

**GIL, JULIANA** [POSTER]

*How can social safeguards be fulfilled in REDD projects? Evidence from the Brazilian Amazon*

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The evaluation of socioeconomic impacts of Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) projects is a complex and challenging task for a number of reasons. These include the diversity of livelihoods and interests at stake, as well as the variety of scales and contexts that REDD+ operates at. Although such evaluation is crucial for the observance of minimum social safeguards and the ultimate success of REDD initiatives, literature is scant on how these safeguards have been implemented and enacted in Brazil. We review Brazilian REDD+ policies at the national and subnational levels to check how developed and interconnected social safeguards are across these instances. We also compare existing REDD+ initiatives in three Amazonian states, Para, Mato Grosso and Acre, to see how the interaction between the policy environment and particularities of different REDD+ projects affects the design, implementation and monitoring of safeguards on the ground. We build on a nested approach that envisages project-level institutions embedded within state institutions – which are in turn embedded within the national and global contexts – as well as project reports and qualitative interviews with key local informants. Preliminary results reveal the disconnect between REDD+ policies at the national and state levels, the discrepancy among Amazonian states concerning institutional support to REDD+, how diverse social safeguards are in different contexts, and the contribution of voluntary certification to the delivery of social safeguards at the project level.