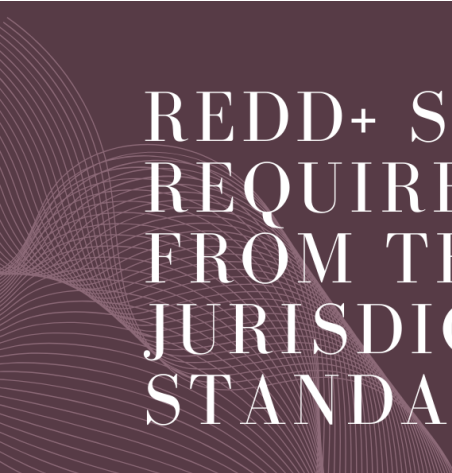


Climate
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REDD+ SAFEGUARDS:
REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDANCE
FROM THE UNFCCC AND
JURISDICTIONAL REDD+
STANDARDS

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Introduction

This document presents the requirements and guidance provided by the UNFCCC and of Jurisdictional REDD+ standards, which include¹:

1. The Architecture for REDD+ Transactions and its REDD+ Environmental Excellence Standard (ART-TREES)²,
2. The Verified Carbon Standard and its Jurisdictional and Nested REDD+ (VCS JNR)³, and
3. The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Carbon Fund Methodological Framework (MF)⁴.

J-REDD+ standards base their requirements on the UNFCCC, but since the UNFCCC provides flexibility to customize the implementation of, and demonstration of conformance with, safeguard requirements, this can result in variability by the J-REDD+ standards in applying the UNFCCC requirements and guidance.

In alignment with the minimum requirements set out by the Warsaw Framework for REDD+⁵, this document covers the specific requirements and decisions of the UNFCCC and the Jurisdictional REDD+ standards in correlation to the following safeguard elements:

1. **The Safeguard Information System (SIS)⁶.** J-REDD+ programs are required to establish a system to provide information on how the seven UNFCCC safeguards are being addressed and respected in all of the phases of implementation of REDD+ activities, and which must be consistent with the guidance in UNFCCC decision 12/CP.17.
2. **The J-REDD+ program's governance arrangements that guarantee the application of the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards.** REDD+ activities, regardless of their type of funding source, are to be implemented in such a way that is consistent with the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards⁷.
3. **The REDD+ revenue distribution plan or system.** The adoption of a REDD+ revenue distribution plan or system is considered a key aspect of the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards 'b'⁸ and 'c'⁹.

¹ The REDD.Plus registry uses the WFR and UNFCCC process as a method for quality assurance (without any additional requirements), which is why it has not been included in this document.

² Available at: <https://www.artredd.org/trees/>

³ Available at: <https://verra.org/project/jurisdictional-and-nested-redd-framework/>

⁴ Available at: <https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/carbon-fund>

⁵ According to Decision 9/CP.19, paragraph 3, all of the elements referred to in Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 71, should be in place in order to access results-based payments. All these elements are incorporated as requirements of J-REDD+ standards.

⁶ UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16 Paragraph 71(d).

⁷ "Agrees that, regardless of the source or type of financing, the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16 paragraph 70, should be consistent with the relevant provisions included in decision 1/CP.16, including the safeguards in its appendix I" UNFCCC Decision 2/CP.17 paragraph 63

⁸ Characteristics of effective governance structures generally include laws and regulations relating to forest governance and sustainable use of forests; clear rights of ownership and possession (land tenure) including for traditional and customary ownership; and fair and equitable benefit sharing arrangements. Annex II, Braña Varela, J., Lee, D., Rey Christen, D., and Swan, S. 2014. "REDD+ Safeguards: Practical Considerations for Developing a Summary of Information." Prepared with support from the Government of Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative.

⁹ International instruments recognise the right to an equitable share of the benefits. Convention on Biological Diversity, Articles 8(f)(j), 10(c); Nagoya Protocol, Article 7; Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, Article 1(f); ILO Convention No. 169, Article 7.

4. **The grievance redress mechanism(s) (GRMs).** The availability of adequate GRMs is considered a key aspect of the UNFCCC safeguard 'b'¹⁰.
5. **The J-REDD+ program's participatory approaches.** In response to UNFCCC decision¹¹, a key aspect of J-REDD+ programs is to ensure the full and effective participation of all stakeholders in their design and implementation.
6. **The summary of information (SOI).** In order to receive results-based payments, J-REDD+ programs must present their most recent SOI (or equivalent subnational safeguard report) demonstrating how the safeguards have been addressed and respected (usually referred to as the summary of information or SOI)¹², which must be consistent with the guidance from the UNFCCC¹³.

¹⁰ Characteristics of effective governance structures generally include access to judicial or administrative procedures that can provide effective remedy for infringements of rights, and to resolve disputes, especially for indigenous peoples. Annex II, Braña Varela, J., Lee, D., Rey Christen, D., and Swan, S. 2014. "REDD+ Safeguards: Practical Considerations for Developing a Summary of Information." Prepared with support from the Government of Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative.

¹¹ UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 72

¹² UNFCCC Decision 9/CP, Paragraph 4; Decision 2/CP.17, Paragraph 63 and 64; Decision 12/CP.17 paragraph 3 and 4.

¹³ UNFCCC decision 17/CP.2. , requires the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, inter alia indigenous peoples and local communities; when developing and implementing national strategies or action plans, to address, inter alia, the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, land tenure issues, forest governance issues, gender considerations and the UNFCCC safeguards.

Safeguard Information System

The following requirements and guidance inform Tool 2.

UNFCCC requirements and guidance

With regard to the SIS, the UNFCCC has adopted the following requirements and associated guidance.

