From: Peter Iversen <PIversen@unfccc.int>
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 9:40:47 AM
To: Kadyszewski, John <JKadyszewski@winrock.org>
Cc: Grady, Mary <MGrady@WINROCK.ORG>; Andreas.Dahl-Jorgensen@kld.dep.no <Andreas.Dahl-Jorgensen@kld.dep.no>; Jenny Wong <JWong@unfccc.int>; Dirk Nemitz <DNemitz@unfccc.int>
Subject: Input to the development of the TREES standard

Dear John,

We have noticed the consultation process for the TREES standard but since our comments are no so much related to the technical aspects of the standard but more on the consistency with the UNFCCC Warsaw Framework for REDD+ we take the liberty to provide a few comments and a proposal directly to you.

As mentioned during our call, we pleased to see activities moving forward to support the implementation of REDD+. We also acknowledge that the TREES Standard emphasizes the intention to be consistent with the UNFCCC Warsaw Framework for REDD+ and other relevant UNFCCC decisions. It is our understanding that the TREES standard is about results-based emissions reductions (section 3.6) undertaken by national governments (section 3.1), where the REDD+ national strategy or action plan is required (section 3.2) as well as the summary of information on how all of the Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected (section 12). Section 13 on double-counting is also clearly underlining the importance of transparency.

In our view, it would therefore greatly enhance the clarity and transparency if the TREES standard would require full compliance with the provisions of decision 9/CP.19 on the eligibility for results-based finance, in particular the following elements to be included in the Lima Information Hub for REDD+:
   a) The results for each relevant period expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year and a link to the technical report referred to in decision 14/CP.19, paragraph 14;
   b) The assessed forest reference emission level(s) and/or forest reference level(s) expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year and a link to the final report of the technical assessment team referred to in decision 13/CP.19, paragraph 18;
   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 12/CP.19 and 12/CP.17, chapter I;
   d) A link to the national strategy or action plan as referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 71(a), as appropriate;
   e) Information on the national forest monitoring system, as provided in the technical annex referred to in decision 14/CP.19;

This decision is the result of a UNFCCC COP work programme on results-based finance and all results from countries fulfilling the criteria of decision 9/CP.19 are listed in the Lima Information Hub for REDD+. Requiring an entry in this Information Hub would therefore ensure that all of the above-mentioned criteria are met under the UNFCCC, and would form a solid basis for consistency with reporting to the UNFCCC, including through NDCs and GHG inventories.

Most likely, many of the countries that will be in a position to participate under the TREES standard, are also among the countries that have either fulfilled or are close to fulfilling all the criteria of decision
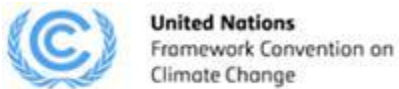
9/CP.19 and as such it might not pose an additional burden for countries but will help to establish a clear link to the Warsaw Framework for REDD+.

If you have any questions to the above or want to discuss it further, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

Peter

Peter Iversen
Programme Officer/Team Lead (land Use)

Climate Change Secretariat (UNFCCC)
MDA Programme
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1
D-53113 Bonn/Germany
Phone: 0049-228 815 1032
E-mail: piversen@unfccc.int