



Summary Report

Validated Guidelines for Stakeholder Engagement with the Agriculture Sector in Select Countries of the Caribbean

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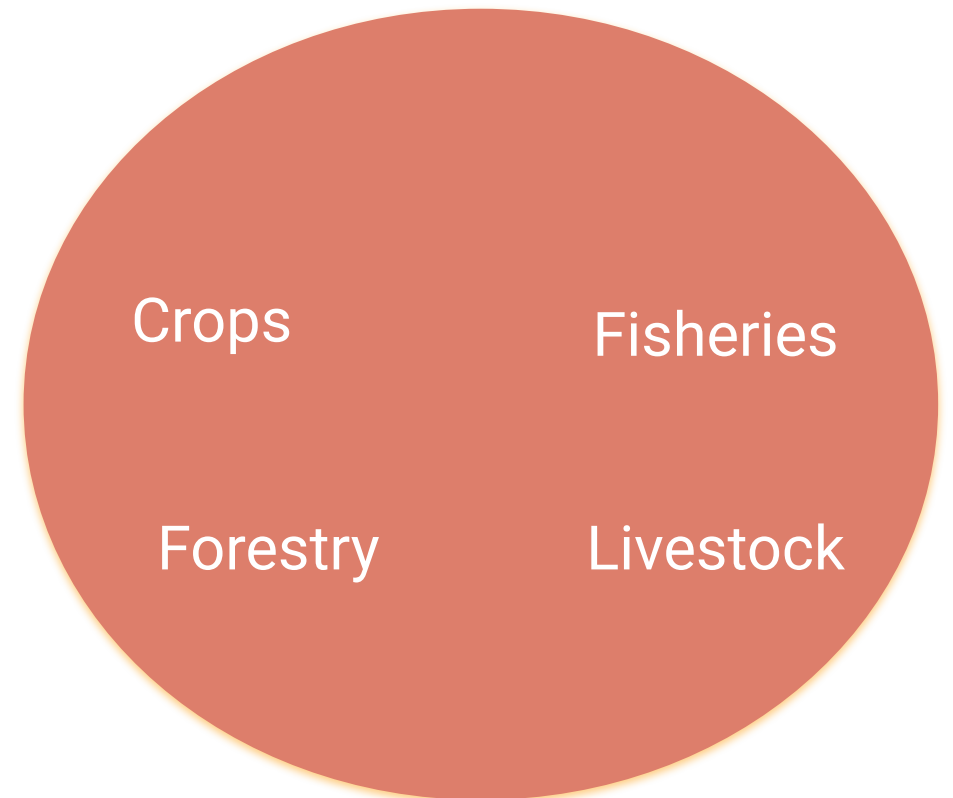
13th July 2022