Decision	Paragraph	Extract
<p>Decision 1/CP.16 (Cancun, 2010)</p>	<p>71</p>	<p><i>Requests</i> developing country Parties aiming to undertake the activities referred to in paragraph 70 above, in the context of the provision of adequate and predictable support, including financial resources and technical and technological support to developing country Parties, in accordance with national circumstances and respective capabilities, to develop the following elements:</p> <p>d) A system for providing information on how the safeguards referred to in appendix I to this decision are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of the activities referred to in paragraph 70 above, while respecting sovereignty;</p>
<p>Decision 12/CP.17 (Durban, 2011)</p>	<p>Preamble</p>	<p>Preamble: <i>Noting</i> that guidance on systems for providing information on how safeguards referred to in appendix I to decision 1/CP.16 are addressed and respected should be consistent with national sovereignty, national legislation and national circumstances,</p> <p>I. Guidance on systems for providing information on how safeguards are addressed and respected</p> <p>1. <i>Notes</i> that the implementation of the safeguards referred to in appendix I to decision 1/CP.16, 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 referred to in paragraph 70 of the same decision;</p> <p>2. <i>Agrees</i> that systems for providing information on how the safeguards referred to in appendix I to decision 1/CP.16 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:</p> <p>a) Be consistent with the guidance identified in decision 1/CP.16, appendix I, paragraph 1;</p>

Decision	Paragraph	Extract
		<p>b) Provide transparent and consistent information that is accessible by all relevant stakeholders and updated on a regular basis;</p> <p>c) Be transparent and flexible to allow for improvements over time;</p> <p>d) Provide information on how all of the safeguards referred to in appendix I to decision 1/CP.16 are being addressed and respected;</p> <p>e) Be country-driven and implemented at the national level;</p> <p>f) Build upon existing systems, as appropriate.</p>

TREES requirements and guidance

TREES requires that Participants must have a system for providing information on safeguards. No guidance, beyond UNFCCC guidance, is provided.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
TREES ESG Safeguards Guidance Document, August 2021	Overview- Section 2	5	"A Participant's Summary of Information report and/or Safeguard Information System may be used to provide information on or supporting evidence for any indicator. Additional reports, either internal or external, and data sources are also permitted to be used. ART encourages Participants to engage relevant stakeholders not only in the design and implementation of safeguard actions but also in the monitoring and reporting processes."
TREES ESG Safeguards Guidance Document, August 2021	Reporting	5	"Safeguard Information Systems in place as an important tool to demonstrate conformance by providing data or sharing links to other information systems and sources of information as well. For the case of subnational Participants under TREES, reporting and monitoring tools to demonstrate conformance with safeguards shall show conformance with TREES safeguards indicators and also demonstrate coherence and/or alignment with national safeguards reporting and monitoring in the context of the UNFCCC."
TREES 2.0 August 2021	National reporting requirements - Section 3.1.2	22	<p>"National government Participants must demonstrate conformance with Cancún Safeguards related requirements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having addressed and respected the safeguards (Section 12), • Having submitted the most recent Summary of Information to the UNFCCC for any year where results-based payments under TREES are sought, and • Having either a digital or analogue system for providing information on safeguards.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
			<p>If a TREES Participant is a subnational government, the Participant must demonstrate conformance with Cancún Safeguards related requirements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having addressed and respected the safeguards at the scale of REDD+ implementation applicable to the Participant in consistency with national legislation and/or safeguards conformance at the national level (Section 12), • Having submitted to the appropriate national government entity, a Summary of Information or safeguards report at the respective scale that is consistent with national reporting to the UNFCCC for any year where results-based payments under TREES are sought, and <p>- Demonstrating safeguards tracking and/or monitoring tools are consistent with national tracking or tools, in particular with the national system for providing information on safeguards when available."</p>
TREES 2.0 August 2021	Reporting Requirements- Section 12.3	56	"Participants may use Safeguard Information Systems in place as an important tool to provide data or systems information to demonstrate conformance as well. For the case of subnational Participants under TREES, reporting and monitoring tools to demonstrate conformance with safeguards shall demonstrate coherence and/or alignment with national reporting and monitoring in the context of the UNFCCC."

FCPC requirements and guidance

The FCPF does not require Participants to have a SIS, and instead requires that information is provided on how the ER Program meets the World Bank social and environmental safeguards and 'addresses and respects' the Cancun safeguards.

The Methodological Framework requires that appropriate monitoring arrangements for the World Bank social and environmental safeguards are included in the respective Safeguards Plans, and that during ER Program implementation, information on the implementation of Safeguards Plans is included in an annex to each ER monitoring report and interim progress report. This information is required to be publicly disclosed, and the ER Program is encouraged to make this information available to relevant stakeholders.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
FCPC Carbon Fund Methodological Framework	Indicator 25.2	19	"During ER Program implementation, information on the implementation of Safeguards Plans is included in an annex to each ER monitoring report and interim progress report. This information is publicly disclosed, and the ER Program is encouraged to make this information available to relevant stakeholders. This information is also made available as an input to the national systems for providing information on how

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
			safeguards are addressed and respected (SIS) required by the UNFCCC guidance related to REDD+, as appropriate."

VCS-JNR requirements and guidance

VCS-JNR broadly requires compliance with UNFCCC requirements, which would include having a SIS in place, but does not detail what would be expected from the SIS.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
VCS-JNR-scenario 2	Program requirements-3.8.1	17	"Jurisdictional programs shall comply with all UNFCCC decisions on safeguards for REDD+, and any relevant jurisdictional (national and subnational) safeguards requirements otherwise established in by any law, statute or regulatory framework (e.g., including those that are not specific for REDD+).
VCS-JNR-scenario 2	Program requirements-3.8.2	17	"Jurisdictional proponents shall report any advances in the jurisdictional information systems created for providing information on how safeguards are addressed and respected, where available."

Summary of Information

The following requirements and guidance inform Tool 7.

UNFCCC requirements and guidance

With regard to the SOI, the UNFCCC has adopted the following requirements and associated guidance.

