

CORE Framework: *For Communities*

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.**

Communities, including residents, workers, leaders and advocates, are critical to doing better carbon removal. Communities hold deep local knowledge, cultural memory and technical expertise vital to a carbon removal intervention's success. Carbon180 developed the **CORE Carbon Removal Framework** to offer eleven practices that, if built into the ways the field works with communities, will foster an increasingly collaborative, benefits-centered, and culturally informed carbon removal field.



Explore some of our practices:

Knowledge Building. Community members' expertise is invaluable to the field given their lived experience and familiarity with the people, land and ecosystems where interventions may be implemented. Sharing knowledge should be a respectful and iterative, multilingual, accessible and publicly available process that is supported by protections ensuring communities retain ownership over knowledge they share.

Dignified Workforce Development. Carbon removal jobs should have family-sustaining wages with real benefits, safety protections, and paths to upward mobility. They should prioritize hiring people in the communities where projects and programs happen. And implementers should work with local institutions to co-create pathways for skills training and certification opportunities for local trainees, workers and stewards.

Community Agency Mechanisms. A carbon removal intervention should facilitate community members' ability to organize, express their collective voice and participate actively. Communities should be reflected in decision-making processes and outcomes.



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[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](#)

Explore some of our practices (cont'd):

Community Benefits. Benefits for a carbon removal intervention should be co-identified between communities and implementers through iterative and transparent conversations tailored to the needs of the people and ecosystems impacted by an intervention.

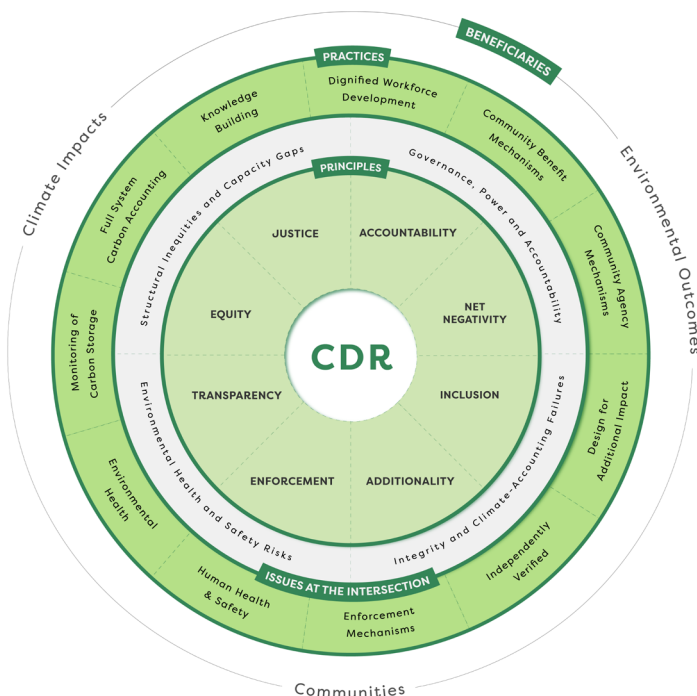
Human Health and Safety. Any and all risks, to both residents and workers, should be assessed and discussed and disclosed across the life of an intervention. This includes and is not limited to: air quality, water quality, food safety, occupational hazards, chemical safety, noise and compliance to any and all local safety standards.



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 breakdown of the DAC hubs funding opportunity announcement	NGOs	Community Agency Mechanisms, Community Benefits Mechanisms	Inclusion, Transparency, Justice		
A Guide to Community Benefits in Southwestern Pennsylvania	NGOs	Community Benefits Mechanisms	Inclusion, Equity, Justice		
A Protocol for Decision-Making with Consent	Government	Community Agency Mechanisms	Justice, Inclusion, Transparency, Accountability		
Addressing Grievances from Project-Affected Communities, IFC	NGOs	Environmental Health	Equity, Enforcement, Transparency, Inclusion		