



THE RAINFOREST STANDARD

Integrating social, environmental and economic well-being

**XIV RedLAC Assembly
Lima November 6th 2012**



THE RAINFOREST STANDARD

Integrating social, environmental and economic well-being

Conservation of Natural Forest, their biodiversity,
and the sustainable livelihoods they provide

Real, additional and permanent **reductions in CO₂e
emissions** resulting from forest conservation

Long-term revenue streams from the sale of forest
carbon credits.

Where Do We Stand

Conservation needs real financial sustainability

- Government and international resources are not enough
- PES schemes are successful but limited
- Uncertainty in Carbon markets
- REDD raises legitimate concerns

Concerns around REDD



Concerns around REDD



Concerns around REDD





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The world's first fully integrated forest carbon standard, built from the ground up, that responds to the environmental conditions and social realities of the Amazon region and the demands of emerging carbon markets.



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The RFS™ is based on the fundamental understanding that environment, economy, and society are *“in it together;”* one cannot thrive if the others do not thrive as well.



Social well-being

- **Full participation is a requirement**
- **Full prior informed consent is a requirement**
- **Explicit plan for benefit sharing**
- **Ongoing tools to monitor, verify and enforce *Quality of Life* benefits**

Environmental well-being

- **natural forests only**
- **all deforestation and degradation**
- **Ongoing tools to monitor, verify and enforce biodiversity conservation**

Good business



Practicability

No Designated Operational Entity

All project documentation has to be public

On line operation

Clear timelines for all processes

No expert shopping

Who is behind it

- Columbia University's Center for Environment, Economy, and Society (CEES)
- Five Environmental Trust Funds:
 - Bolivia – PUMA,
 - Brazil - Funbio,
 - Colombia - Fondo Acción,
 - Ecuador – FAN,
 - Perú – PROFONANPE
- Teams of scientists and experts selected by CEES and Trust Funds; 2008 – 2012
- Independent reviewers
- Documents in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Bahas/Indonesian
- Interactive Permanence Tool

Thank you

<http://cees.columbia.edu/the-rainforest-standard>

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