

## The CORE Framework

*Community-Informed | Open Access | Reviewed | Evaluated*

Carbon dioxide removal (CDR) is essential to confronting climate change. The carbon removal field is embedding community engagement and human and environmental safety into projects and programs now more than ever, but clearer guidance is needed to set standards for building better, people-centered interventions. **Right now, the field's greatest risk is the loss of public trust.**

If carbon removal excludes communities and stewards from decisions that affect them or fails to deliver real climate benefits, it will lose the trust and momentum it needs to scale. Embedding CORE principles into carbon removal projects and programs is essential, but clearer guidance is needed to set shared standards for people-centered, science-backed interventions.

## What is CORE?

The carbon removal field has never had a shared standard for what “doing this well” actually means. That’s what CORE is. Carbon180 developed the framework around eight principles (justice, equity, transparency, accountability, enforcement, inclusion, additionality, and net negativity) and eleven practices that make those principles actionable.

It’s written for anyone with a stake in how the carbon removal field grows and scales. It provides common language and templates that ease collaboration so that anyone can feel ready to engage. It has been developed for community members trying to understand and get involved with a proposed project down the road from their house. For land and ocean stewards weighing whether their participation is worth the investment. For purchasers deciding which credits are worth buying. For policymakers drafting procurement rules. For implementers planning projects. And for funders weighing where their money goes. Our aim is for different perspectives within the field to share the same baseline: **here’s what it means when we say carbon removal is done right.**



### QUICK NAVIGATION

[Read the report](#)

[Access the CORE tools](#)

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### THE CORE PRACTICES

Dig deeper into our foundational practices:

1. [Knowledge Building](#)
2. [Dignified Workforce Development](#)
3. [Community Agency Mechanisms](#)
4. [Community Benefits Mechanisms](#)
5. [Monitoring of Carbon Storage](#)
6. [Full System Carbon Accounting](#)
7. [Design for Additional Impact](#)
8. [Independently Verified](#)
9. [Environmental Health](#)
10. [Human Health and Safety](#)
11. [Enforcement Mechanisms](#)

## What the CORE Framework protects



### Communities

The framework prioritizes the rights, wellbeing, and meaningful participation of people, on behalf of themselves and the places important to them. Whether people are affected by or responsible for implementing carbon removal, this framework advocates for them to be centered in all aspects of an intervention's development.



### Climate Impact

Real climate outcomes are grounded in net carbon removal, not simply good intentions or financial transactions. This means credible, durable impact that meaningfully contributes to local communities and towards our global climate goals.



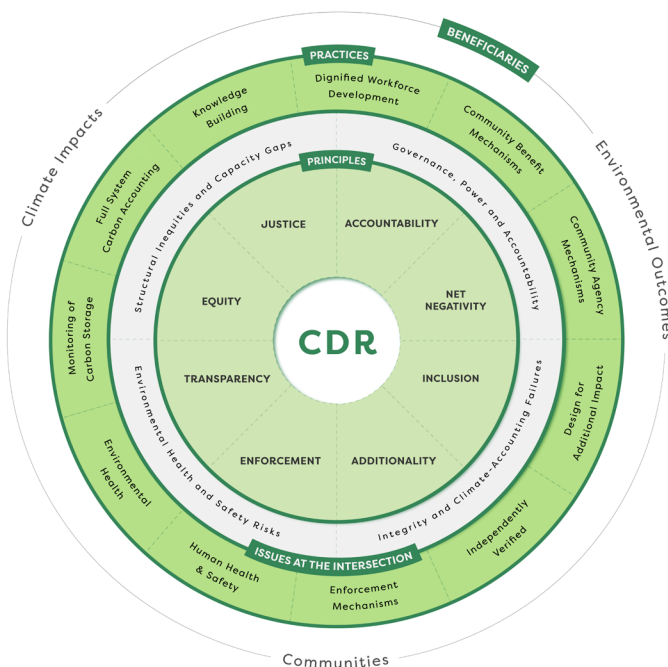
### Environmental Outcomes

Carbon removal unfolds in towns, coastlines, oceans, farmlands, and forests. CDR interventions can impact our ecosystems health and resilience. The framework prioritizes supporting ecological function and, wherever possible, actively restoring ecosystem health alongside carbon removal outcomes.

## Key CORE Tools

### The CORE Wheel

The CORE Wheel illustrates how the framework functions as a connected system. CORE's principles sit at the center as the foundation. Surrounding them are practices – the real-world actions that bring those principles to life and where vested parties engage most directly. Between them are the issues that arise where interests, risks, and responsibilities meet, often creating barriers to achieving CORE-aligned carbon removal.



### The CORE Resource Hub

The resource hub is an interactive collection of tools, examples, and guidance that help put CORE into action. From real-world case studies to practical templates and best-practice resources, the hub makes it easier to navigate carbon removal with clarity and confidence.

Select use case		Select resource type		Select scale	
Search					
Title	Author	Practices	Principles		
<a href="#">A breakdown of the DAC hubs funding opportunity announcement</a>	NGOs	Community Agency Mechanisms, Community Benefits Mechanisms	Inclusion, Transparency, Justice		
<a href="#">A Guide to Community Benefits in Southwestern Pennsylvania</a>	NGOs	Community Benefits Mechanisms	Inclusion, Equity, Justice		
<a href="#">A Protocol for Decision-Making with Consent</a>	Government	Community Agency Mechanisms	Justice, Inclusion, Transparency, Accountability		
<a href="#">Addressing Grievances from Project-Affected Communities, IFC</a>	NGOs	Environmental Health	Equity, Enforcement, Transparency, Inclusion		