

## Grievance Redress Mechanism

A Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is a system that allows communities and stakeholders to raise concerns and reach fair solutions. TREES requires that all stakeholders, especially Indigenous Peoples and local communities, have access to justice and dispute resolution.

## Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)

A SEP is a roadmap for participation that explains how people are informed and involved in REDD+. TREES, through Cancun Safeguard D, requires that all stakeholders and vulnerable groups participate in a timely and culturally appropriate way. While TREES does not require a fixed template, a dedicated REDD+ SEP is the clearest way to demonstrate inclusive participation in practice.

## TREES and Safeguards: Why do they Matter?

Protecting people, protecting forests, enabling fair carbon credits.

**For more information please contact:**



[info@climatelawandpolicy.com](mailto:info@climatelawandpolicy.com)



[www.climatelawandpolicy.com](http://www.climatelawandpolicy.com)



# What is TREES?

TREES (The REDD+ Environmental Excellence Standard) is the international standard under the Architecture for REDD+ Transactions (ART). As a **jurisdictional standard**, it looks at whether governments - not just individual projects - are implementing REDD+ in a fair, transparent, and sustainable way.

## TREES & Safeguards

A crucial part of TREES is its safeguards requirements, based on the **UNFCCC Cancun Safeguards**. These global principles ensure REDD+ does not harm people or the environment, while promoting respect for rights, meaningful participation, and protection of forests and biodiversity.

No carbon credits can be issued under TREES **unless safeguards are fully respected and demonstrated.**

To meet these safeguard requirements, countries must put in place specific systems and plans that show, in practice, how safeguards are being respected.



## Policies, Laws and Regulations

PLRs form **the legal foundation for safeguards**. A country's constitution, laws and regulations showcase how the country guarantees rights, guides forest management, and ensures REDD+ is implemented fairly.

# Safeguard Information System

The SIS is a system for collecting and sharing information on how safeguards are being addressed and respected. It is **required** under both TREES and the UNFCCC to demonstrate transparency and accountability.

✓ Countries must develop their SIS to share safeguard information with stakeholders and produce the required international reports.

