



SOCIALCARBON®

Template and guidance for submission of new SOCIALCARBON® indicators.

Project type	REDD+
Version	02
Sustainable development contributions	To be monitored with indicator 18. Correspondence with Sustainable Development Goals
Date of submission	16-October-2022 this version of the document
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1. Identifying the project type

Set of indicators	Indicators for projects in areas of high environmental impact
Project type	REDD
Contact responsible for indicators	Yara Fernandes da Silva (yara@futurecarbon.com.br)
Version	02
Date of indicators	16-December-2022

2. General orientation for Accredited Organizations

- a. Inform the Social Carbon Foundation about all projects to which the SOCIALCARBON Standard will be applied.
- b. Submit all new indicators for prior approval by the Social Carbon Foundation.
- c. The Social Carbon Foundation will publish the approved indicators at www.socialcarbon.org for a 15-day consultation period.

3. Guidelines for SOCIALCARBON® indicators

Project developers should start by listing potential impacts, risks and stakeholders associated with the project activity according to the tables provided on the template.

Project developers are invited to indicate the benchmarking used as sources and/or guidelines, including other SOCIALCARBON reports or indicators.

After listing all relevant aspects of the project, the project developer must select which to be monitored through Indicators along the lifetime of the project and distribute them among the different resources of the methodology: social, human, financial, natural, biodiversity/technology and carbon.

Each of the aspects selected shall be then detailed in an indicator of this resource. The number of indicators will vary according to the needs of each project, but the SOCIALCARBON Team recommends a minimum of three and a maximum of ten indicators for each resource.

Next, the indicators receive scores ranging from the worst scenario (level 1) to the best scenario (sustainable use of resource – level 6), according to the following guidelines:

Scores	Classification	Characteristics
1 and 2	Critical	Existence of irregularities; high socio-environmental risk; significant levels of social and environmental degradation or situation of extreme hardship, which significantly compromises the quality of life of the population.
3 and 4	Satisfactory	Meets all the legal requirements related to the activities; surpasses them through the adoption of good practices and voluntary initiative in some cases; or the quality of life reaches the minimum acceptable standard but requires improvement.
5 and 6	Sustainable	Exceeds its legal obligations and/or common practice in the market, in many cases adopting the best-possible practices for the sector; or communities have reached a sustainable livelihood, with adequate access to material and social goods, are capable of recovering independently from situations of stress, and are not causing the deterioration of basic environmental resources through their activities.

4. List of potential social, economic, and environmental impacts

The description of social, environmental and economic impacts does not demand new research but must be based on other existent sources of information, for example: reports, results of consultation with stakeholders, similar projects or opinions of experts. If required by the national competent authorities, documents about the analysis of the environmental impacts and mitigation programs must be presented.

ACTIVITY	ASPECT	IMPACT	EFFECT		COMMENTS/ OBSERVATION
			beneficial	adverse	
REDD carbon project	Empowerment	Increase independence and resilience of communities in the project area.	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social resource: Women inclusion, Associations and cooperatives; - Human resource: research incentive; - Financial resource: Social and Environmental Investments, employment creation, carbon benefits return; - Natural resource: Land tenure; - Carbon resource: Correspondence with Sustainable Development Goals;
REDD carbon project	Conservation of Cerrado	Avoided deforestation, Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carbon resource: project performance; buffer reduction, Correspondence with Sustainable Development Goals; - Biodiversity resource: biodiversity monitoring, biodiversity conservation, species of conservation interest - Natural resource: Environmental impact of Project, Monitoring Methods; - Financial resource: Social and Environmental Investments;

REDD carbon project	Surveillance	Increased deforestation outside the project area	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social resource: Stakeholder consultation; - Human resource: Research incentive, Conflict management; - Financial resource: employment creation, carbon benefits return, Social and Environmental Investments; - Natural resource: Monitoring methods; Land tenure; - Biodiversity resource: Biodiversity monitoring; Biodiversity Conservation; - Carbon resource: Project performance, buffer reduction;
REDD: Carbon credit project	Application of the Social Carbon methodology	Encouragement and investment in research on social, economic and environmental aspects in the project region	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social resource: Women inclusion, Associations and cooperatives; - Human resource: research incentive; - Financial resource: Social and Environmental Investments, employment creation, carbon benefits return; - Carbon resource: Correspondence with Sustainable Development Goals;

5. List of significant risks for the project

Present a list of significant risks for the project. For example: lack of funds, risk of scarcity of natural resources (biomass, water, degradation of soil, etc.)

