



Climate and Forests



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

BACK TO OFFICE REPORT (BTOR)

Submitted by: Andrea CAMACHO

Date Submitted: January 2020

1. Practice Area: BPPS/ Natural Capital and Environment

2. Service Line: Climate and Forests

3. Mission Period (incl. of travel days):

AC: 17 Nov – 22 Nov 2019

4. Type of Service/Mission

- FCPF programming and implementation

5. Client(s)

- Government of Paraguay (Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development)

6. Purpose of Mission

- Provide Technical Assistance on safeguards to:
 1. Review and update the GRM for the ENBCS and the project
 2. Review and update the National Clarification on safeguards with MADES
 3. Review, update and validate with MADES the SIS designed for Paraguay
 4. Strengthen capacities of the Government in all matters related to Social and environmental Safeguards.

7. Documents, Materials, Resources from Mission.

- [Revised SIS design Document](#)
- [Revised and validated National Clarification on safeguards including the PLR review](#)
- [National level GRM document structure](#) and [Information flow diagram](#)
- [Revised project GRM document](#)
- [Safeguards Roadmap with key next steps & email](#)
- [SIS and GRM discussed with MADES: Meeting minutes](#)

8. Mission Member(s) (include Consultants, if any)

Andrea CAMACHO (UNDP RHPA), Lilian PORTILLO, Daniel CORONEL, Gabriela VIÑALES, Pamela GONZALEZ (FCPF PMU);

9. Annexes

- Agenda of the mission
- Presentation delivered to MADES on the [GRM](#), National Clarification on safeguards and the [SIS design](#).

Brief Summary of the Mission:

This mission aimed to support Paraguay move forward on safeguards work starting from the review and update of the national clarification on safeguards. Detailed work was done to update new PLRs into the the legal framework delivered by UN-REDD in 2015, cross checking with the information generated by UNEP in the context of the RBPs proposal and publication of the SIS v1.0. This update and review was then presented, discussed and reviewed with the Safeguards Team in MADES. A document that identifies key updates both in the PLRs and in the safeguards elements was produced.

A meeting with the head of climate change (REDD+ focal point) and the safeguards team in MADES was held to present the status of safeguards work and the on key elements that need to occur to deliver the final design of the SIS. A roadmap for final review of the SIS design was agreed to move forward with the establishment of the system. Paraguay designated the participation of two people from MADES that are part of the Safeguards working team, and two from the PMU to participate in the SIS exchange workshop organized by Ecuador mid-

January 2020.

A meeting was held with the team in the GCP project that are supporting the national Information System's improvement, to identify potential synergies between the two projects to deliver support.

A presentation on key issues for a GRM was delivered, and a working session regarding the roadmap in Paraguay to establish a national level GRM was held with MADES. Moreover, work with the team was carried out to follow up on the comments sent to the GRM document that was prepared for the project and aiming to mainstream key elements into a national level GRM. A roadmap to complete this was agreed with the team.

All working sessions during the mission addressed capacity building needs and discussions were held with the PMU team and MADES safeguards working group.

Key findings:

- The consolidation of a safeguards team in the framework of the National Climate Change Commission (CNCC) adds value to the process and ensures national appropriation on the subject. Designated delegates for this group are the following from the CC division in MADES; Carlota Villagra, Gustavo Gonzalez, Blanca Brites and Alejandro Martí and from the PMU team; Gabriela Viñales, Daniel Coronel and Pamela Gonzalez. To ensure its effectiveness and timely delivery of products and definitions, it will be necessary to set up a work dynamic that differentiates when the two teams will work together and when they won't, given the tight schedule of Personnel in MADES and short timeframe to deliver safeguards products before the project ends. It was agreed to hold regular meetings on safeguards every 2 weeks to ensure progress is on schedule. The Safeguards working group will be formally established in the CNCC meeting that will be held in February 11th 2020.
- Since the last missions; building and strengthening capacities on safeguards for the safeguards working group in MADES has made a difference in the way work is delivered, this challenge should be continuous and part of the agenda of the working group.
- Finalizing design of the SIS will need to articulate with the Environmental Information System SIAM that is currently being reviewed and will be strengthened with support of the Green Commodities Program. The Information Systems consultant will support the elaboration of the TORs to operationalize the SIS. This presents an opportunity for synergies between the two projects implemented by UNDP-CO. it was recommended to use validated indicators for the SIS.
- It is important to socialize the current status of safeguards both in MADES and with stakeholders. Progress to be presented in the National REDD+ Roundtable to be held in December 2019.
- The National level GRM for REDD+ requires further work in order to set up an adequate mechanism that responds to key needs in the country and uses the existing channels for stakeholders to submit grievances. Special focus on mapping potential sources of conflict and the definition of institutional arrangements and responsibilities with special focus on the implementation of the ENBCS. It is necessary to define the level of delivery expected to have on the GRM for the national level before the BCS project ends mid-2020, as this will determine the level of work required in the country. There are two possible scenarios that need to be evaluated regarding the scope of work for the project one at the design level, or to deliver a fully operational mechanism.
- It has been evidenced that the PMU team in UNDP is covering many different fronts under the project, where safeguards is one of them. Given the level of progress to meet the project's targets on safeguards it is important that the team is able to dedicate time every week to ensure safeguards work is delivered within the project timeline.
- Involve MADES safeguards team in the elaboration and review process of the SESA and ESMF for the

National REDD+ strategy.

