CHAPTER 5

Do We Need a REDD-Plus Committee to Protect Indigenous Peoples?

1 Introduction

As explained above, the implementation of REDD-plus under the UN-REDD Programme and the FCPF there does have some positive records in the context of indigenous peoples. Nonetheless, there are also negative records concerning violations of the rights of indigenous peoples in REDD-plus activities, whether these are activities are supported by the UN-REDD Programme or the FCPF. For example, the FPIC process in Vietnam under the UN-REDD Programme has been criticised for being insufficient. In the context of the FCPF, it has been recommended that the R-PPs of the Republic of Congo, El Salvador, etc.

---

1 See: (1) UN-REDD Programme Indonesia ‘Semi-Annual Report 2011 UN-REDD Programme Indonesia’ (2011) 13–14; and (2) UN-REDD Programme Indonesia ‘Implementation of FPIC: Learning and Trial Process to Build Consensus with the Community in Lembah Mukti Village, Damsol Subdistrict, Donggal District, Central Sulawesi’ (2012) 13. See also Section 2.1 in Chapter Four.


4 See: (1) Letter from Social Organizations of El Salvador to the FCPF, ‘Refusal to El Salvador R-PP Approval and Demand for Withdrawal by the Government’ (15 May 2012); (2) Letter from Salvadoran National Indigenous Coordinating Council to the FCPF, ‘Rejection and demand for withdrawal of El Salvador’s R-PP by Indigenous Peoples’ (24 May 2012); and (3) Letter from the Salvadoran National Indigenous Coordinating Council, the National Confederation of Agricultural Cooperatives, the Salvadoran Confederation of Cooperatives, the Association of Agricultural Communities of Human Development and Multiple Services, and the Nonualco Indigenous Movement to Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, ‘Demand for withdrawal of second version of R-PP sent to FCPF on May 31, 2012 by the Government of El Salvador’ (15 June 2012).
and Guyana⁵ should not be approved as there is the risk that the pertinent R-PPs might violate the rights of indigenous peoples. Furthermore, the R-PPs of Peru⁶ and Honduras⁷ have been criticized for not respecting the rights of indigenous peoples.⁸

The weakness of the current approaches to protecting indigenous peoples under the UN-REDD Programme and the FCPF mentioned in the previous chapter is that the pertinent approaches for addressing the concerns of indigenous peoples when their rights have been violated under the UN-REDD Programme or the FCPF are ‘unofficial’. What is meant by ‘unofficial’ is that the approaches have not been formalized by the UN-REDD Programme and the FCPF as methods for specifically addressing the concerns of indigenous peoples when their rights have been violated in the implementation of REDD-plus activities under the UN-REDD Programme and the FCPF with appropriate formalized procedures albeit the pertinent parties in the UN-REDD Programme⁹ and the FCPF¹⁰ have the ability to implement the ‘financial approach’ to protect indigenous peoples in the context of REDD-plus as mentioned in the previous chapters.

---

⁵ Forest Peoples Programme, ‘Problems with the Guyana Readiness Plan (r-Plan) submitted to the World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)’ (April 2009) 1.
⁷ See: (1) Letter from Confederación de Pueblos Autóctonos de Honduras to the FCPF (11 January 2013) (in Spanish); and (2) Letter from Consejo Cívico de Organizaciones Populares e Indígenas de Honduras to the FCPF, ‘Rechazo de COPINH al R-PP y a la Implementacion de REDD+ en Honduras’ (10 February 2013) (in Spanish). For a comparison: Email from FCPF Secretariat to REDD Monitor, ‘Honduras and FCPF’ (3 June 2012).
⁸ See also: (1) Letter from Vereniging van Saramakaanse Gezagsdragers to the FCPF (18 October 2009); and (2) Max Ooft, ‘Suriname’ in Mikkelsen (eds) (n. 2) 128. In the context outside the UN-REDD Programme and the FCPF, see: (1) Anonymous, ‘Laos’ 280; and (2) Navaya ole Ndaskoi, ‘Tanzania’ 388–389 in Mikkelsen (eds) (n. 2). See also: Hallie Boas (ed), No REDD Papers Volume One (Charles Overbeck/Eberhardt Press 2011).
⁹ For example, under the UN-REDD Programme the prominent parties are the Policy Board of the UN-REDD Programme, the UN-REDD Programme Technical Secretariat, the pertinent Participating UN Organizations, the pertinent UN Resident Coordinator, the pertinent UN-REDD Programme Executive Board, and the pertinent UN-REDD Programme Manager. See Section 2.1 in Chapter Four.
¹⁰ Whilst under the FCPF the prominent parties are the Participants Committee (in particular the pertinent working groups of the Participants Committee), the FCPF FMT, the pertinent TAP Review Team, and the World Bank. See Section 2.2 in Chapter Four.