Summary on the Validated Guidelines Report

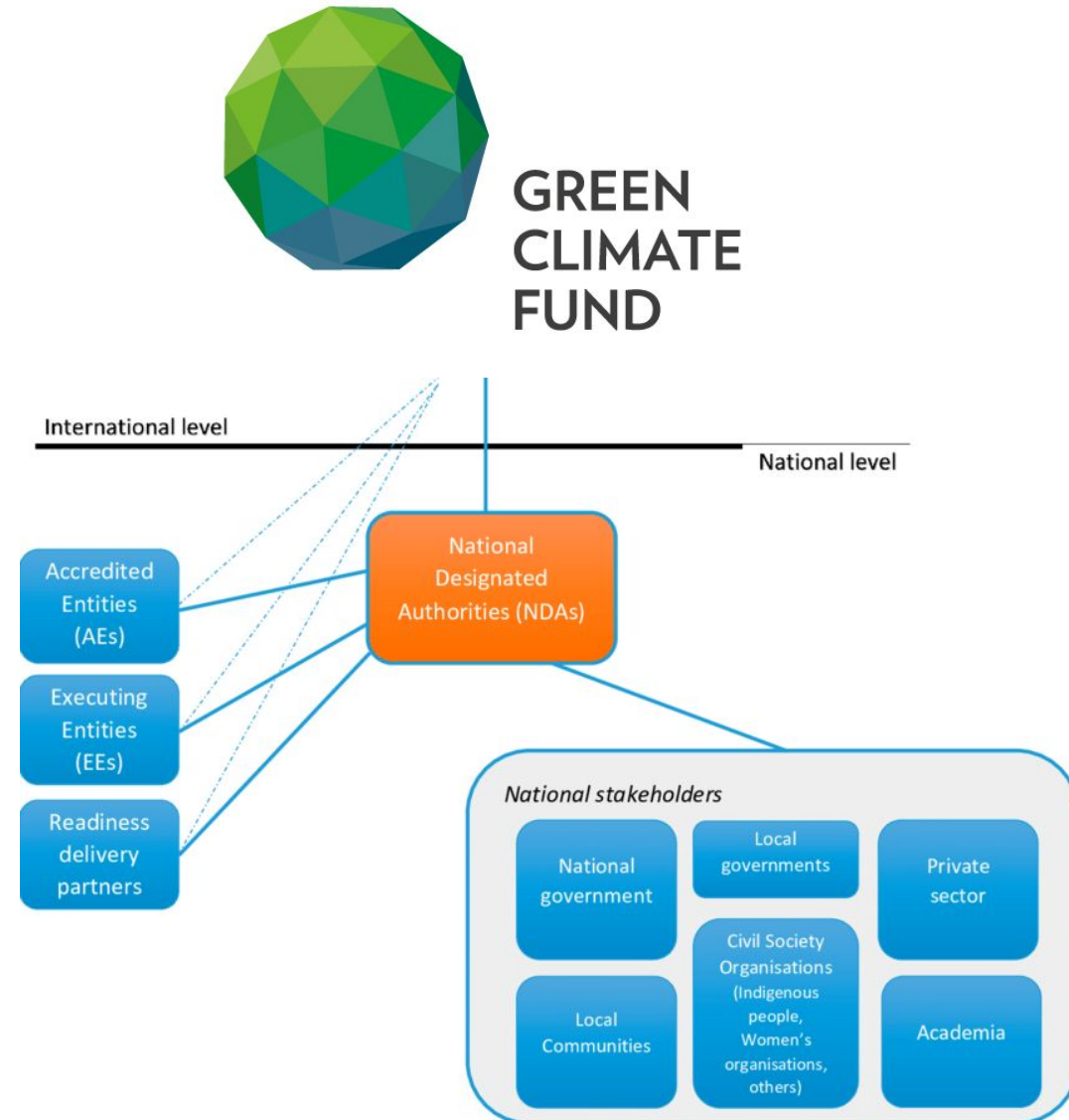
- Countries: The Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, Haiti, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.
- Climate risk to agricultural stakeholders occur at the sub sector level with vulnerabilities based on climate-risk or project impacts.

Four main agriculture sub sectors



Two Main Areas of Stakeholder Engagement

1. Development of the country-level GCF programming and building a project pipeline.
2. Reduce agricultural sector impacts of planned projects according to the GCF Environment and Social Policy.



Stakeholder Engagement Assessment Overview

- Primary research conducted from October to December 2021 (n=220)
- Agriculture sector involvement in broader climate change processes
- GCF website indicates completion but national reports not widely available online
- NDAs and AEs fostered interest in GCF country level programming and generated goodwill

Respondents Involved in GCF-Financed Processes

- Reclassified into 2 groups (n=43): 'climate change' or 'agriculture' group
- 'Agriculture' group tended towards lower levels of involvement
- Tended to agree with more positive statements on engagement practices.
- May reflect generally low expectations as a relatively new group