Next Steps:

- Continue to have regular meetings of the safeguards team from MADES and PMU to ensure safeguards work is on schedule.
- Present safeguards progress in the National REDD+ Roundtable to be held mid-December including SIS design and updated national clarification on safeguards and PLRs.
- The safeguards team will prepare Paraguay's participation in the SIS exchange workshop in Ecuador to be held in mid-January and participate in the event.
- Finalize design of the SIS and validate final provisions with MADES and prepare TORs to operationalize it
- Agree new dates on the roadmap to present the implementation plan for the ENBCS and adjust this with the need to have the full SESA and ESMF documents for the national REDD+ Strategy.
- Work is required to identify potential sources of conflict for the GRM. The SESA document that is underway) will be a key input. The team will request the operations manual/protocols in the existing grievance system and environmental Crime Systems in the biodiversity division in MADES to build on these existing protocols. It is necessary to map how Grievances could be processed and estimate time to respond.

Key lessons learned derived from the mission:

- Delivery of an operational SIS and GRM at the national level depends on the active involvement of the GoP and PMU team so as to move forward with institutional arrangements and to ensure it is appropriated by the government once the FCPF project ends.
- To ensure Safeguards work is completed before the project ends it is necessary that the safeguards team meets regularly and dedicates time to deliver key documents and ensure institutional appropriation of the safeguards during implementation of the ENBCS and related projects as well as the monitoring tools such as the SIS and GRM mechanisms.
- Capacity building on safeguards should be delivered on a permanent basis with the GoP, stakeholders and partners as there are different levels of understanding of safeguards requirements.

If applicable, identify a headline for a storyline (article or case study) and provide contact details of focal point in country who can provide additional information:

- Active involvement of the GoP in the safeguards process in Paraguay and stakeholder engagement via the National REDD+ Roundtable are key to delivering safeguards commitments and ensuring its compliance

Follow-up Action Matrix

Actions to be taken (including events, information and communication materials planned as result of this mission)	By Whom	Expected Completion Date
1. Continue to coordinate periodic meetings with Safeguards focal points in MADES to move forward with SIS design	Gabriela, Daniel, Andrea	Oct - Dec 2019
2. Participate in SIS exchange workshop in Ecuador	Gabriela, Alejandro Marti, Andrea, MADES Safeguards focal Points	Jan 20-21 2020
3. Share proposed SIS design with the GCP team and Prepare TORs to operationalize the SIS design and share with Karen Elizeche and GCP team to for feedback.	Daniel and Gabriela.	Jan 2020
4. Present Safeguards work, progress in the SIS design and roadmap in the National REDD+ Roundtable	Daniel, Gabriela, MADES Focal Points	December 20, 2019.
5. Follow-up and Support MADES coordinate and	Daniel & Gabriela	February 11, 2020

prepare the CNCC Meeting in February to establish the Safeguards Working group		
6. Request the Biodiversity Division in MADES to share the operations manual/protocols they have in the Environmental Crime and Grievance Systems	Gabriela, Daniel, Pamela	February 2020
7. Have a mission to work on definitions of safeguards indicators, GRM design and potential sources of conflict	Andrea, Daniel, Gabriela	March 2020
Distribution List (BTOR sent to): Tim, Josep, Marco, Fernando, Silvia, Veronique, Alfonso, Lilian, Gabriela, Daniel, Pamela, Dina, Jen		

BORRADOR

Agenda de la Misión

Misión de Andrea Camacho “Acompañamiento en avance en temas de Salvaguardas Ambientales y Sociales”

Objetivo:

- Revisar y actualizar el documento del “Mecanismo de respuesta ante actores clave
- Revisar y actualizar la “Interpretación Nacional de Salvaguardas”
- Revisar y validar diseño del “Sistema de información de salvaguardas”
- Fortalecer al Gobierno en lo que respecta a “Salvaguardas Ambientales y Sociales”

Horarios	Lunes	Martes	Miércoles	Jueves
08:00 a 10:00	Apertura de Misión PNUD Participantes: AC, LP, GV, DC, PG	Revisión/Actualización de la Interpretación Nacional de Salvaguardas de Paraguay Participantes: AC, GV, DC	Apertura de Misión Gobierno Participantes: UL, GG, CV, AC, LP, GV, DC	Presentación de Mecanismo de Respuesta ante actores clave y actualización de la Interpretación Nacional a Gobierno. Participantes: GG, CV, AC, LP, GV, DC
10:00 a 12:00	Revisión de planificación de misión – definición de aspectos clave Participantes: AC, GV, DC		Jornada de trabajo “Sistema de Información de Salvaguardas” con Gobierno Participantes: GG, CV, AC, LP, GV, DC	
12:00 a 13:00	Receso para almuerzo			
13:00 a 16:00	Revisión, ajustes y definición de siguientes pasos sobre el “Mecanismo de Respuesta ante actores clave” Participantes: AC, GV, DC, PG	Revisión de propuesta de estructura del SIS e indicadores. Participantes: AC, GV, DC	Jornada de trabajo “Sistema de Información de Salvaguardas” con Gobierno Participantes: GG, CV, AC, LP, GV, DC	Cierre de Misión Gobierno Participantes: UL, GG, CV, AC, LP, GV, DC
				Cierre de Misión PNUD Participantes: AC, LP, GV, DC

AC: Andrea Camacho LP: Lilian Portillo
PG: Pamela González

GV: Gabriela Viñales UL: Ulises Lovera

GG: Gustavo González

CV: Carlota Villagra

BORRADOR