Risk	Brief description of the risks
Uncertainties relating to standing native vegetation cover in the future	Non permanence of carbon: Time which carbon will remain stocked in live biomass, without being emitted into the atmosphere. Due to the uncertainties related to what will happen to the native vegetation cover in future, there is a risk of non permanence of carbon.
Catastrophic natural and/or human-induced events (e.g. landslides, fire)	These events may result in loss of native vegetation cover, fragmentation of habitats and important ecological corridors and decrease in biodiversity, considering the possibility of extinction of native plants and animals.
Illegal activities within the project area	Hunting, logging and livestock are examples of activities that may be illegal in the project area and result in loss of native vegetation cover.
Increase suppression of native vegetation within the project area	Based on the percentage allowed by the Brazilian environmental legislation (e.g. Federal Law nº 12.651/2012) for suppression of native vegetation, there is a risk of increasing legal deforestation within the project area, which may result in loss of native vegetation cover, fragmentation of habitats and important ecological corridors and decrease in biodiversity, considering the possibility of extinction of native plants and animals.

**Uncertainties
relating
to standing native
vegetation cover in
the future**

Wildfires in the dry season, loss of forest cover and decrease in biodiversity, fragmentation of habitats and important ecological corridors, uncertainty about Brazil's political decisions regarding conservation efforts (especially payment for ecosystem services) and soft commodities prices that may incentivize planned deforestation are impacts that may have implications in the performance of the project and, therefore, the generation of co-benefits for the Stakeholders.

6. List of stakeholders affected by the project

Present a list of stakeholders potentially impacted by the project.

Stakeholder	Brief description of how the project affects the stakeholders mentioned
Workers	New skills will be needed to monitor and manage the project area, and likewise new jobs will be created, strengthening the local economy. The project includes social actions ranging from worker's safety to professional skills training.
Local community	The project encourages measures to create a dialogue and improve relationships with the residents surrounding the project, including agroforestry courses and implementation of reforestation plots. It also promotes community benefits such as improving the local environment and investment in social initiatives, as well as encouraging the work of women. With the project, job creation will occur directly and indirectly.
Universities and Educational Institutions	The project will engage universities and academic institutions, creating partnerships with the Landowner to facilitate and finance the study of ecosystems and their biological cycle within the project area, which can potentially result in innovation for the academic community and financial return for both parties.
Project Landowner	The landowner that is choosing this path of forest conservation through a 30 year contractual agreement is foregoing his legal right to deforest his/her land. The landholder is the primary agent of deforestation in the baseline scenario.
Government	Federal, State and Municipal agencies, foundation and institutes will interact with the project in a variety of ways, such as: issuing municipal / state licenses and contributing with studies / research on the region, communication / dissemination of the carbon project, among others.

7. Benchmarking

- I. Indicators for REDD Cerrado Program, Version 3.0, February 2022. Available at:
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/6161c89d030b89374bec0b70/t/622f48fe6ac2e8678dc17466/1647266047078/Template+and+guidance+for+submission+of+new+SOCIALCARBON_v3+%281%29.pdf

- II. Indicators for REDD Projects, version 01, August 2020. Available at:
https://www.socialcarbon.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Indicators_for_REDD_Projects_v.01.pdf

- III. Indicators for Grouped Hydropower Plants in Chongqing, Yunnan, Sichuan and Guizhou Provinces , P. R. China, Version 1.1, July 2015. Available at:
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/6161c89d030b89374bec0b70/t/618a24264dbdf67f7c05f778/1636443176880/Indicators-for-Grouped-Hydropower-Plants-in-China-Version-1.1-July-20151.pdf>

8. Indicators

8.1 Social Resource

Social Resource is about the networks, social duties, social relationships, relationships of trust, affiliations, and associations.

