Goals of REDD+ Safeguards Kimiko Okabe (FFPRI)



This is a big topic compared to my specialty, research on mites. The title of my presentation 'Today's JCM: Goals of REDD+ Safeguards'. I would like to look at the local level as well as private participation. These two would be the keywords for my presentation.

Discussions Related to Safeguards in REDD+ Activities

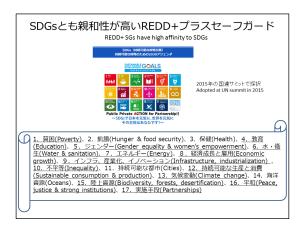
	Discussions related to safeguards in REDD+ activities						
	UNFCCCにおけるREDD+とSGの議論	UNFCCC以外のSGに関する議論					
		国際連合人間環境会議「人間環境宣言」 Human Environment Declaration					
1992	(気候変動枠組条約UNFCCC)	(生物多様性条約CBD)					
2005	COP11 途上国の森林減少・劣化の抑制によって排出削減を図る仕組みの提案 proposal of REDD-like mechanism						
	COP13 地域社会や先住民族社会への 配慮、コベネフィットの認識 Recognizing co-benefits, communities and indigenous peoples						
	COP16 カンクン合意(7つのSG項目)セーフガード情報提供システム Cancun agreements & SIS	・CBDにおいてREDD+の社会、環境 に対するリスクとコベネフィットに関 するワークショップ Workshop on risks and co-benefits of REDD ・愛知目標,名古屋議定書(ABS)					
2013	COP19 SGの報告頻度(支払い要件 であることの確認)Warsaw agreements						
		持続可能な開発のための2030アジェンダ (SDGs)					

This is something that you know very well, but I would like to give you a recap. This is the flow of discussion on safeguards in REDD+ activities. The UNFCCC had the following discussions in COP. Other than UNFCCC, the first international discussion on safeguards took place in the Human Environment Declaration. With regards to REDD+, there have been multiple agreements reached under UNFCCC. Under the convention and biological diversity, clearly there is much interest in safeguards, especially as laid out in the Cancun Agreement. There are seven safeguards agreed upon in 2010. In the same year, topics such as the risk to society, risk to environment, and co-benefits were taken up in a workshop organized by CBD.

More importantly, in 2013 at COP19, the Warsaw Framework was agreed upon, which included considerations to safeguards, which will be the basis and requirement for payments. There was an

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agreement as to how frequently safeguard reports should be submitted. In 2015, we know that SDGs were adopted in the 2030 Agenda, and that there were discussions on safeguards in relation to SDGs.



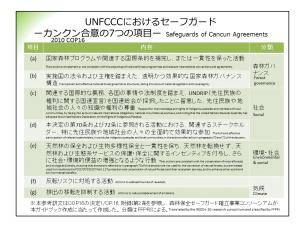
SDGs are related to development, but for the past one or two years there has been heightened interest by private companies even in Japan as well. In the research community, REDD+ safeguards can contribute to SDGs. We tend to believe that REDD+ safeguards have high affinity to SGDs.

Presentation Outline



Because of this background, today I would like to indicate these seven safeguards for REDD+. Then I would like to REDD+ activities at the level of implementation and safeguards. By implementation levels, I would like to once again go back to those two key points of private sector participation and the local level, which is smaller than national or sub-national levels. Then, to private participants who are engaged in REDD+ activities, what sort of support do we have to provide? What can we do to help them implement REDD+ activities? We are creating a guidebook and a checklist that they can use. I would like to talk about these tools. Finally, I would like to talk about the expectations based on safeguards and how they are related to SDGs.

UNFCCC Safeguards: Seven Safeguards of the Cancun Agreement



This is a list of seven safeguards in Cancun Agreement under UNFCCC:

- (a) That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programs and relevant international conventions and agreements;
- (b) Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty;
- (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;
- (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;
- (e) That actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that the 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 FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.1 27 protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits;
 - (f) Actions to address the risks of reversals;
 - (g) Actions to reduce displacement of emissions.

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(b)	~	~	~			V	~	~
(c)	~	~	~		~		~	~
(d)	~	~	~	~	~		~	~
(e)	~	~	~	~		~	~	~
(f)	~	~	~	~		V		~
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Again, as for safeguards in the Cancun Agreement, on implementation levels, what sorts of actions are required? After agreement on seven safeguards, what has been implemented? There has been analysis that has been conducted. We have guidelines and standards. What are these tools available, and how are they related to the safeguards agreed upon in the Cancun Agreement? That is the topics of analytics. For example, FCPC conducted this analysis. On the left-hand side are UNFCCC Cancun Agreement safeguards. The Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance¹ (CCBA) Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standards (CCBS) or World Bank policies are compared to those from UNFCCC, and they are almost in agreement. They can actually cover all of the required safeguards of the Cancun Agreement.

REDD+ Activities at the Level of Implementation and Safeguards



In order for us to better understand what should be done on the implementation level of REDD+ activities, we have policies, standards, and comparisons.

The purpose, first of all, is as follows: the Cancun Agreement or World Bank policies focus on response to possible risks. On the other hand, CCBS will look at climate change, social well-being, and biodiversity conservation. These three factors are treated as the three important pillars by CCBA.