Decision	Paragraph	Extract
Decision 12/CP.17 (Durban, 2011)	3	<i>Agrees also</i> 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;
Decision 12/CP.17 (Durban, 2011)	4	<i>Decides</i> that the summary of information referred to in paragraph 3 above should be provided periodically and be included in national communications, consistent with relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties on guidelines on national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, or communication channels agreed by the Conference of the Parties; Guidance on systems for providing information on how safeguards are addressed and respected
Decision 9/CP.19 (Warsaw, 2013)	4	<i>Agrees</i> that developing countries seeking to obtain and receive results-based payments in accordance with decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 64, should provide the most recent summary of information on how all of the safeguards referred to in decision 1/CP.16, appendix I, paragraph 2, have been addressed and respected before they can receive results-based payments;
Decision 9/CP.19 (Warsaw, 2013)	11	<i>Decides</i> that the information hub will contain, as reported through the appropriate channels under the Convention: c) The summary of information on how all of the safeguards referred to in decision 1/CP.16, appendix I, are being addressed and respected, as referred to in decisions -/CP.199 and 12/CP.17, chapter I;
Decision 12/CP.19 (Warsaw, 2013)	1-5	1. <i>Reiterates</i> that according to decision 12/CP.17, paragraph 3, 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; 2. <i>Also reiterates</i> that according to decision 12/CP.17, paragraph 4, the summary of information referred to in paragraph 1 above should be provided periodically and be included in national communications, or communication channels agreed by the Conference of the Parties;

Decision	Paragraph	Extract
		<p>3. <i>Agrees</i> that the summary of information referred to in paragraph 1 above could also be provided, on a voluntary basis, via the web platform on the UNFCCC website;</p> <p>4. <i>Decides</i> that developing country Parties should start providing the summary of information referred to in paragraph 1 above in their national communication or communication channel, including via the web platform of the UNFCCC, taking into account paragraph 3 above, after the start of the implementation of activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70;</p> <p>5. <i>Also decides</i> that the frequency of subsequent presentations of the summary of information as referred to in paragraph 2 above should be consistent with the provisions for submissions of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention and, on a voluntary basis, via the web platform on the UNFCCC website.</p>
Decision 17/CP. 21	3	Notes that information on how all the safeguards are being addressed and respected should be provided in a way that ensures transparency, consistency, comprehensiveness and effectiveness;
	4	Decides that developing country Parties should provide information on which activity or activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, are included in the summary of information referred to in paragraph 1 above, taking into account decision 12/CP.17, paragraphs 1 and 3, and decision 9/CP.19, paragraph 4;
	5	Strongly encourages developing country Parties, when providing the summary of information referred to in paragraph 1 above, to include the following elements, where appropriate: (a) Information on national circumstances relevant to addressing and respecting the safeguards; (b) A description of each safeguard in accordance with national circumstances; (c) A description of existing systems and processes relevant to addressing and respecting safeguards, including the information systems referred to in decision 12/CP.17, in accordance with national circumstances; (d) Information on how each of the safeguards has been addressed and respected, in accordance with national circumstances;
	6	Encourages developing country Parties to provide any other relevant information on the safeguards in the summary of information referred to in paragraph 1 above;
	7	Also encourages developing country Parties to improve the information provided in the summary of information referred to in paragraph 1 above, taking into account the stepwise approach;
	8	Decides that there is no need for further guidance pursuant to decision 12/CP.17, paragraph 6, to ensure transparency, consistency, comprehensiveness and effectiveness when informing on how all the safeguards are being addressed and respected.

TREES requirements and guidance

TREES requires that Participants must have submitted the most recent SOI to the UNFCCC for any year where results-based payments under TREES are sought.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
TREES 2.0 August 2021	National reporting requirements - Section 3.1.2	22	<p>“National government Participants must demonstrate conformance with Cancun Safeguards related requirements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having addressed and respected the safeguards (Section 12), • Having submitted the most recent Summary of Information to the UNFCCC for any year where results-based payments under TREES are sought, and • Having either a digital or analogue system for providing information on safeguards. <p>If a TREES Participant is a subnational government , the Participant must demonstrate conformance with Cancun Safeguards related requirements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having addressed and respected the safeguards at the scale of REDD+ implementation applicable to the Participant in consistency with national legislation and/or safeguards conformance at the national level (Section 12), • Having submitted to the appropriate national government entity, a Summary of Information or safeguards report at the respective scale that is consistent with national reporting to the UNFCCC for any year where results-based payments under TREES are sought, and • Demonstrating safeguards tracking and/or monitoring tools are consistent with national tracking or tools, in particular with the national system for providing information on safeguards when available.”
TREES 2.0 August 2021	Reporting requirements- Section 12.3	56	<p>“A TREES Safeguard monitoring report template is provided for use by Participants if desired. However, Participants may utilize their Summary of Information reports prepared in the context of UNFCCC reporting or similar reports used on Cancun Safeguards outside the UNFCCC insofar all required information on required indicators is included. Participants may use Safeguard Information Systems in place as an important tool to provide data or systems information to demonstrate conformance as well. For the case of subnational Participants under TREES, reporting and monitoring tools to demonstrate conformance with safeguards shall</p>

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
			demonstrate coherence and/or alignment with national reporting and monitoring in the context of the UNFCCC.”
TREES ESG Safeguards Guidance Document, August 2021	Overview-Section 2	5	“A Participant’s Summary of Information report and/or Safeguard Information System may be used to provide information on or supporting evidence for any indicator. Additional reports, either internal or external, and data sources are also permitted to be used. ART encourages Participants to engage relevant stakeholders not only in the design and implementation of safeguard actions but also in the monitoring and reporting processes.”
TREES ESG Safeguards Guidance Document, August 2021	Reporting-Section 5	6	<p>“A section for reporting on safeguards is suggested as part of the TREES Monitoring Report template for use by Participants if desired. However, Participants may use other forms of reporting to demonstrate conformance with the TREES requirements, including their UNFCCC Summary of Information reports or similar reports outside the UNFCCC”*</p> <p>* Supporting resources on safeguards reporting can be found on the UN-REDD website, such as “ Summaries of information: Initial Experiences and recommendations on international REDD+ safeguards re- porting”- UN-REDD Programme Collaborative Online Workspace (unredd.net). All summaries available can be accessed in the UNFCCC REDD+ Web Platform - Safeguards fact-sheet</p>
TREES ESG Safeguards Guidance Document, August 2021	Validation and Verification-Section 6	10	<p>“Participants may provide a wide variety of evidence to VVBs for review, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TREES Monitoring Report completed for all safeguard indicators with all information contained in the report • TREES Monitoring Report with links to the Summary of Information Report, SIS, or other reports and data sources where the information is already summarized”

FCPC requirements and guidance

The FCPF does not include any requirements that a SOI (or equivalent for sub-national Jurisdictions) has been submitted. Instead requires that Participants have appropriate monitoring arrangements for the World Bank social and environmental safeguards included in the respective Safeguards Plans, and that during ER Program implementation, information on the implementation of Safeguards Plans is included in an annex to each ER monitoring report and interim progress report.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
FCPC Carbon Fund Methodological Framework	Indicator 25.2	19	“During ER Program implementation, information on the implementation of Safeguards Plans is included in an annex to each ER monitoring report and interim progress report. This information is publicly disclosed,

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
			and the ER Program is encouraged to make this information available to relevant stakeholders. This information is also made available as an input to the national systems for providing information on how safeguards are addressed and respected (SIS) required by the UNFCCC guidance related to REDD+, as appropriate."

