



# Papua New Guinea REDD+ Safeguards

**The Implementation of REDD+ Safeguards Guideline ensures best practices are adhered and these guidelines also assist in the guidance of the REDD+ development initiatives in Papua New Guinea.**

**These guidelines include;**

- 1. *Free Prior Informed Consent*** - Decisions are made collectively to approve a project or investor interested in REDD+ activities or land use land use change activities.
- 2. *Grievance Redress Mechanism*** - The National GRM emphasize on a Dispute Resolution Mechanism. Whereby disputes arising from climate change activities and related projects are to be addressed or resolved.
- 3. *Benefit Sharing and Distribution System*** - To share the benefits equally amongst all the members involved. Types of Benefits include Carbon Benefits, Non- Carbon Benefits, monetary benefits and non-monetary benefits.
- 4. *REDD+ Development Guidelines***- Seek to improve the governance and implementation of REDD+ at the national and subnational levels taking into account the UNFCCC guideline and requirements.



## What is REDD+ Safeguards

Safeguards is a measurement taken to prevent and mitigate undue harm from an action, and when developed through a 'Rights-based approach' according to the National REDD+ Strategy 2017.

The Safeguards in Papua New Guinea was established through an agreement under United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) within the Conference of Parties (COP) Meeting with the guidance in decision 1/CP.16

Safeguards can be seen as the measure of action to protect the rights of the forest affected communities and address the issues that affect the people socially, economically, spiritually and mentally.

## Papua New Guinea REDD+ Safeguards Guideline

The Papua New Guinea REDD+ Safeguards Guidelines have been validated on the 16th of March 2022.

These REDD+ Safeguards Guidelines are important in all aspects of the REDD+ mechanism in PNG.

As the REDD+ activities of deforestation, forest degradation, conservation, sustainable management of forest and enhancement of carbon stocks will greatly affect the forest affected communities and put stress and pressure to the land and land use changes.

These Safeguards Guidelines will protect and address the indigenous people of Papua New Guinea who are affected.

## What is the purpose of Safeguards

The REDD+ Safeguards are developed to guide the investors, project proponents and protect the rights of the people. The Safeguard ensures that investments do not harm the vulnerable people and the ecosystems. The activities of REDD+ in Papua New Guinea requires positive actions to operationalize the rights of the custodians of the land which are referred to as the "indigenous people" and their rights are addressed and protected.

An Environment Impact Assessment is one of the examples of environmental safeguards.

The assessment takes place before the actual project is carried out. If the damages and threats to the environment are high, then a mitigation plan may be carried out to address the issues affecting the ecosystem and biodiversity of an area proposed for development.