

SOCIALCARBON® STANDARD

Indicators for REDD Projects
Version 1 – August, 2020

DOCUMENT REVISION HISTORY

Version	Description of the main adjustments	Review Date
01	First version.	08/2020

1. Identifying the Project

Project name: Indicators for REDD Projects

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Version/Date of indicators: Version 1 - 17/08/2020

2. General orientation for Accredited Organizations

- a. Inform the Ecologica Institute about all projects to which the SOCIALCARBON Standard will be applied.
- b. Submit all new indicators for prior approval by the Ecologica Institute.
- c. The Ecologica Institute 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 of communities in the project area.	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social resource: Women inclusion - Human resource: Community education and training - Financial resource: Alternative income sources - Biodiversity resource: Non timber forest products (NTFPs)
REDD carbon project	Conservation of Amazon Rainforest	Avoided deforestation	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carbon resource: Project performance; Buffer reduction
REDD carbon project	Surveillance	Increased deforestation outside the project area		X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Human resource: Worker's Safety; - Natural resource: Monitoring methods; Project efficiency in agents that fight deforestation/degradation; - Biodiversity resource: Biodiversity monitoring; Biodiversity Conservation; - Carbon resource: Project performance.

5. List of significant risks for the project

Activity	Aspect
REDD carbon project	Uncertainties relating to standing forest in the future.
REDD carbon project	Land demarcation processes
REDD carbon project	Uncertainty about the Brazil's political decisions that may endorse deforestation and illegal activities.

6. List of stakeholders affected by the project

Stakeholder	Brief description of how the project affects the stakeholders mentioned
Local Community	The project will promote the training of the local population, as well as encouraging the work of women and the market for non-timber forest products. With the project, job creation will occur directly and indirectly.
Local environmental entities	NGOs, environmental agencies and institutions located close to the project area that can use the project as an object of study and environmental education.
Universities and educational institutions	Universities and study institutions that can create partnerships with Project Proponent 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.
Traditional peoples	The <i>ribeirinhos</i> (riverside people) who live in the project area can benefit from the infrastructure and income generation that the project will promote.

7. Benchmarking

A benchmarking analysis is an optional step for the elaboration of SOCIALCARBON indicators and includes research about best practices for project activity or existing sustainability indicators for the sector.

- 1) Indicators for REDD+SFMP Projects, Version 1.2, July 2017. Available at: http://www.socialcarbon.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Template_Submission_of_new_indicators_REDD+SFMP_v1.2_EN11.pdf
- 2) Indicators for an Amazon REDD Project. Available at: http://www.socialcarbon.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Template_Submission_of_Indicators-for-an-Amazon-REDD-Project_v1-1_08_11_201311.pdf

List of references when applicable:

Posey, 1980 apud Golçalves and Domingos, 2019. Available at:

<http://www.revistas.unisinos.br/index.php/RECHTD/article/viewFile/rechtd.2019.111.06/60747117>. Last accessed in May, 2020.

8. Indicators

Social Resource: The networks, social duties, social relationships, relationships of trust, affiliations, and associations.

Indicator	Description	Evaluation Methods
Local traditional peoples assistance	Evaluate the project developer's socioenvironmental investment to promote the reduction of inequalities among traditional people. The Amazon traditional people can be identified as natives (indigenous), <i>caboclos</i> , <i>ribeirinhos</i> , <i>quilombolas</i> , and rubber tappers (other ethnic groups), with knowledge regarding cultivation and fauna and flora preservation, and homeopathy, an inherited ancestral practice ¹ . The investments can be for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education; - Health; - Infrastructure; - Sport; - Culture; - Others (donations, for example); 	Questionnaires, documents, meetings with the project proponent and project local supervisors; interviews with the community.
Women's inclusion	Evaluate initiatives implemented by the project developer to promote women's inclusion in community activities.	Questionnaires, interviews with the community, reports, among others.
Additional Social Programs	Evaluate the quality and results of additional social programs. Quality: effectiveness evaluation of projects/programs. Results: Results: Evaluate the relevance of benefits/effects generated by projects/programs, considering: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) In how many areas the Project offers benefits (scope): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social and Environmental Communication Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interviews, questionnaires or meetings: Testimony from the local interested parties. - Physical evidence: local visits, pictures or others project results records. - Documentation: Activities plan for