VCS-JNR requirements and guidance

VCS-JNR broadly requires compliance with UNFCCC requirements, which would include having submitted the most recent SOI to the UNFCCC for any year where results-based payments under VCS JNR are sought.

Additionally, requires information in the monitoring report with respect to how, during the design and implementation of the program, UNFCCC decisions on safeguards and any relevant jurisdictional safeguards requirements have been addressed and respected.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
VCS-JNR-scenario 2	Program requirements-3.8.2	17	" Jurisdictional proponents shall provide information in the monitoring report with respect to how, during the design and implementation of the program, UNFCCC decisions on safeguards and any relevant jurisdictional (national and subnational) safeguards requirements have been addressed and respected. Jurisdictional proponents shall report any advances in the jurisdictional information systems created for providing information on how safeguards are addressed and respected, where available."

The J-REDD+ Program’s governance arrangements that guarantee the application of the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards

The following requirements and guidance inform Tool 3.

UNFCCC requirements and guidance

Decision	Paragraph	Extract
Decision 1/CP.16 (Cancun, 2010)	69	<i>Affirms</i> that the implementation of the activities referred to in paragraph 70 below should be carried out in accordance with annex I to this decision, and that the safeguards referred to in paragraph 2 of annex I to this decision should be promoted and supported;
Decision 1/CP.16 (Cancun, 2010)	72	<i>Also requests</i> developing country Parties, when developing and implementing their national strategies or action plans, to address, inter alia, the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, land tenure issues, forest governance issues, gender considerations and the safeguards identified in paragraph 2 of appendix I to this decision, ensuring the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, inter alia indigenous peoples and local communities;
Decision 1/CP.16 (Cancun, 2010)	<i>Appendix 1</i>	2. When undertaking the activities referred to in paragraph 70 of this decision, the following safeguards should be promoted and supported: a) That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes 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 protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits; ¹⁴

¹⁴ Taking into account the need for sustainable livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities and their interdependence on forests in most countries, reflected in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as the International Mother Earth Day.

Decision	Paragraph	Extract
		f) Actions to address the risks of reversals; g) Actions to reduce displacement of emissions.
Decision 2/CP.17 (Durban, 2011)	63	"Agrees that, regardless of the source or type of financing, the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, should be consistent with the relevant provisions included in decision 1/CP.16, including the safeguards in its appendix I, in accordance with relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties;"
Decision 12/CP.17 (Warsaw, 2013)	Preamble	"Noting that guidance on systems for providing information on how safeguards referred to in appendix I to decision 1/CP.16 are addressed and respected should be consistent with national sovereignty, national legislation and national circumstances"
Decision 17/CP. 21	5	Strongly encourages developing country Parties, when providing the summary of information referred to in paragraph 1 above, to include the following elements, where appropriate: (a) Information on national circumstances relevant to addressing and respecting the safeguards; (b) A description of each safeguard in accordance with national circumstances; (c) A description of existing systems and processes relevant to addressing and respecting safeguards, including the information systems referred to in decision 12/CP.17, in accordance with national circumstances; (d) Information on how each of the safeguards has been addressed and respected, in accordance with national circumstances;

TREES requirements and guidance

Requires Participants to demonstrate that the implementation of REDD+ actions is consistent with Cancun Safeguards, ensuring activities do no harm, and enhance social and environmental benefits. To demonstrate conformance, safeguards are broken down into thematic topics (16), and under each theme, there are structure, process and outcome indicators that provide the stepwise process by which Participants can demonstrate conformance with all Cancun Safeguards, relying on progressive reporting on how the safeguards have been addressed and respected throughout REDD+ implementation.

Participants are expected to be aligned and consistent with national procedures and/or applicable legislation for demonstration of conformance with Cancun Safeguards.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
TREES 2.0 August 2021	National reporting requirements – Section 3.1.2	22	<p>"National government Participants must demonstrate conformance with Cancun Safeguards related requirements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having addressed and respected the safeguards (Section 12), • Having submitted the most recent Summary of Information to the UNFCCC for any year where results-based payments under TREES are sought, and • Having either a digital or analogue system for providing information on safeguards. <p>If a TREES Participant is a subnational government , the Participant must demonstrate conformance</p>

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
			<p>with Cancun Safeguards related requirements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having addressed and respected the safeguards at the scale of REDD+ implementation applicable to the Participant in consistency with national legislation and/or safeguards conformance at the national level (Section 12), • Having submitted to the appropriate national government entity, a Summary of Information or safeguards report at the respective scale that is consistent with national reporting to the UNFCCC for any year where results-based payments under TREES are sought, and • Demonstrating safeguards tracking and/or monitoring tools are consistent with national tracking or tools, in particular with the national system for providing information on safeguards when available."
<p>TREES ESG Safeguards Guidance Document, August 2021</p>	<p>Guidance on Individual Indicators- Section 7</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>"The following safeguard text is taken from TREES Section 12.5. Guidance is provided beneath each theme. In all cases, Participants should develop safeguards approaches that align with their domestic legal framework and any relevant, ratified international agreements or conventions. Subnational Participants should demonstrate their alignment with relevant national safeguards approach, system, processes or programs where appropriate."</p> <p>"Participants should respect, promote and consider principles of gender equality and empowerment of women when implementing REDD+ actions ensuring consistency with relevant international conventions or agreements. Thus, gender considerations should be taken into account when addressing, respecting and reporting on the safeguards established in Section 12 of TREES."</p> <p>"Even though no detailed process guidance is provided by TREES in relation to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), it should be carried out in line with best practices⁴ and provisions of the legal framework and relevant international agreements and conventions. Participants should clearly define how the FPIC process takes place and document its implementation and out- comes</p>