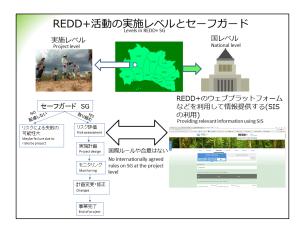
You may think of a level as a scale. The safeguards in the Cancun Agreement focus on the

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¹ http://www.climate-standards.org/

implementation level, smaller than the national level. The safeguards do not actually indicate how they are reported or how they are implemented. They simply say that reporting should be done on the national level.

However, World Bank policy and CCBS will refer to the implementation level. With regards to assistance, World Bank and CCBA standards are focusing on setting guidelines, guidelines issuing guidance, and developing assisting tools. As opposed to Cancun Agreement, they are developing tools, but there is no additional guidance setup.



If you are to implement REDD+ activities, think of a private company in Japan engaging in safeguard. How can they implement safeguards? First of all, on a national level, REDD+ policies and strategies are formulated in some countries. In these countries, you might be able to use a web platform to provide information. Principles, criteria, and indicators are already set up and prepared by many countries. In addition to that, what should be done on the implementation level? Some countries design these things already, but not all countries.

Would the safeguard be necessary on the implementation level or would they not be required? There is no specific international agreement or the rules for this. If you do REDD+ activities without dealing with safeguards, this is almost equal to not being able to manage risk. Therefore, there probably will be many different problems and the activities will not be successful. If you are going to deal with the safeguards, you assess risks, and also create a plan to deal with them and also to do monitoring. If there is any problem, you make changes to the plan. Finally, if you are going to complete the project, you will be creating the reports. On the other hand, on a national level with information provision systems for safeguards, but how will you report the information? How do you report it to the country or international society? There are some countries which already have frameworks for doing so, and there are some other countries that do not.

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Assistance for Private Businesses Implementing REDD+ Activities



From 2013 to 2015, the three organizations Japan International Forestry Promotion and Cooperation Center² (JIFPRO), Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting³ (MURC), and the Japan Overseas Forestry Consultants Association⁴ (JOFCA) worked to create the consortium to establish forest conservation safeguards. Also, in order to support the private sector, we created the REDD+ Safeguard Approaches 2014⁵. It describes what REDD+ safeguards are, and the guidebook summarizes what I have described so far. There is some guidance in the guidebook on how we should think about the project level safeguards. There is also a checklist to be used to plan safeguards and report to the government. Also, from you can download the checklist. What sorts of things do we need? There are some prior cases that you might want to refer to. There are some best practices handbooks, and there is an English version. There is a more compact version called the REDD+ Cookbook Annex⁶.



The checklist can be used at the planning stage, and also while implementing REDD+ activities. As a safeguard, what should we pay attention to, and what sort of things do we consider in making plans?

² https://jifpro.or.jp/en/

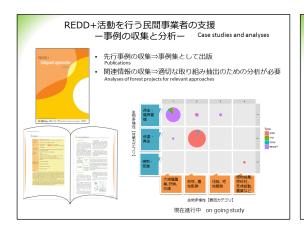
³ http://www.murc.jp/english

⁴ http://www.jofca.or.jp/e objective/

⁵ http://redd.ffpri.affrc.go.jp/pub_db/publications/safeguard/index_en.html

⁶ http://redd.ffpri.affrc.go.jp/pub_db/publications/cookbook_annex/index_en.html

There are some outlines to understand the convention as well as the systems, project governance, indigenous people, knowledge and rights of the people, as well as the non-persistency and displacement of emissions, and monitoring. Therefore, we have a list of things to check. As JCM-REDD+ becomes more concrete, we will update the checklist. The latest one is also downloadable, so please check it out.





We are going to support private companies or organizations engage in REDD+ activities. What sort of activities are meaningful? For REDD+ activities related to biodiversity, what sorts of activities have high affinity? We are going to publish a scientific paper on the results and publish in on the website within a few years.

Regarding safeguards, something that is attracting a lot of attention are those related to increasing environmental benefits. In order to develop effective approaches, we conducted research and analysis on how to contribute to biodiversity and creating environmental benefits so that the activities will be more effective and appropriate. We are also developing prediction methods.

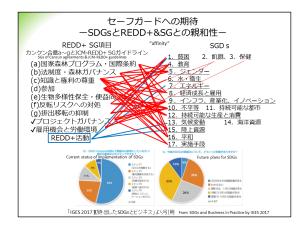
Expectations for Safeguards



We have been approaching support in different ways. What the private sector expects with regards to safeguards and REDD+ activities is also important. Therefore, FFPRI together with the Institute for

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Global Environmental Strategies⁷ (IGES), conducted a survey of how interested the private sector is in REDD+ activities. As a result, 47 companies expressed interest, but they were more interested in improving the value of their companies through CSR activities rather than addressing carbon emissions. Therefore, REDD activities in developing countries should not just be about carbon, but also about social welfare, improvements in community benefits, and activities related to protecting biodiversity. These will be important factors to consider in the future.



SDGs are still new goals, so they are just at the early stage of analysis. Researchers have started to analyze the SDGs, but if we look at different publications, almost all of the 17 SDGs are somehow related to the REDD+ or safeguard activities. I think networks linking REDD+, safeguards, and SDGs will become richer. I would like to focus on this in the future.





In addition to reducing forest degradation in tropical developing countries and mitigating climate changes, there are many expectations with regards to safeguards. The REDD+ activities need to contribute to a mechanism considering SDGs in order to have a good balance of biodiversity as well as social, economic, and climate benefits. We would like to continue helping the private sector in their efforts towards REDD+.

⁷ https://www.iges.or.jp/en/