Indicator	Description					Evaluation Methods
Women's Inclusion	Evaluate initiatives implemented by the project proponent to promote women's inclusion in community activities.					Questionnaires, interviews with communities, reports, among others.
Scenarios						
1	2	3	4	5	6	
There are no initiatives related to women's inclusion.	There are plans to implement actions to promote women's inclusion in community activities, but they have not been implemented.	There are monitored programs to promote women's inclusion in community activities and they have been implemented.	In addition to the previous scenario, the number of women that participate in community activities is being monitored and all her comments were registered.	In addition to the previous scenario, the number of women that participate in community activities improved in 20% or more and at least one of the suggestions were addressed.	In addition to the previous scenario, the number of women that participate in community activities improved in 40% or more and all the suggestions were addressed.	

Indicator	Description	Evaluation Methods
Associations and cooperatives	Evaluates whether communities residing in the project area are involved in/around associations or cooperatives. Association: Group of two or more people who organize themselves to defend their common interests, without financial ends and existing as a legal entity. Cooperative: Organization consisting of at least twenty private individuals acting cooperatively and mutually assisting each other, with democratic, participatory management, with common economic and social goals, of which the	Questionnaires; interviews with communities; meeting minutes; attendance lists; association records.

	legal and doctrinal aspects are independent of those of other organizations and societies.				
Scenarios					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Absence of associations and cooperatives; individual action predominates.	Attempts to form associations or cooperatives have been made, meetings are informal.	An association or cooperative is regularly attended and formally registered; however, there are no recognized leaders within the community.	An association or cooperative is regularly attended and formally registered, and there are recognized leaders from the community.	In addition to the previous scenario, there is a formally registered, regularly attended association or cooperative that is generating positive results for the community (e.g. objectives have been achieved).	In addition to the previous scenario, the association/cooperative is independent (not in need of external support).

Indicator	Description	Evaluation Methods
Stakeholder consultation	Evaluates the frequency of stakeholder consultation meetings regarding the carbon project.	Informative letter, satisfaction questionnaire, occurrence book, etc.

Scenarios					
1	2	3	4	5	6
During the time period analyzed, the company did not conduct a stakeholder consultation regarding the	During the time period analyzed, the company conducted an informal stakeholder consultation regarding the	During the time period analyzed, the company conducted a formal stakeholder consultation regarding the	During the time period analyzed, the company conducted a formal stakeholder consultation regarding the	In addition to scenario 4, the company conducted systematic stakeholder consultation surveys.	In addition to scenario 5, the company has organized planning to implement stakeholder suggestions.

carbon project	carbon project.	carbon project and all comments were registered.	carbon project and all comments were registered. At least one of the suggestions was addressed.		
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8.2 Human Resource

Human Resource comprehends the skills, knowledge, capacities for work and good health that people have. Taken together, these become fundamental for the successful pursuit of different strategies.

Indicator	Description					Evaluation Methods
Research Incentive	Evaluates whether the project promotes research innovation through partnerships with universities and non-profit organizations to develop local knowledge investigation.					Questionnaires, interviews with the community, reports, among others.
Scenarios						
1	2	3	4	5	6	
The project proponent has no partnership with a university/ public agency/ institution and does not have partnership plans.	The project proponent has no partnership with a university/ public agency/ institution but has plans to establish partnerships.	The project proponent has no partnership with a university/ public agency/ institution but invests in academic research.	The project proponent maintains a partnership with a university/ public agency/ institution but there is no security that the research will be continued in a medium term.	The project proponent maintains a partnership with a university/ public agency/ institution and provides funding for research ensuring the continuity of the research.	In addition to scenario 5, the research brought benefits to the local community.	