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
<p>TREES ESG Safeguards Guidance Document, August 2021</p>	<p>Validation and Verification- Section 6</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>in the reporting of safeguards outcome indicator 4.2, and potentially other safeguards indicators such as 4.1”</p> <p>”Section 3.3 Scope of validation ESG Safeguards - The VVB evaluates the indicators as follows: - Structure indicators: The VVB evaluates the description provided in the TREES Registration Document, of the relevant governance arrangements (e.g., policies, laws, and institutional arrangements) that are in place and evaluates whether these can ensure that the implementation of REDD+ actions will be in conformance with the indicator. - Process indicators: The VVB evaluates the description provided TREES Registration Document, of relevant institutional mandates, processes, procedures, and/or mechanisms that are in place and enforced and evaluates whether these can ensure that the implementation of REDD+ actions will be in conformance with the indicator.</p> <p>”Section 3.4 Scope of verification ESG Safeguards - The VVB evaluates the indicators as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure indicators-The VVB evaluates whether the evidence provided by a Participant demonstrates that the relevant governance arrangements (e.g., policies, laws, and institutional arrangements) were in place, ensuring that the implementation of REDD+ actions was in conformance with the indicator. • Process indicators-The VVB evaluates whether the evidence provided by a Participant demonstrates that the relevant institutional mandates, processes, procedures, and/or mechanisms were in place and enforced, ensuring that the implementation of REDD+ actions was in conformance with the indicator.”
<p>TREES Validation and Verification Standard</p>	<p>Validation Scope- section 3.3.</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>Environmental, Social and Governance Safeguards - The VVB evaluates the indicators as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure indicators-The VVB evaluates the description provided in the TREES Registration Document, of the relevant governance arrangements (e.g., policies, laws, and institutional arrangements) that are in place and evaluates whether these can ensure that the implementation of REDD+ actions will be in conformance with the indicator.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Process indicators-The VVB evaluates the description provided TREES Registration Document, of relevant institutional mandates, processes, procedures, and/or mechanisms that are in place and enforced and evaluates whether these can ensure that the implementation of REDD+ actions will be in conformance with the indicator.
TREES Validation and Verification Standard	Verification Scope- Section 3.4	14	<p>The VVB evaluates the indicators as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure indicators: The VVB evaluates whether the evidence provided by a Participant demonstrates that the relevant governance arrangements (e.g., policies, laws, and institutional arrangements) were in place, ensuring that the implementation of REDD+ actions was in conformance with the indicator. Process indicators: The VVB evaluates whether the evidence provided by a Participant demonstrates that the relevant institutional mandates, processes, procedures, and/or mechanisms were in place and enforced, ensuring that the implementation of REDD+ actions was in conformance with the indicator.

FCPC requirements and guidance

Requires Participants to primarily demonstrate conformance with the World Bank safeguards in the context of REDD+ actions for which RBPs would be granted, whilst the Cancun safeguards are expected to be "promoted and supported".

It is the World Bank's view that its safeguards policies, procedures and practices are consistent with the Cancun safeguards. Meeting the World Bank safeguards at ER Program implementation involves:

- taking account of the safeguard policies triggered during readiness preparation and of relevant social and environmental sustainability issues identified during the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) process, and
- implementing the Safeguards Plans prepared in accordance with the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) that has resulted from the SESA.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
FCPC Carbon Fund Methodological Framework	Criterion 24	19	" The ER Program meets the World Bank social and environmental safeguards and promotes and supports the safeguards included in UNFCCC guidance related to REDD+.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
			<p>Indicator 24.1: The ER Program demonstrates through its design and implementation how it meets relevant World Bank social and environmental safeguards, and promotes and supports the safeguards included in UNFCCC guidance related to REDD+, by paying particular attention to Decision 1/CP.16 and its Appendix I as adopted by the UNFCCC.</p> <p>Indicator 24.2: Safeguards Plans address social and environmental issues and include related risk mitigation measures identified during the national readiness process, e.g., in the SESA process and the ESMF, that are relevant for the specific ER Program context (e.g., land tenure issues), taking into account relevant existing institutional and regulatory frameworks. The Safeguards Plans are prepared concurrently with the ER Program Document, and are publicly disclosed in a manner and language appropriate for the affected stakeholders</p>

VCS-JNR requirements and guidance

VCS JNR broadly requires compliance with the UNFCCC safeguard requirements (without detailing the safeguard requirements that need to be met and their scope) and with relevant national and subnational legislation.

VCS JNR has not adopted their own safeguards or unpacked how to demonstrate conformance with the UNFCCC safeguards.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
VCS-JNR-scenario 2	Program requirements-3.8.1	17	" Jurisdictional programs shall comply with all UNFCCC decisions on safeguards for REDD+, and any relevant jurisdictional (national and subnational) safeguards requirements otherwise established in by any law, statute or regulatory framework (e.g., including those that are not specific for REDD+)."
VCS-JNR-scenario 2	Program requirements-3.8.6	18	"Additional standards, such as the REDD+SES, may be applied to demonstrate compliance with the social and environmental safeguards requirements."

The Revenue Distribution Plan or System

The following requirements and guidance inform Tool 4.

UNFCCC requirements and guidance

The adoption of a REDD+ revenue distribution plan or system is considered a key aspect of the UNFCCC safeguards 'b'¹⁵ and 'c'¹⁶.

