

Local Engagement for Rights-Based, Equitable and Effective Natural Climate Solutions

Framework Overview



The Landscapes and
Livelihoods Group

Acknowledgements

This guidance was developed by The Landscapes and Livelihoods Group (TLLG). We would like to thank the many individuals and organisations who contributed to its development.

Authors – Michael Riddell, Michael Gachanja and Nicholas Berry.

Reviewers and contributors Joshua Okumu (TNC), Charlie Langan (TNC), Rane Cortez (TNC), Lisa Ferguson (TNC), Chairman Okoloise (TNC), Doudou Kalala (TNC), Alli Cruz (TNC), Rebecca Stedham (TLLG), Ellyn Damayanti (TLLG), Adaoma Wosu (TLLG), Sarina Singh Khaira (TLLG), Jenny Farmer (TLLG), Philippa Lincoln (TLLG), Brian Jones (TLLG), Olivia Rickenbach (TLLG), Sam Timms (TLLG). We also greatly appreciate the communities, rightsholders, and local stakeholders whose experiences and insights have informed this guidance, as well as the Project Developers and Project Proponents who shared their practical knowledge from the field.

Cover photo – **Pascaline Youl/Tiendrebeogo**, of SEMUS (Solidarité et Entraide Mutuelle au Sahel) facilitating a community meeting for Scoping a forest conservation and livelihoods project in Passoré Province, Burkina Faso.

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A note on Indigenous Peoples & local communities

Our commitment

Indigenous Peoples hold inherent rights to self-determination and to their lands, territories, and natural resources. This guidance is built on the principle that Indigenous Peoples and local communities must be at the centre of any project that affects them - not merely as stakeholders to be consulted, but as rightsholders who have the right to define the terms and processes through which they engage.

No project should proceed without a Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) process that is designed in accordance with the preferences and decision-making processes of Indigenous Peoples and local communities themselves. This guidance is intended as a practical tool in service of that commitment.

Feedback and improvements

This is a Version 1 of this guidance, and we are actively seeking peoples' views on the guidance. Please do contact TLLG if you have recommendations and suggestions for improvements, sending an email to info@landscapesandlivelihoods.com.

Local Engagement for Rights-based, Equitable, and Effective Natural Climate Solutions

Summary of the Good Practice Guidance

This good practice guidance has been developed for carbon project proponents and developers to plan and implement good practice local engagement – putting equity, rights and community ownership at the heart of natural climate solutions. Seven interconnected Good Practice Areas and six phases of engagement remove the guesswork from project design and delivery. Practical Engagement Activities guide field-based teams and communities with what to do, with whom, and when.

Guidance Part 1

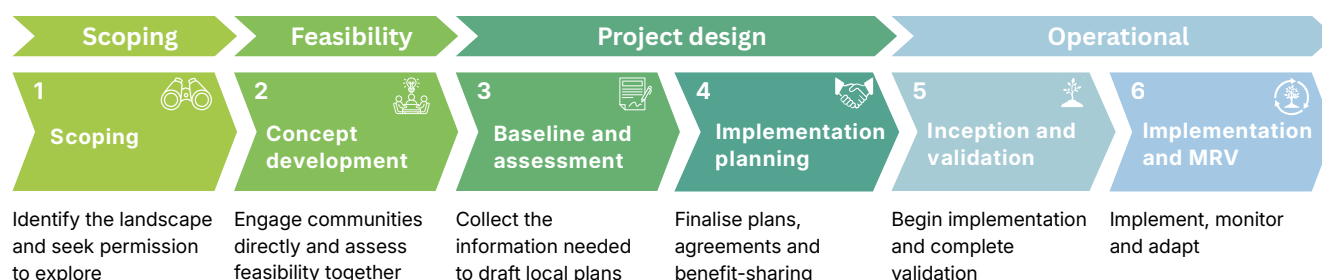
Seven Good Practice Areas defined from international standards and common engagement themes and issues in NCS initiative. Each Good Practice Area is defined, with guidance on what the good practice should entail, and an explanation as to why this is important in practice.



The Good Practice Areas distil the complexity of international E&S and carbon standard requirements into clear and understandable pillars for project practitioners. The Engagement Phases provide guidance on how and when these good practices can be put into practice.