Indicator	Description					Evaluation Methods
Workers' Safety	Evaluates the existence and execution of campaigns and trainings that promote the safety of the project's employees, especially those who are directly connected to the inspection and protection of the area.					Questionnaires, interviews with the community, reports, among others.
Scenarios						
1	2	3	4	5	6	
There is no activity to promote safety to employees.	Campaigns, training, or partnerships with Worker's Safety government/public agencies occur occasionally but are not effective.	Campaigns, training, or partnerships with Worker's Safety government/public agencies occur occasionally and present effectiveness.	Campaigns, training, or partnerships with Worker's Safety government/public agencies occur frequently (monthly) and present effectiveness.	In addition to scenario 4, the project developed safety goals and planning, but with execution difficulties.	Planning goals in safety with satisfactory and effective execution in all project area.	

Indicator	Description					Evaluation Methods
Conflict Management	Evaluates the company's procedures to identify and deal with conflicts in the surrounding communities, as well as the actions that are being taken so that they do not recur.					Questionnaire, procedures, interviews with communities, reports, among others.
Scenarios						
1	2	3	4	5	6	
There are no actions related to conflict management	There are actions related to conflict management however they are informal.	There are procedures to identify AND deal with conflicts	In addition to the previous scenario, all conflicts identified are being treated and	In addition to the previous scenario, the company has preventive actions to prevent the	In addition to the previous scenario, the local community is satisfied with	

			monitored. Efforts are carried out to ensure that they will not be repeated.	emergence of new conflicts, e.g. the company provides a team to gather opinions and solve conflicts	community activities.
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8.3 Financial Resource

Indicator	Description					Evaluation Methods
Carbon Benefits Return	Evaluates the reinvestment of carbon revenues in social actions, research, biodiversity, reforestation program, health and safety, ecological tourism and others.					Questionnaire and/or control sheets.
Scenarios						
1	2	3	4	5	6	
The income generated by carbon credit sales was not distributed to the carbon project or in the community.	Less than 5% of the income generated by carbon credit sales was distributed to the carbon project or in the community development.	Between 5 and 15% of the income generated by carbon credit sales was distributed to the carbon project or in the community development.	Between 15 and 25% of the income generated by carbon credit sales was distributed to the carbon project or in the community development.	Between 25 and 50% of the income generated by carbon credit sales was distributed to the carbon project or in the community development.	More than 50% of the income generated by carbon credit sales was distributed to the carbon project or in the community development.	

Indicator	Description	Evaluation Methods
Social and Environmental Investments	Evaluates the socio-environmental investments in the different areas: education; alternative income generation; environment; sport and infrastructure.	Questionnaire, documents, meetings with project proponent and project area supervisors; interviews with communities.

Scenarios					
1	2	3	4	5	6
There are no actions related to socioenvironmental investments.	The company has social and environmental actions for at least one of the following topics: - education; - health and safety; - environment ; - sport; - infrastructure	The company has social and environmental actions for two of the following topics: - education; - health and safety; - environment ; - sport; - infrastructure	The company has social and environmental actions for three of the following topics: - education; - health and safety; - environment ; - sport; - infrastructure	The company has social and environmental actions for four of the following topics: - education; - health and safety; - environment; - sport; - infrastructure	The company has social and environmental actions for all of the following topics: - education; - health and safety; - environment ; - sport; - infrastructure

Indicator	Description	Evaluation Methods
Employment creation	Evaluates whether project activities are reflecting an increase in the number of people employed in the local community.	Questionnaires, interviews with the community, registration of informal employees, RAIS/CAGED (socioeconomic information reports).