Decision	Paragraph	Extract
Decision 1/CP.16 (Cancun, 2010)	Appendix 1	<p>2. When undertaking the activities referred to in paragraph 70 of this decision, the following safeguards should be promoted and supported:</p> <p>a) That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements;</p> <p>b) Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty;</p> <p>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;</p> <p>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;</p> <p>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 protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits;¹⁷</p> <p>f) Actions to address the risks of reversals;</p> <p>g) Actions to reduce displacement of emissions.</p>
Decision 2/CP.17 (Durban, 2011)	63	<p>"Agrees that, regardless of the source or type of financing, the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, should be consistent with the relevant provisions included in decision 1/CP.16, including the safeguards in its appendix I, in accordance with relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties;"</p>

¹⁵ Characteristics of effective governance structures generally include: laws and regulations relating to forest governance and sustainable use of forests; clear rights of ownership and possession (land tenure) including for traditional and customary ownership; and fair and equitable benefit sharing arrangements. Annex II, Braña Varela, J., Lee, D., Rey Christen, D., and Swan, S. 2014. "REDD+ Safeguards: Practical Considerations for Developing a Summary of Information." Prepared with support from the Government of Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative.

¹⁶ International instruments recognise the right to an equitable share of the benefits. Convention on Biological Diversity, Articles 8(f)(j), 10(c); Nagoya Protocol, Article 7; Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, Article 1(f); ILO Convention No. 169, Article 7.

¹⁷ Taking into account the need for sustainable livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities and their interdependence on forests in most countries, reflected in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as the International Mother Earth Day.

TREES requirements and guidance

While TREES does not require a national level benefit sharing plan from participating jurisdictions, it does require Participants to demonstrate the fair and equitable use of the proceeds from REDD+ revenue.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
TREES 2.0 August 2021	Safeguards - Section 12- Theme 2.2.	59	"Outcome Indicator: The distribution of REDD+ benefits related to the implementation of the REDD+ results-based actions have been carried out in a fair, transparent, and accountable manner, as per relevant ratified international conventions, agreements, and/or domestic and if applicable, subnational, legal framework."
TREES ESG Safeguards Guidance Document, August 2021	Guidance on Individual Indicators- Section 7	14	"Outcome Indicator Guidance: The Participant should define and monitor parameters to demonstrate that REDD+ benefits have been distributed in a fair, transparent, gender equitable, and accountable manner and in line with the requirements identified in the structural indicator."

FCPC requirements and guidance

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
FCPC Carbon Fund Methodological Framework	Section 5.2	23-24	<p>" Criterion 29: The ER Program provides a description of the benefit-sharing arrangements for the ER Program, including information specified in Indicator 30.1.; to the extent known at the time.</p> <p>Criterion 30: The Benefit Sharing Plan will elaborate on the benefit-sharing arrangements for Monetary and Non-Monetary Benefits, building on the description in the ER Program Document, and taking into account the importance of managing expectations among potential Beneficiaries.</p> <p>Indicator 30.1: The Benefit-Sharing Plan is made publicly available prior to ERPA signature, at least as an advanced draft, and is disclosed in a form, manner and language understandable to the affected stakeholders for the ER Program. The Benefit-Sharing Plan contains the following information:</p> <p>i. The categories of potential Beneficiaries, describing their eligibility to receive potential Monetary and Non-Monetary Benefits under the ER Program and the types and scale of such potential Monetary and Non-Monetary Benefits that may be received. Such Monetary and Non-Monetary Benefits should be culturally appropriate and gender and inter-generationally inclusive. The identification of such</p>

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
			<p>potential Beneficiaries takes into account emission reduction strategies to effectively address drivers of net emissions, anticipated implementers and geographical distribution of those strategies, land and resource tenure rights (including legal and customary rights of use, access, management, ownership, etc. identified in the assessments carried out under</p> <p>Criterion 28:), and Title to ERs, among other considerations.</p> <p>ii. Criteria, processes, and timelines for the distribution of Monetary and Non- Monetary Benefits.</p> <p>iii. Monitoring provisions for the implementation of the Benefit-Sharing Plan, including, as appropriate, an opportunity for participation in the monitoring and/or validation process by the Beneficiaries themselves.</p> <p>Criterion 31: The benefit-sharing arrangements are designed in a consultative, transparent, and participatory manner appropriate to the country context. This process is informed by and builds upon the national readiness process, including the SESA, and taking into account existing benefit-sharing arrangements, where appropriate.</p> <p>Indicator 31.1: The Benefit-Sharing Plan is prepared as part of the consultative, transparent and participatory process for the ER Program, and reflects inputs by relevant stakeholders, including broad community support by affected Indigenous Peoples. The Benefit-Sharing Plan is designed to facilitate the delivery and sharing of Monetary and Non-Monetary Benefits that promote successful ER Program implementation. The Benefit-Sharing Plan is disclosed in a form, manner and language understandable to the affected stakeholders of the ER Program.</p> <p>Criterion 32: The implementation of the Benefit-Sharing Plan is transparent.</p> <p>Indicator 32.1: Information on the implementation of the Benefit-Sharing Plan is annexed to each ER Program monitoring report and interim progress report and is made publicly available.</p> <p>Criterion 33: The benefit-sharing arrangement for the ER Program reflects the legal context.</p> <p>Indicator 33.1: The design and implementation of the Benefit-Sharing Plan comply with relevant applicable laws, including national laws and any legally binding national obligations under relevant international laws.”</p>

VCS-JNR requirements and guidance

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
VCS-JNR-scenario 2	Benefit sharing-3.8.7	18	<p>" Jurisdictional proponents shall put in place an equitable, transparent, and legally binding benefit-sharing system. This system shall consider stakeholders' carbon rights, including rights to land, forests, forest resources, as well as their contribution to ecosystem services that resulted or will result in GHG emission reductions. Benefit-sharing systems shall be developed through a transparent and participatory process in which stakeholder participation is justifiably representative, with a special emphasis on indigenous peoples, local communities, women and the most marginalized and/or vulnerable."*</p> <p>*Additional guidance and information about good-practices in benefit sharing arrangements can be found at: https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/bio-carbon/en/index.html and https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/bio-carbon/en/index.html#additionalResources .</p>

The Grievance Redress Mechanism(s) (GRMs)

The following requirements and guidance inform Tool 5.

UNFCCC requirements and guidance

The availability of adequate GRMs is considered a key aspect of the UNFCCC safeguard 'b'¹⁸.