CLIMATE
CHANGE
GROUP ₍₁₇₎

AGRICULTURE
GROUP ₍₂₆₎

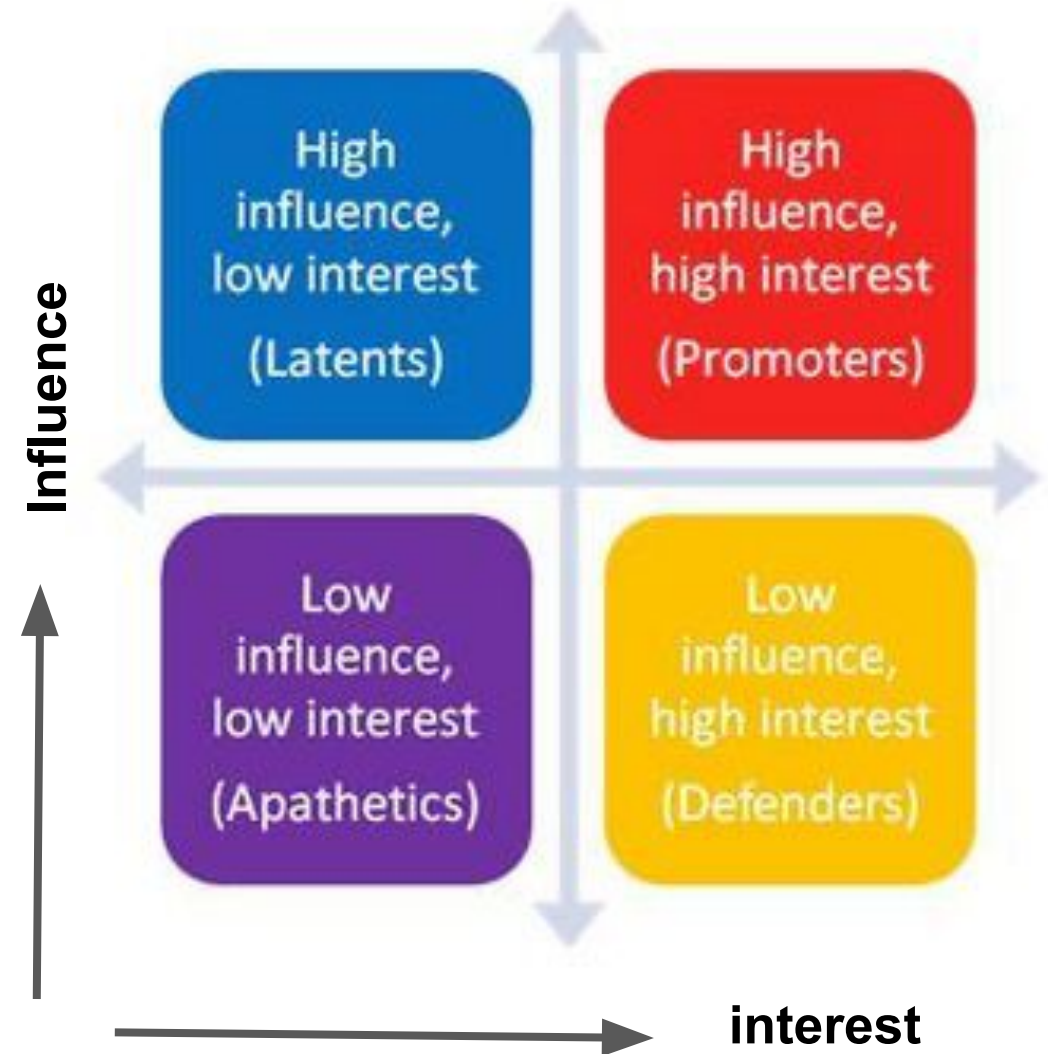
Three-stage Validation Process

1. **Secondary research** looking at documents and GCF guidelines on stakeholder engagement and Caribbean agriculture sector.
2. **Primary research** using qualitative and quantitative data collected from a stakeholder engagement assessment study.
3. **Consultative process** (virtual, multiple & single country) to get stakeholder feedback on report and guidelines.

**Guidelines are directed at national designated authorities (NDAs) and GCF accredited entities (AEs), unless otherwise indicated.*