Scenarios					
1	2	3	4	5	6
No direct employment opportunities were offered by the project proponent during this	Employment opportunities are available.	Employment opportunities are available and/or there are at least two formally documented	Employment opportunities are available and there are three formally documented and direct employees.	Employment opportunities are available and there are four or more formally documented	In addition to the previous scenario, the employees receive additional labour benefits.

monitoring period.		and direct employees.		and direct employees.	
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8.4 Natural Resource

Indicator	Description				Evaluation Methods	
Environmental Impact of Project	Evaluates if the project resulted in significant environmental impacts. Evaluates magnitude of environmental impacts of the project and statements/studies, and maintenance of environmental evaluation procedures.				Interviews, questionnaires or meetings: testimony from local stakeholders and/or regulators. - Physical evidence: i.e. site visit or pictures; Records of stakeholder involvement. - Documentation: Identification of directly affected stakeholders; Agreements with stakeholders and/or regulators; Environmental Impact Study (EIS/ EIR or equivalents) and Mitigation / compensation / enhancement plans or programs if required by local government.	
Scenarios						
1	2	3	4	5	6	
Significant negative environmental impacts. OR There is no knowledge	Not significant relevance of negative environmental impacts.	There are no significant impacts.	Is expected that the project produces some positive impacts, but there is no evidence if benefits are	Significant positive impacts, however, not measured.	Measured and significant positive impacts.	

			really happening.		
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Indicator	Description	Evaluation Methods
Monitoring Methods	<p>Assesses the project's capacity to monitoring potentially impacting activities through the number of methods used, which may be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High-resolution satellite imagery with remote sensing applications to detect deforestation; - Use of guards/supervisors; - Presence of guard towers or supervision center in the project area; - Monitoring plan (must contain: mapped risks, monitoring points, inspection frequency, what must be inspected and the person responsible for the activity); - Others (independent forest audit, drones, etc). 	<p>Reports, studies, documents, communication with the landholder, among others.</p>

Scenarios					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Currently, the project does not have monitoring methods.	The project has one monitoring method, but it presents significant problems and is unable to alert about impacting activities.	The project has a solid monitoring plan and one method in operation.	In addition to the previous scenario, the project has at least two monitoring methods in operation.	The project has three monitoring methods, including at least one on-site.	The project has four or more monitoring methods, including at least two on-site, with excellent results in reducing deforestation.

Indicator	Description	Evaluation Methods
Land tenure	Evaluates the existence of conflicts due to land tenure, as well as whether actions are being taken to manage the issue.	Questionnaire, documents, meetings with project proponent and project area supervisors; interviews with communities.

Scenarios					
1	2	3	4	5	6
There are protests in the project area due to problems with land tenure.	The company has conflicts related to land tenure, and has no actions addressed to solve them.	The company has conflicts related to land tenure and started a dialogue to solve them.	The company has conflicts due to land tenure and is in the process of solving them.	Part of land tenure proceedings has been concluded and the owners already have the terms of concession and the legal land title as well as right to use those localities.	All land tenure proceedings are concluded and the owners already have the terms of concession and the legal land title as well as right to use those localities. Beyond that, the company monitors the management plan area to avoid new land occupation.

8.5 Biodiversity Resource

Indicator	Description	Evaluation Methods			
Biodiversity Monitoring	"Evaluates whether the project proponent has actions to identify and monitor the local fauna and flora."	Reports, studies, documents, communication with project proponent, among others.			
Scenarios					
1	2	3	4	5	6
There is no process to identify and monitor	There exist plans to implement the	There are monitoring and identification	There are monitoring and identification	In addition to the previous scenario, the project offers	In addition to the previous scenario, the local

fauna and flora.	identification and monitoring of fauna and/or flora.	of fauna or flora, but not all species have been cataloged yet.	of fauna and flora.	environmental education to the local population, explaining the importance of these species and, consequently, reducing predatory hunting.	population is included in actions to contribute to the conservation of native vegetation, fauna and/or flora.
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Indicator	Description				Evaluation Methods	
Species of conservation interest	Evaluates the existence of species of interest for the conservation in the region.				Reports, management plans, studies, documents, communication with project proponent, among others.	
Scenarios						
1	2	3	4	5	6	
Complete absence of interest in species conservation.	Occurs at least one species of conservation interest which are included in the IUCN Red List.	Occurs at least three species of conservation interest which are included in the IUCN Red List.	Occurs at least five species of conservation interest which are included in the IUCN Red List.	In addition to the previous scenario, the project offers environmental education to the local population, explaining the importance of these species.	In addition to the previous scenario, the project offers specific action (project or program) to improve the level of protection to at least one of these species.	

