigenous peoples and local communities.*

- How does the national strategy or action plan aim to maintain and enhance the identified biodiversity and ecosystem services?
- How does the national strategy or action plan ensure that natural forests or other areas that are important for maintaining and enhancing the identified biodiversity and ecosystem services are not converted or degraded?
- How does the national strategy or action plan aim to contribute to policies at national and other levels relevant to sustainable development?
- In the case of private carbon rights, how are carbon rights defined to reflect the statutory and customary rights to the lands, territories and resources that generated the greenhouse gas emissions reductions and removal?
- What are the benefit sharing mechanisms and how are they transparent, participatory, effective and efficient?
- How does the national strategy or action plan aim to build the livelihood security of indigenous peoples and local communities affected by the activities?
- What other aspects of wellbeing of indigenous peoples and local communities are reflected in the national strategy or action plan and how does it aim to promote these?
- How is comprehensive and transparent monitoring of impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services and other environmental and social benefits conducted?
- What are the results of the monitoring and how were these fed back into the national strategy or action plan to further protect and enhance biodiversity and ecosystem services and enhance other environmental and social benefits?

#### **Actions to address the risks of reversals**

- What are the risks of reversals?
- What actions are proposed in the national strategy or action plan to tackle these?
- How is comprehensive and transparent monitoring of actions to address the risks of reversals conducted?
- What are the results of the monitoring and how were these fed back into the national strategy or action plan?

#### **Actions to reduce displacement of emissions**

- What factors could lead to displacement of emissions, both within the country and across national borders?

- What actions are proposed in the national strategy or action plan to tackle these?
- How is comprehensive and transparent monitoring of actions to reduce displacement of emissions conducted?
- What are the results of the monitoring and how were these fed back into the national strategy or action plan?

#

#

#