

CORE Framework: *For Funders*

Community-Informed | Open Access | Reviewed | Evaluated

Carbon dioxide removal (CDR) is essential to confronting climate change. The carbon removal field is embedding justice, equity, and high accountability 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.**

Funders are central to doing better carbon removal. They can encourage stronger monitoring standards for carbon removal interventions, alleviate capacity burdens for **communities** and **stewards**, and incentivize higher engagement standards for project developers.

Carbon180 has developed the CORE Carbon Removal Framework which offers eleven practices that can be built into the design and distribution of funding opportunities. Our CORE practices are designed to help funders identify high quality interventions and the holistic needs of **communities** and **stewards** seeking financial support.



Explore some of our practices:

Knowledge Building. Funding for knowledge building activities, especially those in an intervention's developmental stages, is critically needed to build a field with long-term social license. CORE carbon removal interventions are those that prioritize collaboration between **implementers, stewards, and communities** with the goal of building shared knowledge around how an intervention should be designed and implemented.

Shared knowledge can look like defining an intervention's risks, benefits, and co-benefits using regional and traditional ecological knowledge. Shared knowledge could also include publicly accessible environmental monitoring data, emissions data that's collected by community members, and best practices for forestry management.



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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):

Dignified Workforce Development. At the center of a CORE carbon removal intervention are the people responsible for its design, construction, and long-term maintenance. Though roles vary from sub-contract construction workers to farm laborers, the jobs produced by a funded intervention must feature conditions like family sustaining wages and local hiring prioritization. Job benefits, much like community benefits, may vary in importance from place-to-place, and should be co-identified with participating communities and land and ocean stewards.

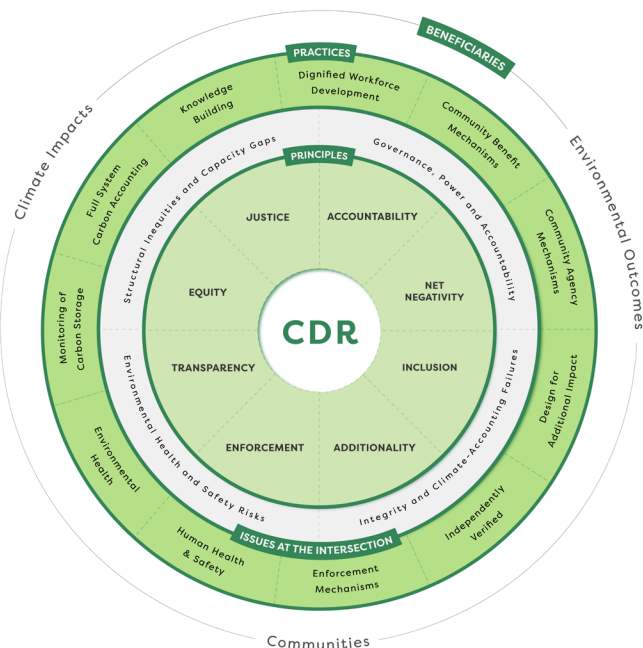
Community Benefits. For carbon removal to achieve climate-change-confronting scale, benefits are key to earning broad public trust and endorsement. Prioritized funding should go to interventions that tackle not only excess atmospheric carbon, but historic community priorities. Well-funded interventions are well-placed to contribute to community trust funds, academic scholarships and endowments, improvements to local infrastructure, and opportunities for environmental protection and restoration.



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, IPC	NGOs	Environmental Health	Equity, Enforcement, Transparency, Inclusion	