

# Farmers Rights and Social – Environmental Best Practices



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## Farmers' Rights and Social Best Practice

- United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Social Impacts of PES
- Trends in PES Social Best Practice
  - Free Prior and Informed Consent
  - Socio-Environmental Principles and Criteria
  - Climate Community and Biodiversity Standards
  - Manual for Social Impact Assessment
- Key Issues in Community PES
- Key questions for Farmers, Landowners






## Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

- Customary management practices over traditionally owned or occupied lands
- Autonomy regarding participation in initiatives which will directly or indirectly have an affect on the community
- Full participation in all project stages
- Free, prior and informed consent





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## Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

How is it relevant to PES?

- 80% of ecosystems on the global level which are intact and designated as priority areas for conservation are linked to community/ indigenous occupation
- Farmers, small holders, communities are experiencing negative effects of environmental destruction
- Where there is destruction is also social injustice



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## Definition of Social Impacts



“By social impacts we mean the consequences to human populations of any public or private actions that alter the ways in which people live, work, play, relate to one another, organize to meet their needs and generally cope as members of society. The term also includes cultural impacts involving changes to the norms, values, and beliefs that guide and rationalize their cognition of themselves and their society.”

(National Maritime Fisheries Service, 1994)



## Social Impacts of PES (Potential)

*The creation of new products, markets, and business can bring both positive and negative social impacts*

Positive	Negative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved local organization</li> <li>• Employment</li> <li>• Increased household income</li> <li>• Change of livelihood</li> <li>• Improved health of downstream communities</li> <li>• Increased interaction with business and government agencies</li> <li>• Resiliency to natural disaster</li> <li>• Promotion of land tenure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exclusion from project and local development decisions</li> <li>• Eviction from lands</li> <li>• Unequal benefit distribution</li> <li>• Reliance on markets</li> <li>• Changing food or fuel prices</li> <li>• Opportunity costs of other livelihoods</li> <li>• Traditional access/ use changes</li> <li>• Elite capture</li> </ul>





## Trends in PES Social Best Practice

- Free Prior and Informed Consent
- Socio-Environmental Principles and Criteria
- Climate Community and Biodiversity (CCB) Standards
- Manual for Social Impact Assessment




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## Free, Prior, Informed Consent

**What?**

- Knowledge/ understanding of a project's implications precedes decision making
- Give or withhold consent to measures which affect citizens, land, or resources

**Who?**

- Communities, farmers, small landholders, indigenous peoples
- Recognized by the International Labor Organization (ILO), United Nations (UN), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)



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## Free, Prior, Informed Consent


**How?**

Communities provided with complete project information

- Native language
- Clear, comprehensible presentation of intent/ scope
- Objective and participatory consultations
- Project benefits and community commitments are understood

Consensus before project implementation

- Traditional consultation processes, customary leadership
- Written consent form





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## Free, Prior, Informed Consent

**Why?**

- Comply with project standards
- Avoid set backs during project implementation
- Increased sustainability
- Reputational benefits
- Increased market access



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## Socio-Environmental Principles and Criteria


- Multi-stakeholder group process in Brazil
- Reduce risks of participation in PES markets
- Ensure community rights are respected in REDD+
- Set of guiding principles and criteria
- A monitoring/ planning tool for projects, public programs, investors





## Socio-Environmental Principles and Criteria

1. **Legal compliance:** meeting the requirements of Brazilian law and applicable international agreements
2. **Recognition and guarantee of rights:** recognition and respect of ownership and use rights for lands, territories, and natural resources
3. **Benefit-sharing:** Fair, transparent and equitable distribution of the benefits resulting from REDD+ action
4. **Economic sustainability, livelihood improvement and poverty reduction:** contribute to the economic diversification and sustainable use of natural resources







## Socio-Environmental Principles and Criteria

5. **Environmental conservation and recuperation:** contribution to the conservation and recuperation of natural ecosystems, biodiversity, and ecosystem services
6. **Participation:** participation in the elaboration and implementation of REDD+ actions and in decision-making process
7. **Monitoring and Transparency:** full availability of the information related to REDD+ actions
8. **Governance:** promotion of improved governance, articulation, and alignment with the national, regional, and local policies and directives.