Decision	Paragraph	Extract
Decision 1/CP.16 (Cancun, 2010)	<i>Appendix 1</i>	<p>2. When undertaking the activities referred to in paragraph 70 of this decision, the following safeguards should be promoted and supported:</p> <p>a) That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements;</p> <p>b) Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty;</p> <p>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;</p> <p>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;</p> <p>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 protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits;¹⁹</p> <p>f) Actions to address the risks of reversals;</p> <p>g) Actions to reduce displacement of emissions.</p>
Decision 2/CP.17 (Durban, 2011)	63	"Agrees that, regardless of the source or type of financing, the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, should be consistent with the relevant provisions included in decision 1/CP.16, including the safeguards in its appendix I, in accordance with relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties;"

¹⁸ Characteristics of effective governance structures generally include: access to judicial or administrative procedures that can provide effective remedy for infringements of rights, and to resolve disputes, especially for indigenous peoples. Annex II, Braña Varela, J., Lee, D., Rey Christen, D., and Swan, S. 2014. "REDD+ Safeguards: Practical Considerations for Developing a Summary of Information." Prepared with support from the Government of Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative.

¹⁹ Taking into account the need for sustainable livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities and their interdependence on forests in most countries, reflected in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as the International Mother Earth Day.

TREES requirements and guidance

Participants are required to provide access to grievance mechanisms, but TREES does not specify that a dedicated REDD+ grievance redress mechanisms must be in place. At a national or subnational scale, it might be appropriate to have multiple grievance systems addressing different concerns or at different levels.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
TREES 2.0 August 2021	Safeguards - Section 12- Theme 2.4	59-60	<p>"Respect, protect, and fulfill access to justice.</p> <p>Structural Indicator: Participants have in place procedures for guaranteeing non- discriminatory and non-cost prohibitive access to dispute resolution mechanisms at all relevant levels, and these are anchored in relevant ratified international conventions/agreements and/or domestic and if applicable, subnational, legal framework.</p> <p>Process Indicator: Public institutions have made use of mandates, procedures, and resources to facilitate access to dispute resolution mechanisms for stakeholders involved in the implementation of REDD+ actions including judicial and/or administrative procedures for legal redress, which, inter alia, provide access for indigenous peoples, local communities, or equivalent stakeholders with a recognized legal interest.</p> <p>Outcome Indicator: Resolved disputes, competing claims, and effective recourse and remedies have been provided when there was a violation of rights, grievance, dispute or claim related to the implementation of REDD+ actions.</p>
TREES ESG Safeguards Guidance Document, August 2021	Guidance on Individual Indicators- Section 7	15-16	<p>"Theme 2.4 Guidance</p> <p>Structural Indicator Guidance: The Participant should describe the judicial and/or administrative procedures that are in place for guaranteeing non-discriminatory and non-cost prohibitive access to dispute resolution mechanisms at all relevant levels. Formal government procedures should be considered, but local alternative dispute resolution mechanisms could also be described. The Participant should also identify and summarize any relevant requirements resulting from any international conventions or agreements that the Participant or Participant's country has ratified or otherwise agreed to.</p> <p>Process Indicator Guidance: The Participant should describe the processes or other means to ensure the procedures outlined in the structural indicator have been implemented throughout the design, implementation and monitoring of REDD+ actions</p>

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
			<p>and that any additional identified requirements have been met.</p> <p>Outcome Indicator Guidance: The Participant should define and monitor parameters to demonstrate that disputes and competing claims have been resolved, and effective and culturally appropriate recourse and remedies have been provided when there was a violation of rights, grievance, dispute or claim related to the implementation of REDD+ actions in line with requirements identified in the structural indicator.</p>

FCPC requirements and guidance

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
FCPC Carbon Fund Methodological Framework	Section 4- Criterion 26	20	<p>"Criterion 26: An appropriate Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism (FGRM) developed during the Readiness phase or otherwise exist(s), building on existing institutions, regulatory frameworks, mechanisms and capacity.</p> <p>Indicator 26.1: An assessment of existing FGRM, including any applicable customary FGRMs, is conducted and is made public. The FGRM applicable to the ER Program demonstrates the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Legitimacy, accessibility, predictability, fairness, rights compatibility, transparency, and capability to address a range of grievances, including those related to benefit-sharing arrangements for the ER Program; ii. Access to adequate expertise and resources for the operation of the FGRM. <p>Indicator 26.2: The description of FGRM procedures, included in the Benefit-Sharing Plan and/or relevant Safeguards Plans, specifies the process to be followed to receive, screen, address, monitor, and report feedback on, grievances or concerns submitted by affected stakeholders. As relevant, the Benefit-Sharing Plan and/or relevant Safeguards Plans and/or ER Program Document describe the relationship among FGRM(s) at the local, ER Program, and national levels.</p> <p>Indicator 26.3: If found necessary in the assessment mentioned in Indicator 26.1, a plan is developed to improve the FGRM.</p>

VCS-JNR requirements and guidance

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
VCS-JNR-scenario 2	Section 3.8.	18	" Jurisdictional proponents shall develop a mechanism for receiving, screening, addressing, monitoring and reporting feedback on grievances and concerns submitted by stakeholders relating to the design, implementation and evaluation of the jurisdictional program at the local, subnational and national levels. This mechanism shall include appropriate means of communication to enable all interested and/or stakeholders to participate. Principle 6.6 of the REDD+ SES may be used to guide development of grievance mechanisms.

The J-REDD+ program’s participatory approaches

The following requirements and guidance inform Tool 6.

UNFCCC requirements and guidance

Full and effective participation is a key element of the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards²⁰, and the UNFCCC additionally sets out that J-REDD+ programs should ensure the full and effective participation of all stakeholders in their design and implementation.²¹

Decision	Paragraph	Extract
Decision 1/CP.16 (Cancun, 2010)	Appendix 1	2. When undertaking the activities referred to in paragraph 70 of this decision, the following safeguards should be promoted and supported: a) That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes 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 protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits; ²² f) Actions to address the risks of reversals; g) Actions to reduce displacement of emissions.
Decision 2/CP.17 (Durban, 2011)	63	“Agrees that, regardless of the source or type of financing, the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, should be consistent with the relevant provisions included in decision 1/CP.16, including the safeguards in its appendix I, in accordance with relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties;”

²⁰ Characteristics of UNFCCC safeguard ‘D’ which specifically refers to the ‘full and effective participation’ is generally associated to the recognition and implementation of procedural rights (also known as access rights) such as access to information, participation, and justice in relation to decision-making processes. Due to the different identities, cultures, languages and institutions of indigenous peoples and local communities, ensuring their full and effective participation is in some cases associated with special procedure or measures, including Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).

