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REDD+ STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

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WHAT IS A STAKEHOLDER?

- **Has a ‘stake’ – or a share or an interest – in REDD+ actions and results**
 - On different levels
 - With different roles and responsibilities
 - With different risks and potential rewards



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WHAT IS STAKEHOLDER “ENGAGEMENT” & WHY IS IT RELEVANT?

- **“Stakeholder engagement” refers to:**
 - influencing decision-making over time
 - developing ownership for the implementation of solutions
 - supporting implementation
- **Other terms**
 - Stakeholder **Participation** (too often means one-off presence rather than ownership and involvement over time)
 - Stakeholder **Consultation** (may mean listening without considering input)



PARTICIPATION & ENGAGEMENT CONTINUUM

- **Involve experts only/closed door**
- **Passively inform (Web site)**
- **Public communications (Radio)**
- **Targeted communications**
- **One-off participation**
- **Participation with follow-up, validation**
- **Sustained engagement**
- **Local leadership**

**Minimal
Participation**



**Active
Engagement**



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WHO ARE REDD+ STAKEHOLDERS?

- **Stakeholders, in the REDD+ context, are defined as:**
"...those groups that have a stake/interest/right in the forest and those that will be affected either negatively or positively by REDD+ activities. They include relevant government agencies, formal and informal forest users, private sector entities, Indigenous peoples and other forest dependent communities."
- **Rights holders = a subset of stakeholders**
With statutory and/or customary rights to land and natural resources that will be potentially affected by a REDD+ program
- **Stakeholder categories are not homogeneous – diversity within groups**



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WHAT HAS BEEN DONE SO FAR IN CONGO BASIN?

- **Stakeholder analysis**
 - Analysis in 10 regions in Cameroon as part of FCPF Readiness Grant
- **Engagement practices**
 - Creation of a balanced multi-stakeholder REDD+ committee in DRC
- **Consent practices (FPIC)**
 - FPIC guidelines development launched by GIZ, WWF and CED in Cameroon
- **Engaging specific. groups (women, indigenous peoples, other forest-dependent communities)**
 - Gender and REDD+ road maps in Cameroon (IUCN/WEDO)



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STAKEHOLDER MAPPING & ANALYSIS

- **What is stakeholder mapping and analysis?**
 - Methods to identify stakeholder groups, relative power & relationships across groups, differences/convergences across & within groups, leadership legitimacy, and cultural & linguistic influences on interactions
 - Stakeholder mapping & analysis may use existing data, but also needs ground-truthing
 - Some countries have not yet done REDD+ stakeholder analyses
- **Recommendations**
 - Stakeholder analyses should be done **early & consistently** during REDD+ implementation.
 - **Gender analyses** should be a consistent element of stakeholder analyses



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PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

- Levels of engagement of private sector varies within and across countries (**mostly Types A & D**) but real level is unknown due to private (exclusive) meetings
- **Diverse group and views:** individual companies, federations and trade associations involved in extractive and productive (e.g., forestry, oil palm production, ranching, large-scale farming), finance
- **Underrepresented:** Smallholders without associations, trade unions, agriculture, mining and infrastructure
- **Recommendations:** More balanced analyses of private sector's role in drivers of deforestation, more private sector participation in multi-stakeholder processes, engaging business via larger LEDS/Green Economy planning



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CONSENT PRACTICES

- **Special case of indigenous consent rights for proposed projects, to be respected by signatories of UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous People (2008) (and all UN-REDD countries)**
- **Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)**
 - Implementation nascent with REDD+ in Africa
 - **Challenges:** Consent without manipulation; the right to refuse consent; application to other forest-dependent vulnerable communities.
- **Recommendations:**
 - government and donor commitment and resources; supportive policies; trained neutral facilitators; good information quality; information; adequate time; grievance resolution processes.



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ENGAGING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

- Supportive donors but **underrepresentation** of indigenous and other **marginalized groups** persists
- **More engagement** on technical inputs (consultation plans, safeguards/FPIC, MRV) **than dialogue** about indigenous tenure rights and benefits plans
- History, culture and legal frameworks result in **different government sensitivities** and commitment to indigenous issues and representation for REDD+
- **Recommendations:** Building relationships and trust, sharing information and building capacity via civil society and governments, better materials, broadening representation to capture diversity in indigenous groups



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GENDER SENSITIVE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Organize the meeting at a time and place **convenient and appropriate** for women (travel, accommodations, child care)
- Conduct the meeting so that **women have the opportunity to provide input** (plenary introduction, sex-segregated group work, sensitive facilitation of sharing and prioritizing, consensus building)
- **Don't waste their time** – make sure the meeting covers issues important both women & men, and they participate & their **input is valued**





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ENGAGING WOMEN

- **Gender differences** in society & stakeholder groups - different stakes, vulnerabilities, interests and rights
- **Women & gender advocates** appear to be **under-represented** (invitations, presence, participation quality and impact) particularly **indigenous women**
- **Recommendations:** Stakeholder analyses to identify gender issues and women stakeholders at various scales; facilitation practices; logistical issues; sharing experiences across countries
- **Example:** IUCN Pro-Poor REDD+ Project in Ghana, Uganda and Cameroon



ENGAGEMENT PRACTICES

Thumbs Up

Smaller groups meeting over time, active learning
 Advance notice, travel funds
 Open access, participation options
 Government and civil society providing information/capacity
 National/local CSO networking
 Analyses by civil society
 Participatory data collection for governance and SESA.
 Allowing adequate time
 Note-taking & feedback loops
 Consensus
 Civil society leadership
 Independent monitoring option

Thumbs Down

Poor tracking of women's participation, few gender advocates
 Too few trained facilitators
 Trust issues not addressed
 Socialization ≠ consultation
 Stakeholder analysis done too late and Gender missed in stakeholder analysis
 Closed-door expert analyses
 Analyses of deforestation drivers
 Unclear benefits and distribution
 Unclear grievance procedures
 Unclear Free, Prior, Informed Consent
 Minimal CSO participation on standing committees



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