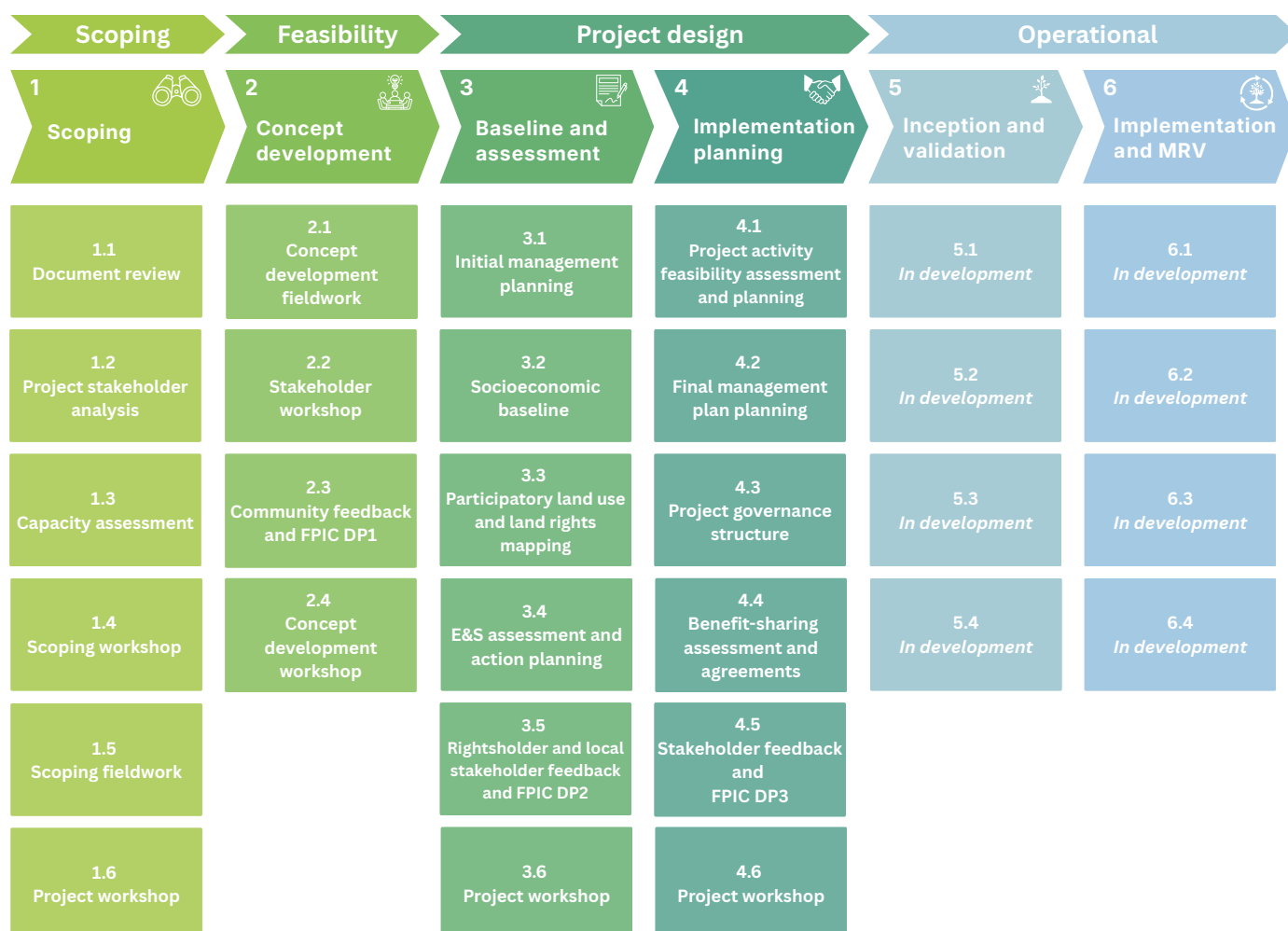
Guidance Part 2

Six engagement phases guide project teams through four typical stages of the project cycle. Each engagement phase has clear objectives, Engagement Activities and outputs



How the phases work

Local engagement is by nature an iterative process. However, having phases of engagement helps with project planning and ensures a more systematic process. Each engagement phase includes a set of specific Engagement Activities that when conducted together, fulfil the objectives and outputs of that phase. The activities build on each other, with outputs from one phase forming the foundation for the next. Activities can and should be tailored, combined or adapted to suit the specific context of each project



The guidance recommends that Free, Prior and Informed Consent is sought from rightsholders at three key decision points (DP) in the project cycle — at the end of the Feasibility phase, Baseline and assessment phase, and Implementation planning phase — before any final agreements are reached. FPIC is then on-going during the operational phase, with changes being made to agreements as conditions, new risks emerge, or if benefits fail to materialise