²¹ UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 72

²² Taking into account the need for sustainable livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities and their interdependence on forests in most countries, reflected in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as the International Mother Earth Day.

Decision	Paragraph	Extract
Decision 1/CP.16 (Cancun, 2010)	72	<i>"Also requests developing country Parties, when developing and implementing their national strategies or action plans, to address, inter alia, the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, land tenure issues, forest governance issues, gender considerations and the safeguards identified in paragraph 2 of appendix I to this decision, ensuring the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, inter alia indigenous peoples and local communities;"</i>

TREES requirements and guidance

Theme 4.1 requires that relevant stakeholders have participated fully, effectively and timely in the design and implementation of REDD+ actions. Additionally, "for the sake of transparency, the ART Secretariat shall presume TREES Participant information is available for public scrutiny, and demonstration to the contrary shall be incumbent on the TREES Participant".

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
TREES 2.0 August 2021	Publicly available documentation - Section 15.2	69	For the sake of transparency, the Secretariat shall presume Participant information is available for public scrutiny, and demonstration to the contrary shall be incumbent on the Participant. The VVB shall check that any information requested as "commercially sensitive" meets the TREES definition of CSI. Subscribers to the ART listserv shall receive notification of the availability of new and relevant Participant documentation as it becomes publicly available to ensure that stakeholders have ample opportunity to submit comments to ART regarding these submissions. Comments submitted within 30 days of notice will be directed to the Participants to be addressed and will also be provided to the VVB at the beginning of Validation and Verification.
TREES 2.0 August 2021	Safeguards - Section 12- Theme 4.1	61	<p>"Respect, protect, and fulfill the right of all relevant stakeholders to participate fully and effectively in the design and implementation of REDD+ actions.</p> <p>Structural Indicator: Participants have in place legal frameworks, policies or programs to respect, protect and fulfill the right of all relevant stakeholders to participate fully and effectively, including timely access and culturally appropriate information prior to consultations, and these are anchored in relevant ratified international conventions/agreements and/or domestic and if applicable, subnational, legal framework; access is established to recourse mechanisms to ensure the participation process is respected.</p> <p>Process Indicator: Public institutions have made use of mandates, procedures, and resources to respect, protect and fulfill the right to full, effective and timely participation in the design and</p>

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
			<p>implementation of REDD+ actions, as indicated in relevant ratified international conventions, agreements, and/or domestic and if applicable, subnational, legal framework.</p> <p>Outcome Indicator: Relevant stakeholders have participated fully, effectively and timely in the design and implementation of REDD+ actions.</p>
<p>TREES ESG Safeguards Guidance Document, August 2021</p>	<p>Guidance on Individual Indicators- Section 7</p>	<p>15-16</p>	<p>"Theme 2.4 Guidance</p> <p>Structural Indicator Guidance: The Participant should describe how the legal framework or policies define procedures that recognize, respect and protect the rights of relevant stakeholders to participate fully and effectively in the design, implementation and monitoring of REDD+ actions. These procedures should include means of identifying all relevant stakeholders which may include for example, other government agencies, private landowners, offset project developers, local communities, indigenous peoples. The procedures should also consider gender equity and potentially vulnerable groups such as youth and the elderly. Procedures for ensuring access to recourse mechanisms should align with the procedures under Theme 2.4. The Participant should also identify and summarize any relevant requirements resulting from any international conventions or agreements that the Participant or Participant's country has ratified or otherwise agreed to.</p> <p>Process Indicator Guidance: The Participant should describe the processes or other means to ensure the procedures outlined under the structural indicator are implemented throughout the design and implementation of the REDD+ actions and that any additional requirements identified under the structural indicator are met.</p> <p>Outcome Indicator Guidance: The Participant should define and monitor parameters to demonstrate that relevant stakeholders have participated fully and effectively in the design and implementation of REDD+ actions and that any other requirements identified under the structural indicator have been met.</p>

FCPC requirements and guidance

Requires that the design and implementation of ER Programs utilize transparent stakeholder information sharing and consultation mechanisms that ensure broad community support and the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular, affected Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLC). The ER Program is expected to ensure its design and implementation reflect inputs by affected stakeholders, that special attention is paid to the legal and customary rights of IPLC, and takes into account applicable laws, including national laws and legally binding national obligations under relevant international laws.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
FCPC Carbon Fund Methodological Framework	Programmatic element 4	18	<p>" The ER Program should build on the activities carried out during the readiness phase, based on the Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement in REDD+ Readiness and the Guidance Note on Establishing and Strengthening Grievance Redress Mechanisms.</p> <p>The ER Program shall be based on a full and effective consultative, transparent and participatory process, ensuring that its design and implementation reflect inputs by relevant affected stakeholders, including broad community support by affected Indigenous Peoples. Special attention needs to be paid to legal and customary rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and the ER Program shall take into account applicable laws, including national laws and any legally binding national obligations under relevant international laws"</p>

VCS-JNR requirements and guidance

Jurisdictional programs are required to be developed and documented in a transparent manner and in consultation with stakeholders. Additionally, proponents shall ensure information about how safeguards have been addressed is made readily accessible to all relevant stakeholders throughout the implementation of the jurisdictional program.

Document Title	Chapter/Section	Page Number	Extract
VCS-JNR-scenario 2	Section 3.8.4	18	<p>"Jurisdictional programs shall be developed and documented in a transparent manner and in consultation with stakeholders. Stakeholders include, inter alia, project proponents of existing AFOLU projects, private landowners, rural and/or indigenous communities, as well as relevant government agencies, private sector, academy representatives, and NGOs. Principle 6 of the <i>REDD+ Social & Environmental Standards (REDD+SES)</i>; the <i>Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement in REDD+ Readiness</i> of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and/or the UN- REDD Programme may be used to guide the stakeholder consultation process."</p>