¹ Posey, 1980 apud Golçalves and Domingos, 2019. Available at: <http://www.revistas.unisinos.br/index.php/RECHTD/article/viewFile/rechtd.2019.111.06/60747117>. Last visited in May, 2020.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community development/income generation • Ethnic integration • Other social areas (specify). <p>b) Who are the beneficiaries?</p>	<p>additional programs implementation; Agreements between partners and other organizations; - Periodic reports on the status of implementation of additional programs.</p>
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Indicator	1	2	3	4	5	6
Local traditional peoples assistance	There is no socioenvironmental investment directed to traditional communities.	The company promotes socio-environmental actions for at least one of the following topics: - Education; - Health; - Infrastructure; - Sport; - Culture; - Others.	The company executes socio-environmental actions for two of the following topics: - Education; - Health; - Infrastructure; - Sport; - Culture; - Others.	The company executes socio-environmental actions for three of the following topics: - Education; - Health; - Infrastructure; - Sport; - Culture; - Others.	The company executes socio-environmental actions for four or more of the following topics: - Education; - Health; - Infrastructure; - Sport; - Culture; - Others.	Besides de previous scenario, the project proponent sought new ways to benefit the local people.
Women's inclusion	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.	The project promotes the valuing of woman service through equal pay for men and women occupying the same or equivalent positions.	The project promotes activities developed by groups of women.	Besides de previous scenario, the project has women in leadership and/or decision-making positions.
Additional Social Programs	No action was taken.	The actions are in the planning phase with high	The actions are being put into practice, but there	Some programs have been successfully	Some programs have been successfully	Some programs that have been executed show positive

		uncertainty that the benefits can be delivered.	is a great need for corrective actions or deviations in all the proposed activities to deliver the benefits.	executed, but limited impacts on beneficiaries have been observed.	executed and had a positive influence on everyday behavior.	results and improve the quality of life of the beneficiaries.
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Human Resource: 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
Community education and formation programs	Evaluates relevant education and training programs implemented by project activities, including additional programs for stakeholders and the community in general. Examples: partnerships with educational and / or vocational education institutions aimed at the community, such as SENAI / SENAC;	Questionnaires, interviews with the community, reports, among others.
Research incentive	Evaluates whether the project promotes innovation through partnerships with universities and socioenvironmental organizations to develop research focused on local development.	Questionnaires, interviews with the community, reports, among others.
Workers' safety	It evaluates the existence and execution of campaigns and plans to 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.

Indicator	1	2	3	4	5	6
Community education and formation programs	There are no education and training activities.	There are no education and training activities, but the company promotes lectures	The company offers training activities in one of the following areas: - alternative income sources	The company offers training activities in two of the following areas: - alternative income sources	The company offers training activities in all proposed areas.	In addition to the previous scenario, the company simulates entrepreneurship

		on different subjects.	- education - sustainable forest management.	- education - sustainable forest management.		(for example, support, lectures, microloans among others).
Research incentive	The project proponent has no partnership with the university/public agency/institution and shows no inclination to do so.	The project proponent has no partnership with the university/public agency/institution but invests in academic research.	The project proponent maintains a partnership with a university/public agency/institution.	The project proponent maintains a partnership with a university/public agency/institution and provides funding for research focused on forest development.	In addition to scenario 4, the company holds a percentage of profit on the sale of projects.	In addition to scenario 5, the research brought benefits to the local community.
Workers' safety	There is no activity to promote safety to employees.	Campaigns, training, or partnerships with public security agencies occur occasionally but are not effective.	Campaigns, training, or partnerships with public safety agencies occur occasionally and present effectiveness.	Campaigns, training, or partnerships with public safety agencies occur frequently and present effectiveness.	In addition to scenario 4, the project owner developed safety goals and planning, but with execution difficulties.	Planning goals in safety with satisfactory and effective execution.

Financial Resource: Basic capital in the form of cash, credit/debt and other economic goods which are or may become available.

Indicator	Description	Evaluation Methods
Alternative income sources	Evaluate whether the project has created alternative sources of income generation for the communities living in the project area, such as payment for one-off services,	Questionnaires, interviews with the community.

	facilitating the sale of NTFPs, promoting training given by the population for the manufacture of handicrafts products.	
Carbon credit benefits	Evaluates whether resources from the sale of carbon credits have been distributed for improvements or carbon project activities that benefit the local community.	Questionnaire and/or control sheets.
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).