## Socio-Environmental Principles and Criteria

- Manual: Developing Social and Environmental Safeguards for REDD+
- Record the Brazilian process
- Model for other national or regional safeguards
- Adaptable lessons learned





## CCB Standards

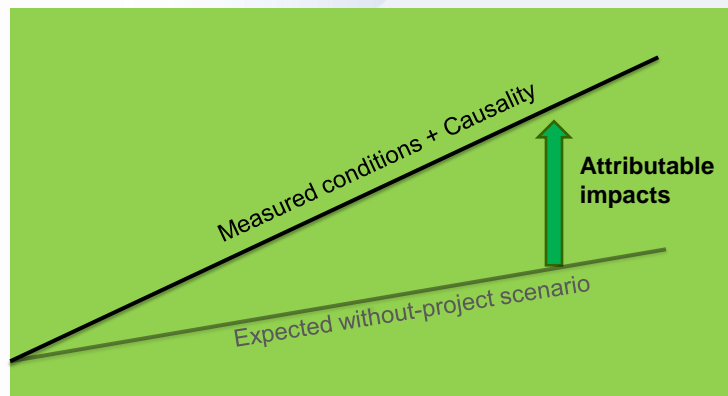
- Description of pre-project socio-economic conditions
- 'Without Project' projected change scenario
- 'With Project' projected social benefits scenario
- Positive and additional social impacts (to 'without' scenario)
- Community monitoring plan – indicators & data collection methods
- Measurement of the impacts over time – evidence for verification



## CCB Standards: Additionality

Expected Net Positive Benefits of CCB-Validated Projects

Social or Environmental Conditions



Time →










## Manual for Social Impact Assessment

**Main objective:**

- Provide methodological guidance on cost-effective Social Impact Assessment (SIA) for project proponents

**Sub-objectives:**

- Increase socio-economic benefits
- Increase stakeholder engagement
- Strengthen application of CCB Standards
- Contribute to adaptive project management
- Identify social impact indicators

## Manual for Social Impact Assessment





**Why SIA?**


- Accurately projecting and measuring impacts is a moral imperative
- Commercial implications
  - Co-benefits attract many buyers, 'soft finance'
  - Assurance is not just for the carbon. What is the real effect of a project on local people?

MANUAL FOR SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF  
LAND-BASED CARBON PROJECTS:  
PART I – CORE GUIDANCE FOR PROJECT PROPONENTS

VERSION 1.0

May 24, 2010





## Manual for Social Impact Assessment



### *Why is SIA Challenging?*

- Attribution—difficult to prove cause and effect
- Effects are long-term, intangible, not easily measured
- Unexpected and/ or negative impacts
- Lack of research data on the social effects
- Cost – effectiveness



## Key Issues in Community PES

- Gender
- Equity
- Land tenure
- Opportunity costs
- Transaction costs
- Ecosystem resilience/ adaptation
- Land productivity
- Time
- Uncertain outcomes
- Benefit distribution





## Key Questions for Farmers, Landowners

- To whom does the right to the ecosystem service belong?
- Who is paying? For what ecosystem service?
- How much is the buyer willing to paying?
- Whom is the buyer paying? For how long?
- Who receives the money and how?
- How can we guarantee that the benefits are distributed in a transparent manner?
- What are my responsibilities if I decide to participate?
- What happens if I don't meet my responsibilities?
- How will community rights be respected, guaranteed?
- Should laws be modified or created for project implementation?
- Is there a need for a government agency or other independent institution to administer the resource?



## Conclusion

- We now understand:
  - United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
  - Social Impacts of PES
  - Trends in PES Social Best Practice
  - Key Issues in Community PES
  - Key questions for Farmers, Landowners
- Questions?





# Thank you!

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