

# Review of: "“Saving the Forest” with a REDD+ Project: Socio-Ecological Repercussions on Indigenous People in Cambodia"

Himangana Gupta<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> United Nations University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

In the light of the community-biodiversity-climate nexus, this is an important piece that highlights the trade-offs related to community while showing gaps in the implementation of REDD+. Community engagement is key to the success of climate interventions. I had a similar experience in a case study from India:

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328999227\\_Understanding\\_Stakeholders'\\_Perspective\\_on\\_REDD\\_Implementati\\_on\\_as\\_a\\_Multi-Sectoral\\_Approach\\_Regional\\_Case\\_Studies\\_from\\_Three\\_Continents](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328999227_Understanding_Stakeholders'_Perspective_on_REDD_Implementati_on_as_a_Multi-Sectoral_Approach_Regional_Case_Studies_from_Three_Continents)

After reading the manuscript, I suggest:

1. Including what safeguards can help the inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+. How does that reflect in the context of equity and justice?
2. If possible, the author can create linkages with nature-based solutions, etc., to show how improvements are possible.
3. I notice that there was a lack of clarity on what kind of respondents gave what answers. The words “villagers” and “indigenous peoples” are also used interchangeably. Information can be expanded to share the real story and challenges. Currently, the discussion is in the form of key points, which is, of course, easy to understand but requires a bit more deliberation to express the deep concern on the exclusion of local communities and thus the challenges with meeting the global goals.