Indicator	1	2	3	4	5	6
Alternative income sources	The project does not generate any alternative source of income for the local communities.	The project generates one alternative source of income for local communities.	The project generates two alternative sources of income for local communities.	The project generates three alternative sources of income for local communities.	The project generates four alternative sources of income for local communities.	The project generates more than five alternative sources of income for local communities.
Carbon credit benefits	Revenues generated from sales of carbon credits have not been distributed to the carbon project or the community, or there are no organized controls on resource allocation.	Less than 20% of the revenue generated from the sale of carbon credits was distributed to the carbon project or community development.	Between 20% and 40% of the revenue generated by carbon credit sales was distributed to the carbon project or community development.	Between 40% and 60% of the revenue generated by carbon credit sales was distributed to the carbon project or community development.	Between 60% and 80% of the revenue generated by carbon credit sales was distributed to the carbon project or community development.	Between 80% and 100% of the revenue generated by carbon credit sales was distributed to the carbon project or community development.

Employment creation	No jobs were indirectly generated by the project activities.	Jobs were generated indirectly through the project activities.	Temporary and informal jobs were generated.	Temporary jobs were generated, but formalized and guaranteed labor rights to workers.	Permanent jobs were generated.	In addition to scenario 5, the jobs are formal and guarantee employees labor rights.
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Natural Resource: The stock of natural resources (soil, water, air and environmental services (soil protection, maintenance of hydrological cycles, pollution sinks, pest control, pollination, etc.)), from which resources for livelihoods are derived.

Indicator	Description	Method of evaluation
Vegetation cover	Evaluates the project's contribution to the recovery of vegetation cover in the area of interest, considering the existence of native ecosystems in the region and their level of fragmentation or connectivity.	Satellite image analysis.
Monitoring methods	Measures the progress of the project's monitoring methods, which may be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High-resolution GIS capable of detecting degradation; - Use of guards/supervisors; - Presence of guard towers or supervision center in the project area; - Others (Chain of custody system, independent forest audit). 	Reports, studies, documents, communication with the project proponent, among others.
Project efficiency in agents that fight deforestation/degradation	Measures the project's capacity to reduce deforestation and degradation in the project area during the monitoring period that corresponds to this SOCIALCARBON Report.	GIS monitoring, questionnaires with supervisors, site visits, questionnaires/interviews with communities.

Indicators	1	2	3	4	5	6
Vegetation cover	The project does	The project's	The project's	The native	Native ecosystems	Native ecosystems

	not promote any action to promote the recovery of vegetation.	activities promote actions to increase the vegetation coverage, but it is not concerned with the health of the ecosystem (providing entry of invasive species, etc.).	activities promote actions to increase the vegetation coverage, concerned with the health of the native ecosystem, which represents between 20% and 49% of the area and is fragmented.	ecosystem represents more than 50% of the project area, but there is little connectivity between the fragments.	represent between 50-79% of the area.	represent over 80% of the regional area and are completely interconnected.
Monitoring methods	Currently, the project does not have monitoring methods.	The project has a monitoring method, but it presents significant problems that lead to continuous deforestation.	The project has a monitoring method in operation.	The project has two monitoring method 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 one on-site, with excellent results in reducing deforestation.
Project efficiency in agents that fight deforestation/degradation	The actual levels of deforestation during the monitoring period were worse than the baseline forecasts for the period.	The actual levels of deforestation during the monitoring period were between 100% and 75% of the baseline forecasts for the period.	The actual levels of deforestation during the monitoring period were between 75% and 50% of the baseline forecasts for the period.	The actual levels of deforestation during the monitoring period were between 50% and 25% of the baseline forecasts for the period.	The actual levels of deforestation during the monitoring period were between 25% and 5% of the baseline forecasts for the period.	Actual levels of deforestation are between 4% and 0% and/or forest areas have increased.

Biodiversity Resource: This includes the combination of species, ecosystems and genes that form the biological diversity. Relevant aspects of this component are the integrity of natural ecosystems, the way people use and interact with biodiversity, the degree of conservation, pressures and threats imposed on native species and the existence of high priority conservation areas.