Challenge 1

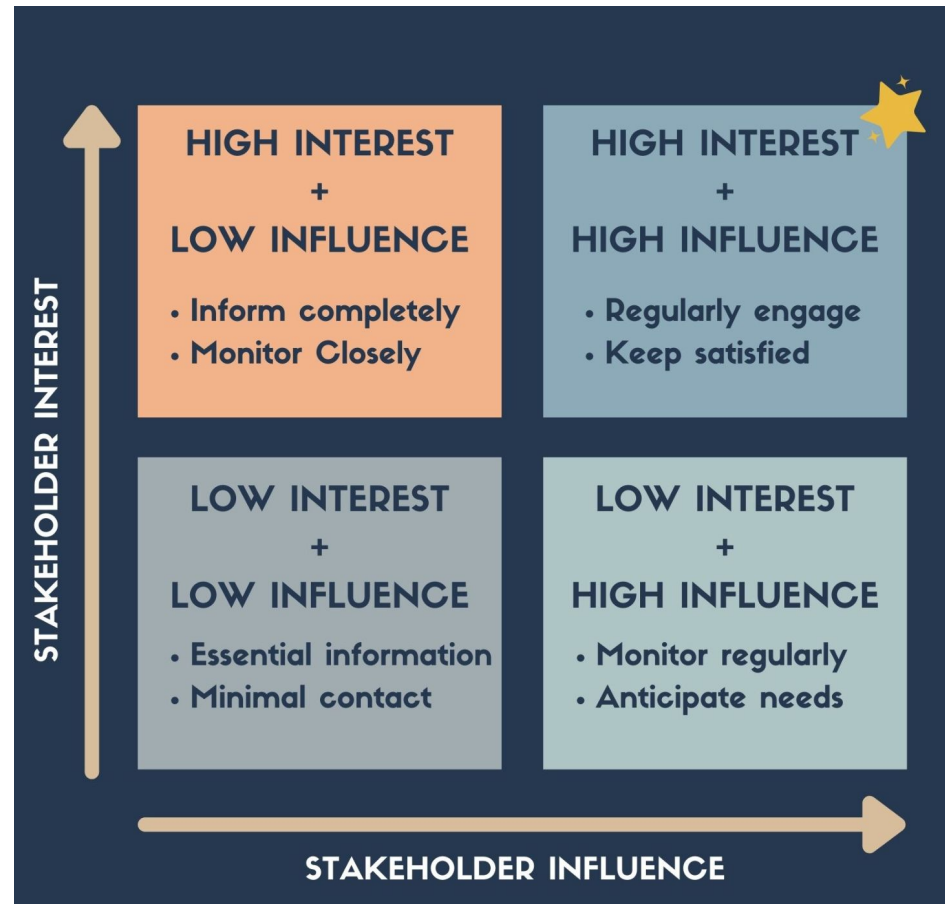
Outdated, incomplete or missing stakeholder groups in national stakeholder strategies and inventories.



Guideline 1: Improving coverage of stakeholder groups

Conduct national stakeholder mapping and inventories to the sub sector level to:

1. Identify sub sectors of national relevance.
2. Assess how sub-sectors likely impacted by climate risk (nature of the vulnerability) or planned GCF-funded projects.
3. Identify formal and informal groupings that exist (membership, capacity level and needs).
4. Establish a baseline of mapped sub sector stakeholder groups.



Challenge 2

High costs associated with stakeholder engagement (time, planning, language, resources) to support commitment to gender transformation, and women's workload management.

Guideline 2: Allocating adequate resources for stakeholder engagement

Project design should include funding (equivalent to $\frac{1}{3}$ project funds) toward inclusiveness, social processes, capacity building, stakeholder engagement and gender transformation.



Challenge 3

Influence of national -level organizations on decision making which impedes a decision-making culture and dialogue, buy-in, and polycentric approaches.

Guideline 3: Decentralizing decision making (governance)

Seek to leverage existing social processes that foster coordination and decision-making rather than create new ones, by using pre-existing sub sector or sector-level committees, and community-based organizations to incorporate local and traditional ecological knowledge.



Challenge 4

Importance of meeting attendance recognized but interest in more formalized arrangements, and power sharing. (GCF guidance note: Step 5 - monitor stakeholder engagement in *key sub sectors*)

Guideline 4: Monitoring impact & quality of stakeholder engagement

Conduct evaluations of stakeholder engagement processes *every two years* based on *identified indicators* which should assess whether the projects/engagement processes are contributing toward improved sector and sub sector inclusion, coordination, and gender transformation.



Challenge 5

National reports not widely available online and documentation is missing to the sub sector level.

Lack of dedicated regional website or subregional website, multi-language use in communications.

