

Land Use and Food Security Criteria in Commodity Standards

What is their potential contribution?

facilitator's introduction to session TH07

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Agenda

- Facilitator's introduction
- Examples from three standard initiatives
 - André Freitas (FSC)
 - Ben Richardson (Bonsucro)
 - Sébastien Haye (RSB)
- Discussion
 - Private sector / supply chain driven standards: what can their contribution be?
 - Opportunities for mutual learning and integration.

Forestry, agriculture & land related issues

- Large scale agricultural investment may have considerable impact on land use:
 - impacts on high conservation value areas
 - impacts on access to land ('land grabbing')
 - impacts on food security
- Land related issues are increasingly important
 - in standards for responsible investment
 - in sustainability standards for commodities from agriculture & forestry:
 - biofuels are the driver here.



Land Issues in Voluntary Standards (Commodities)



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SUSTAINABLE
BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT

Initiative	Start	Bio- diversity	Use Rights	Indigen. People	Food Security	Reference
Forest Stewardship Council FSC	1993	Green	Green	Green	Red	
Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil RSPO	2004	Green	Green	Green	Red	
Better Cotton Initiative BCI	2005	Green	Green	Yellow	Red	
Roundtable on Responsible Soy RTRS	2006	Green	Green	Green	Red	
Better Sugarcane Initiative (Bonsucro)	2006	Green	Green	Green	Red	ILO Conventions
4C Association Coffee	2002 /2006	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Red	
Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels	2008	Green	Green	Green	Green	
RTFO Metastandard (Biofuels)	2006	Green	Green	Green	Green	



RSPO Criteria (on land rights)

- 2.1 Clear evidence of long-term forest use rights to the land (e.g. land title, customary rights, or lease agreements) shall be demonstrated.
- 2.2 Local communities with legal or customary tenure or use rights shall maintain control ... over forest operations unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.
- 2.3 Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed to resolve disputes over tenure claims and use rights. Disputes of substantial magnitude involving a significant number of interests will normally disqualify an operation from being certified.
- 6.4 Any negotiations concerning compensation for loss of legal or customary rights are dealt with through a documented system that enables indigenous peoples, local communities and other stakeholders to express their views through their own representative institutions.





RSB on local food security

- Principle 6.
Biofuel operations shall ensure the human right to adequate food and improve food security in food insecure regions.
 - Criterion 6a.
Biofuel operations shall assess risks to food security in the region and locality and shall mitigate any negative impacts that result from biofuel operations.
 - Criterion 6b.
In food insecure regions, biofuel operations shall enhance the local food security of the directly affected stakeholders.





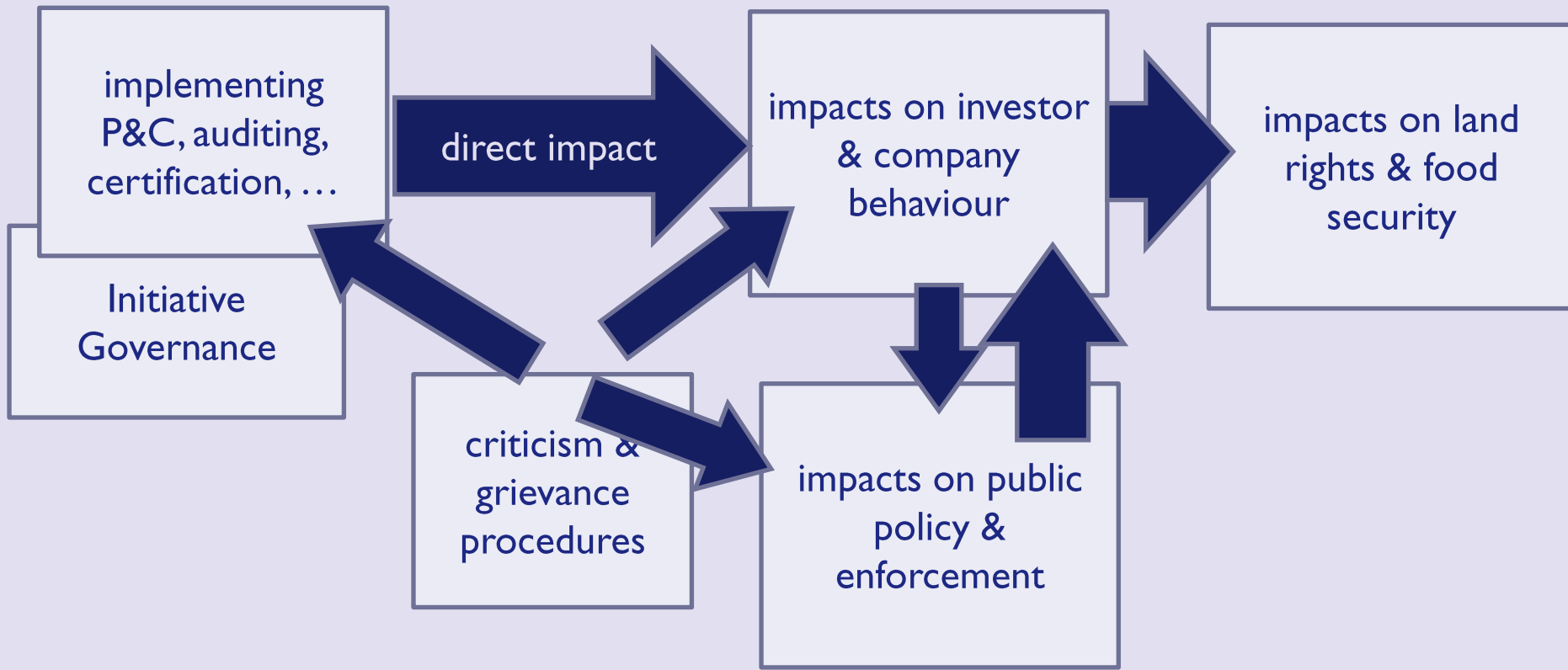
Two Major Questions

- A. What role can or should private sector / supply chain driven standards play with regard to land rights and food security issues?
- B. What lessons can the different standard initiatives learn from each other? Are there opportunities to establish a shared normative framework for land rights and food security?

A. The Role of Private Sector Driven Standards

- There are clear limitations:
 - issues are public responsibility;
 - issues are above individual project level (landscape and higher).
- However, experience shows:
 - standards may act as a trigger for public policy / governance;
 - Major RSPO grievance cases are related to land issues and are leading to change on the ground (directly and indirectly: next slide).

Sustainable Commodity Standards – direct and indirect impacts



B. A Common Normative Reference?

- There is no reason to re-invent the wheel for every new standard. There are common elements to all land rights/access and food security issues.
- The approach could be similar to the ILO conventions for labour rights: multiple standards referring to common conventions.
- Lessons can primarily be learned from:
 - FSC and RSPO with regard to land rights issues;
 - RSB with regard to food security issues.

Discussion

1. How do you see the role of private sector / supply chain driven standards with respect to land rights & food security issues?
2. What positive or negative experiences do you can report with regard to the implementation of land / food security related criteria in such standards?
3. Do you see a need / an opportunity for creating a common normative framework for these criteria?