Indicator	Description	Method of Evaluation
Non-timber forest products (NTFPs)	Evaluates the sustainable use of natural resources by communities in the project area for income generation. Sustainable practices are adopted to include: - Low impact practices; - Exploitation/collection practices of each NFP compatible with their productivity levels, without affecting their regeneration and/or conservation of each species used.	Communication with project proponents/environmental agencies working in the area.
Biodiversity monitoring	Evaluates whether the company has actions to identify and monitor the local fauna and flora.	Reports, studies, documents, communication with the project proponent, among others.
Biodiversity Conservation	Evaluates the existence of biodiversity conservation activities in the project area. For example: recovery of degraded areas, planting native trees, environmental education, partnerships, among others.	Communication with project proponents/environmental agencies working in the area.

Indicator	1	2	3	4	5	6
Non-timber forest products (NTFPs)	Non-timber forest products are used exclusively for subsistence purposes.	Non-timber forest products are commercialized in the project area but without sustainable practices.	Non-timber forest products are produced under sustainable practices, respecting the natural cycle of the forest.	In addition to the previous scenario, there exist studies and plans with the community to determine the available volumes, usage, distribution, regeneration, and conservation of non-timber forest products.	In addition to the previous scenario, there are partnerships to explore the commercial potential of non-timber forest products in the project area.	In addition to the above scenario, there is an equal distribution of the benefits of non-timber forest products or there are facilities to add value to non-timber forest products in the project area.

Biodiversity monitoring	<p>There is no process to identify and monitor fauna and flora.</p>	<p>There exist plans to implement the identification and monitoring of fauna and flora.</p>	<p>There are monitoring and identification of fauna or flora, but not all species have been cataloged yet.</p>	<p>There are monitoring and identification of fauna and flora.</p>	<p>In addition to the previous scenario, the project offers environmental education to the local population, explaining the importance of these species and, consequently, reducing predatory hunting.</p>	<p>In addition to the previous scenario, it was possible to observe the growth of some animal or plant populations in the project area.</p>
Biodiversity Conservation	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>The biodiversity conservation activity is being performed; however, there is no community involvement.</p>	<p>Biodiversity conservation activity is being performed, and the community is involved.</p>	<p>In addition to the previous scenario, initiatives related to threatened fauna and flora are ongoing.</p>	<p>In addition to the above scenario, there is a partnership with a public OR non-governmental organization for biodiversity conservation.</p>

Carbon Resource: The type of carbon project developed, encompassing the project performance and methodologies utilized.

Indicator	Description	Method of evaluation
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Buffer reduction	Measures the progression of the buffer in the current monitoring period compared to VCS PD and Monitoring Report.	VCS PD and Monitoring Report.
Stakeholder consultation	Evaluates the methodology used for the stakeholder consultation regarding the carbon project.	Informative letter, satisfaction questionnaire, occurrence book, etc.
Project Performance	Evaluates project performance in relation to verified emissions reductions. Project performance = Units verified in the Monitoring Report corresponding to the SCR period/ Estimate of emissions reductions in the VCS PD.	VCS PD and Monitoring Report.

Indicator	1	2	3	4	5	6
Buffer reduction	The buffer is higher in the current monitoring than in any other monitoring period (or compared to the PD).	The buffer reduced by 0 to 5% compared to the previous monitoring period (or compared to the PD).	The buffer reduced by up to 10% compared to the previous monitoring period (or compared to the PD).	The buffer reduced by up to 15% compared to the previous monitoring period (or compared to the PD).	The buffer reduced by up to 20% compared to the previous monitoring period (or compared to the PD).	The buffer reduced by more than 20% compared to the previous monitoring period (or compared to the PD). Or The buffer is currently at the minimum V-C-S requirement.
Stakeholder consultation	During the time period analyzed, the company did not conduct a stakeholder consultation regarding the carbon project.	During the time period analyzed, the company conducted an informal stakeholder consultation regarding the carbon project.	During the time period analyzed, the company conducted a formal stakeholder consultation regarding the carbon project and all comments were	During the time period analyzed, the company conducted a formal stakeholder consultation regarding the carbon project and all comments were	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.

			registered.	registered. At least one of the suggestions were addressed.		
Project Performance	Not successful: 0% of carbon credits predicted for the period were generated.	Very Low: 1% to 25% of carbon credits predicted for the period were generated.	Low: 26% to 50% of carbon credits predicted for the period were generated.	Reasonable: 51% to 75% of carbon credits predicted for the period were generated.	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.