



## **Social Inclusion and Stakeholder Engagement in Colombia Sustainable Low Carbon Development in Orinoquia Region Project**

**Social Safeguards.** 32 percent of the Orinoquía's 1.37 million people live in rural areas. Poverty is concentrated in the rural areas of the Orinoquía and mostly in those inhabited by Indigenous Peoples. Smallholders and other land users in the region are also impacted by land competition in forest frontiers and remote municipalities, which have a low institutional presence and more land tenure uncertainty. Municipalities with larger number of the rural population have also been the most affected by armed conflict, further increasing the vulnerability of these communities. The project will support smallholders to increase their ability to participate in potentially large-scale investments.

The OSIL Program was prepared under the previous Bank's safeguards policy, the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) was prepared by the Client and consulted in October 2016. ESMF incorporates the procedures for consultations with relevant stakeholder groups, as well as environmental and social impact screening criteria, consistent with the Bank's operational safeguard policies

**Indigenous Peoples and vulnerable groups.** There are 117 indigenous reserves in the Orinoquía hosting 25 different ethnic groups. These reserves have formally constituted collective territory in which the traditional authorities own the land and have legal protection to use and manage the territory according to traditional customs. However, Indigenous Peoples have been experiencing a gradual loss of their ancestral knowledge and customs. Their traditions have been threatened by clashes between indigenous peoples and settlers, between traditional production systems and the market economy, and between indigenous religions and Catholic and Protestant evangelization. Some indigenous peoples suffer from isolation and lack access to education, healthcare, electricity, and markets. The population has high rates of illiteracy, school dropouts, malnutrition, and poverty, making them one of the most vulnerable groups in the Orinoquía.

To ensure indigenous peoples' concerns are addressed and their needs met, the OSILP supports consultations between the government and IPs. Overall, the OSILP seeks to treat vulnerable and/or traditionally excluded social groups, such as IPs or those of Afro-Colombian descent, as partners in the planning, operation of funds, and deployment of support needed to implement this program. The National Agency of Lands (Agencia Nacional de Tierras – ANT) and the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia

(ONIC) will be consulted regarding land titling and securitization processes; and information on land adjudication and / or expansion of indigenous reservations in selected areas.

**Gender.** Women in the Orinoquía region are less able to raise income from agricultural production due to many factors, including fewer opportunities to benefit from obtaining skills and accessing finances. While credit mechanisms for women in rural areas exist, women still do not take full advantage of these opportunities, either due to lack of information or inability to obtain a property title, for example. Despite Colombian laws which mandate both the husband and wife in a household must hold property titles, women often still do not have the necessary documents to prove their status as landowners or do not know they have the right to a title. Lacking the opportunity to obtain credit, gain training, and secure land tenure, rural women are less likely than men to earn a higher income through agriculture. This leaves women and children under their care more vulnerable to poverty, hunger, malnutrition, and the effects of climate change.

To empower rural women in the Orinoquía, the OSILP seeks to increase women's access to agricultural training, land titles, and information on access to credit. The OSILP is also designing training modules in sustainable and low-carbon practices that consider gender-differentiated roles and is developing a module specifically for training women. The program seeks to systematically regularize land tenure and improve land tenure security for women, breaking down what has traditionally been a barrier to access to credit for women. The OSILP also proactively includes women and youth as participants in capacity development activities, training programs, and working groups and seeks to involve women and youth organizations in project monitoring and evaluation.

**Stakeholder Engagement.** Stakeholder consultations are expected to be supported by the Colombia FCPF REDD Readiness Project, which makes special emphasis on increasing participatory processes to engage forest communities, ethnic communities, farmers, women, and youth on the one hand, and institutional stakeholders (regional environmental authorities, regional governments, municipalities) on the other hand into elaboration of the National REDD+ Strategy. OSIL consultation processes will be built on the [Stakeholder Engagement Plan of the GEF financed Orinoquia Integrated Sustainable Landscape Project](#).

**Feedback and Grievances Redress Mechanism.** The project builds on the national GRM under the ENREDD+, which includes specific requirements for Indigenous Peoples, Afro-Colombians, women, youth, and small producers. Ministry of Agriculture has been channeling the communications with the communities and institutions of the Orinoquia related to the OSIL program via the ORFEO system (an online platform which by law, needs to be applied by all public institutions in Colombia to support information management, including consultations by external parties). Grievance Redress Mechanism for OSIL will be developed later to be hosted by the Ministry of Environment.

Website address: <https://pqr.minagricultura.gov.co/>

### Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework.

Indicator	EOP Target	EOP Target % Women	FY18 Results	FY19 Results
T1.1 Number of people reached with benefits from ISFL programs	5,000	25%	0	0
T2.O1.c Land users who have received training for improving land management	5,000	25%	0	0
CC.P.2 Number of stakeholders consulted on ISFL programs following WB safeguard policies (% women)	Indicator will be reported on each year, targets will not be included		180 (19% women)	180 (19% women)

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