

BioCarbon Fund ISFL Stakeholder Engagement Approach

This is a working document and can be updated as necessary.

This approach is based on the World Bank and IFC process for stakeholder engagement (regular, continuous and meaningful engagement of relevant stakeholders in design and implementation stages of ISFL projects/programs). This document may not capture all stakeholder engagement for the ISFL at the Initiative or program levels.

ISFL Background

The BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (BioCF ISFL or ISFL) is a multilateral initiative, supported by donor governments and managed by the World Bank. It seeks to promote and reward reduced greenhouse gas emissions and increased sequestration through better land management, including REDD+ (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation), climate smart agriculture, and smarter land use planning and policies. The Initiative spans both the suite of BioCF ISFL preparation and implementation funds (BioCF*plus*-ISFL) and the third tranche of the BioCF (BioCF T3) to deploy results based finance for emission reductions.

The ISFL promotes a landscape approach, where national or jurisdictional governments develop and implement a strategy that aims to achieve climate smart, equitable, and productive results at scale and strives for positive environmental, social, and economic impact.

Stakeholder engagement for the ISFL occurs at both the Initiative and Program levels. This note briefly describes the engagement approach at both levels.

Initiative-level Stakeholder Engagement

The ISFL recognizes the valuable contribution of relevant stakeholders including Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Indigenous Peoples (IPs), marginalized populations, and the private sector in the successful management and implementation of the Initiative. While the formal governance structure of the ISFL is limited to Contributors to the Initiative, the Bank makes all relevant documents publicly available on its website,¹ fields inquiries through the website's contact forms, and strives to meet with relevant stakeholder groups on a regular basis to share pertinent information and continue an important dialogue on design and implementation of the Initiative and its programs.

Program-level Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement at the ISFL program level is focused mainly at the jurisdictional levels within an ISFL program country.

As part of designing and implementing an ISFL program, the entity responsible for each ISFL program will be required to consult with stakeholders at relevant levels (e.g. district, provincial, national levels) in

¹ In accordance with the World Bank's Access to Information Policy.

accordance with the applicable World Bank safeguard policies/IFC performance standards and the host country's applicable laws and regulations.

The relevant stakeholders for an ISFL program depend on the specific country context and program design. However, such stakeholders may include, for example, relevant government agencies, formal and informal stakeholder groups, private sector entities, IPs, communities dependent on landscapes, research and academic institutions, local experts, CSOs and local entrepreneurs.

These stakeholders may include participants beyond the forest sector to include agriculture, energy, infrastructure, and other sectors. It is important to note that such consultations may also include active participation of stakeholders during the design, implementation, review, reporting and/or evaluation stages of ISFL programs. All consultations will be in accordance with the applicable World Bank safeguard policies/IFC performance standards and the host country's applicable laws and regulations.

The Bank will make publically available (e.g., on the ISFL website) any relevant documents for the ISFL program.¹

Building On and Coordinating With Existing Structures

The ISFL will seek to engage relevant stakeholders in program countries, taking into consideration the existing mechanisms in the country, including the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), the United Nations REDD program (UN-REDD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), as well as agriculture, energy, infrastructure, and other relevant stakeholder groups working in each landscape. Priority will be given to already organized groups of stakeholders and other initiatives such as broader national climate change platforms. In cases where other land-use based projects supported by the World Bank Group and other partners are established, the ISFL program will identify them for effective engagement including building on their structures of engagement, as appropriate.

References

1. [https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/sites/fcp/files/2013/May2013/Guidelines%20on%20Stakeholder%20Engagement%20April%2020,%202012%20\(revision%20of%20March%2025th%20version\).pdf](https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/sites/fcp/files/2013/May2013/Guidelines%20on%20Stakeholder%20Engagement%20April%2020,%202012%20(revision%20of%20March%2025th%20version).pdf)
2. <http://www.biocarbonfund-isfl.org/>
3. http://intresources.worldbank.org/INTCARBONFINANCE/Resources/Application_of_Safeguards_Mar_2006.pdf