



RIGHTS AND RESOURCES INITIATIVE | JULY 2022

Land Rights Standard Adoption & Endorsement Pledge

The Land Rights Standard (i.e., Standard) aims to galvanize improvements across landscape and local level actions that impact Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and Afro-descendant Peoples – inclusive of women and youth within these groups. This document specifies the voluntary commitments of non-state actors, including investors and donors, **who adopt** the Standard to guide their work, and it outlines expectations for rights-holders, their representative organizations, and allied institutions and civil society organizations who endorse the Standard to advance their priorities across landscapes. The respective commitments of adoptee and endorsee organizations are specified below.

Non-state actors directly investing or operating in landscapes (e.g., conservation agencies, investors, donors, businesses, NGOs) that adopt the Land Rights Standard agree to publicly acknowledge their commitment on their organization’s website, posting all ten underlying Principles and their pledge to undertake dedicated, ongoing efforts to:

1. Enhance the frequency and effectiveness of their consultation with all Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and Afro-descendant Peoples, including women and youth within these groups, who are actually or potentially impacted by their activities and decisions.
2. Embed the Standard Principles throughout their internal policies, procedures, due diligence processes, assessments, and actions in a manner that responds to the rights, priorities, and needs of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, Afro-descendant Peoples, and the women and youth within these groups who are actually or potentially impacted by their landscape-level engagements, investments, or donations.
3. Promote the Standard’s adoption by peer organizations and other stakeholders.

Rights-holders, their representative organizations, allied institutions, and dedicated civil society partners or non-state actors that endorse the Land Rights Standard commit to:

1. Promote the Standard’s adoption by eligible and otherwise appropriate non-state actors, and facilitate broad support for the Standard among all stakeholders in landscape level engagements.

2. Where possible, publish the Standard Principles on their organization's website, along with a statement acknowledging their endorsement of the Standard.
3. Where possible and otherwise appropriate, monitor and report on adoptees' progress in implementing the Standard, and hold them accountable for their associated actions and omissions.

Adoption/Endorsement Process: Please send a written institutional statement confirming your organization's adoption or endorsement of the Land Rights Standard to Madiha Qureshi (mqureshi@rightsandresources.org).

About the Rights and Resources Initiative

The Rights and Resources Initiative is a global Coalition of 21 Partners and more than 150 rightsholders organizations and their allies dedicated to advancing the forestland and resource rights of Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendant Peoples, local communities, and the women within these communities. Members capitalize on each other’s strengths, expertise, and geographic reach to achieve solutions more effectively and efficiently. RRI leverages the power of its global Coalition to amplify the voices of local peoples and proactively engage governments, multilateral institutions, and private sector actors to adopt institutional and market reforms that support the realization of their rights and self-determined development. By advancing a strategic understanding of the global threats and opportunities resulting from insecure land and resource rights, RRI develops and promotes rights-based approaches to business and development and catalyzes effective solutions to scale rural tenure reform and enhance sustainable resource governance.

RRI is coordinated by the Rights and Resources Group, a non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C. For more information, please visit www.rightsandresources.org.

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