

# LANDSCALE



**A new approach for assessing and communicating sustainability performance at landscape scale**

## Why Landscape Scale Matters

We face an uncertain future. The climate crisis, water scarcity, forest loss, and deepening poverty will impact us all. Yet these are far reaching issues, meaning that no individual, community, business, or government can tackle them alone. We need to look beyond our own borders—be that a farm, village or supply chain—to fully understand these threats and implement actions that will be effective in addressing them. Such interconnected work is complex yet essential. We need to think bigger and collaborate across entire landscapes (such as a watershed or jurisdiction). While the complexity and interconnectedness of these issues can make a landscape-scale approach daunting, business, government, and civil society leaders are rising to the challenge. LandScale is designed to support those at the forefront of this effort.

## What is LandScale?

**LandScale is a tool to help drive landscape-scale sustainability.** It provides a standardized approach for monitoring, communicating, and improving the sustainability performance of landscapes. LandScale distills the complexity of landscapes into reliable and comparable information about the state of ecosystems, human well-being, governance, and production. This information can be used by companies, investors, governments, civil society, and other stakeholders to design and adapt policies or practices to achieve key sustainability outcomes. It can also inform sustainable sourcing and investment decisions, creating market incentives for improved sustainability performance at scale. LandScale provides a means to measure progress and report on key landscape sustainability outcomes over time.



Identify



Select Metrics



Assess



Verify

# How Can LandScale Help You?



**Identify and mitigate sustainability risks:** LandScale enables holistic assessment of trends in landscape sustainability. This can alert companies, investors, and governments to broader issues which pose a threat to their own activities and spur timely action to address them.



**Support collaborative landscape management:** LandScale helps diverse stakeholders choose a common approach for measuring success. By emphasizing outcomes, LandScale leaves it to those closest to the work to chart a path forward and monitor progress toward jointly-set milestones.



**Communicate landscape sustainability:** LandScale’s standardized approach and assurance mechanism enables the sustainability performance of entire landscapes to be communicated in a credible and consistent manner. This can help those participating in landscape or jurisdictional approaches to communicate the outcomes of these efforts to key stakeholders. Credible reporting on landscape sustainability can also reassure investors and buyers that activities in a particular landscape will be sustainable.

## LandScale Measurement Framework\*

	SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE GOALS	INDICATORS	<b>Bold = required</b> Standard = context dependent
1. ECOSYSTEMS	1.1 Protect and restore ecosystems	1.1.1 <b>Natural ecosystem conversion</b> 1.1.2 Natural ecosystem degradation 1.1.3 Ecosystem restoration	
	1.2 Protect biodiversity	1.2.1 Threatened species 1.2.2 Biodiversity habitat conversion	
	1.3 Maintain and enhance ecosystem services	1.3.1 Water quantity 1.3.2 Water quality	
2. HUMAN WELLBEING	2.1 Improve standard of living, especially for vulnerable and marginalized groups	2.1.1 Poverty, disaggregated by population segment 2.1.2 Food insecurity, disaggregated by population segment	
	2.2 Respect, protect, and fulfill human rights	2.2.1 <b>Child labor</b>	
		2.2.2 <b>Forced labor</b>	
		2.2.3 Workers’ rights	
2.2.4 Other human rights (HRs)			
3. GOVERNANCE	3.1 Recognize and protect rights to land and resources, and reduce related conflicts	3.1.1 <b>Land &amp; resource tenure security</b>	
		3.1.2 <b>Land &amp; resource conflicts</b>	
	3.2 Promote transparency, participation, inclusion, and coordination in land use policy, planning and management	3.2.1 <b>Land use plan adoption &amp; enforcement</b>	
		3.2.2 Coordination of government agencies in land use policy, planning & management 3.2.3 <b>Stakeholder participation &amp; inclusion in land use policy, planning &amp; management</b> 3.2.4 Illegality and corruption related to land & resources	
4. PRODUCTION	4.1 Promote regenerative agriculture and plantation forestry	4.1.1 Agricultural & forest plantation productivity	
		4.1.2 Resource use efficiency in agricultural & forest plantation production	
	4.2 Promote sustainable extraction and use of natural resources	4.2.1 Pollution from extractive industries and infrastructure development	

\*This framework will be revised based on feedback from public consultation and testing in pilot landscapes

# How will LandScale Work?



## 1. Identify Landscape

LandScale is designed for rural production landscapes, which may be a jurisdiction, a watershed, or another large-scale area of land relevant to the stakeholders using the framework.



## 2. Select Indicators & Performance Metrics

To ensure LandScale is flexible enough to be broadly applicable, and the results as comparable as possible, some indicators should always be included (required) whereas others only need to be included where the issue is considered significant within the landscape (context dependent). LandScale provides a range of performance metrics for each indicator to accommodate global variation in data availability.



## 3. Conduct Assessments

Assessments are conducted using a combination of existing data sources (remote sensing, government, and private sector datasets) and primary data where necessary.



## 4. Verification & Reporting

Verification options and a data and results platform will be developed in 2020. LandScale will include a range of assessment options appropriate to specific use cases. Options will include the means for users to report and make claims on progress toward commitments related to landscape sustainability.

# Timeline for LandScale Development

### AUGUST 2019

Launch first public consultation to capture feedback on v0.1 of LandScale framework and guidance

### AUGUST– DECEMBER 2019

Test LandScale in pilot landscapes to gather feedback about application of v0.1 in diverse settings

### MARCH 2020

Launch data & results platform and second public consultation on v0.2 incorporating feedback from consultations and field testing

### DECEMBER 2020

Full LandScale framework v1.0, guidance, assurance mechanism, and data & results platform ready for use

# LandScale Pilots

## GUATEMALA

**Region:** Western Costa Sur

**Interests:** Banana and palm oil producers concerned with sustainable water management

**Partners:** Rainforest Alliance, Solidaridad



## COSTA RICA

**Region:** Greater San José metropolitan watershed

**Interests:** Public private partnership interested in restoration and conservation to ensure sustainable water supply for Agua Tica Water Fund members and coffee producers

**Partners:** International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)



## PERU

**Region:** San Martín

**Interests:** Local government concentrated on sustainability goals to position Lamas Province as sustainable production region to attract buyers and finance

**Partners:** Rainforest Alliance



## GHANA

**Region:** Juabeso Bia and Kakum Hotspot Intervention Areas

**Interests:** Cocoa producers, companies, and government committed to monitoring and communicating progress toward reducing deforestation and ensuring social benefits

**Partners:** Nature Conservation Resource Centre (NCRC)



## MEXICO

**Region:** To be selected by October 2019 (Chiapas, Yucatán Peninsula, or Oaxaca)

**Interests:** Companies, NGOs, and communities focused on sustainable economic activities including coffee, timber, berries, and tourism

**Partners:** Rainforest Alliance



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## PARTNERS



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