Indicator	Description	Evaluation Methods
Biodiversity Conservation	Evaluates the existence of biodiversity conservation activities in the project area. E.g.:	Reports, studies, communication with project

	inspection rounds, environmental education, partnerships, among others.	proponent/environmental bodies working in the area.			
Scenarios					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Anthropogenic activity has occurred with a significant negative impact on biodiversity in the project area, for example, introduction of invasive species or use of genetically modified organisms.	No anthropogenic activities that have a significant negative impact on biodiversity have occurred in the project area, but no biodiversity conservation activities are being performed.	The biodiversity conservation activity is being performed; however, there is no community involvement.	Biodiversity conservation activity is being performed, and the community is involved.	In addition to the previous scenario, initiatives related to threatened fauna and flora are ongoing.	In addition to the previous scenario, there is a partnership with a public OR non-governmental organization for biodiversity conservation.

8.6 Carbon Resource

Indicator	Description				Evaluation Methods
Project Performance	Evaluates project performance in relation to Social Carbon Units. Project performance = Units verified in the Monitoring Report corresponding to the SCR period/ Estimate of emissions reductions in the Project Description.				Project Description and Monitoring Report
Scenarios					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Not successful: 0% of carbon credits predicted for the period were	Very Low: 1% to 25% of carbon credits predicted for the period	Low: 26% to 50% of carbon credits predicted for the period were generated.	Reasonable: 51% to 75% of carbon credits predicted for the period	Good: 76% to 95% of carbon credits predicted for the period were generated.	Excellent: More than 95% of carbon credits predicted for the period were

generated.	were generated		were generated.		generated
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Indicator	Description	Evaluation Methods
Buffer reduction	Measures the progression of the buffer in the current monitoring period compared to Project Description and Monitoring Report.	Project Description and Monitoring Report.

Scenarios					
1	2	3	4	5	6
The buffer is higher in the current monitoring than in any other monitoring period (or compared to the Project Description).	The buffer reduced by 0 to 5% compared to the previous monitoring period (or compared to the Project Description).	The buffer reduced by up to 10% compared to the previous monitoring period (or compared to the Project Description).	The buffer reduced by up to 15% compared to the previous monitoring period (or compared to the Project Description).	The buffer reduced by up to 20% compared to the previous monitoring period (or compared to the Project Description).	The buffer reduced by more than 20% compared to the previous monitoring period (or compared to the Project Description).

Indicator	Description	Evaluation Methods
Correspondence with Sustainable Development Goals	Evaluates the evolution of the project in relation to the correspondence with the Sustainable Development Goals.	Reports, studies, documents, communication with the project proponent, among others.

Scenarios					
1	2	3	4	5	6
The project does not have any correspondence with the Sustainable	The project has correspondence with at least two Sustainable Development Goals.	The project has correspondence with at least four Sustainable	In addition to the previous scenario, the project proponent	In addition to the previous scenario, at least one target is	In addition to the previous scenario, at least one target

Development Goals.		Development Goals.	offers training courses related to the Sustainable Development Goals to workers and/or stakeholders .	established for each one of the Sustainable Development Goals related to the project in order to continue improving them.	established by the project proponent is accomplished for each one of the Sustainable Development Goals related to the project.
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Document revision history

Version	Date	Remarks
1.3	January 2022	
1.2	August 2013	Language improvements
1.1	June 2011	Re-formatted
1.0	February 2010	First version