EPIU | Balancing the Impact

SAFEGUARDS AS A PROJECT-DESIGN TOOL

SAP059 lessons | Origination to funding proposal development

WHAT THE GCF REVIEW TESTED

01 Risk category & project design

02 Operational risks & national rules

03 Social safeguards & implementation



LOW RISK STILL NEEDS EVIDENCE — and sometimes the best safeguard is a design change.

HOW THE DESIGN CHANGED

New construction proposed

Seed bank and NTFP facilities initially included new buildings.

Category C challenged

Inputs, processes, labour, water, energy, waste and OHS were assessed.



Re-design requested

GCF flagged that new works could move the project beyond SAP Category C.

Operations assessed

Site screening, exclusion criteria, GRM and SEAH measures were strengthened.



Screening tools added

New construction was removed; existing buildings will be repurposed.

Category C reconfirmed

Final design retained a low-risk profile with implementation-stage controls.



THREE PRACTICAL LESSONS

01 Integrate safeguards while the project design is still flexible.

02 Demonstrate the risk category activity by activity — do not argue from the project label.

03 Where details are not yet known, create clear screening and decision rules before implementation.



SAP059

“SAFEGUARDS did not only document SAP059 — they CHANGED SAP059.”

THANK YOU

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