Guideline 5: Ensuring fit for use communication & documentation

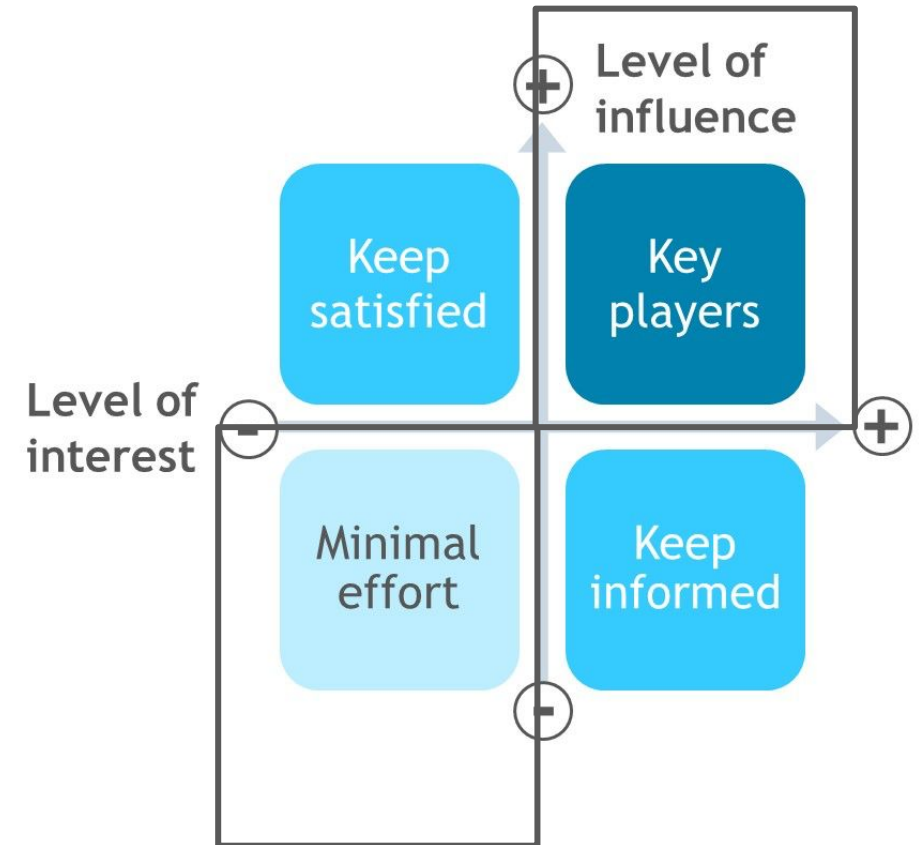
- a) Communications strategy targeted at the sub sector level based on level of interest and influence for groups.
- b) Design should match the level of risk, complexity of project activities, and level of concerns.
- c) Identify alternatives (adaptation) or to take action to mitigate the threats to livelihoods.

continued...

Guideline 5: Ensuring fit for use in communication and documentation *(continued)*

d) Communication channels should be diverse, and modes of communication to match stakeholder groups/sub sector characteristics, objectives of the engagement, frequency of contact, and suitable timing.

e) Recommend use of champions as needed to give voice to critical issues as needed in the sub sectors.



Challenge 6

GCF guideline on
Indigenous Peoples.



Guideline 6: Respecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples

Ensure stakeholder engagement fosters full respect for Indigenous Peoples and their dignity, human rights and cultural uniqueness so that they:

- a)** benefit from GCF activities and projects in a culturally appropriate manner;
- b)** do not suffer harm or adverse effects from GCF-financed activities.
- c)** Allocate adequate time for communications

Challenge 7

Need for improved capacity in stakeholder engagement to better understand and conduct more detailed and accurate stakeholder mapping.



Guideline 7: Building capacity for stakeholder engagement

Conduct annual training sessions on stakeholder engagement with the agricultural sector with AEs, NDAs, and other high interest high-influence stakeholder groups.



Challenge 8

Missing inventories linked to ad-hoc or untargeted stakeholder engagement practices.

Guideline 8: Publishing of stakeholder inventories

Publish national stakeholder inventories to the sub sector level (shared on national websites) and updated every two years.



Challenges 9, 10, 11

Gender-related



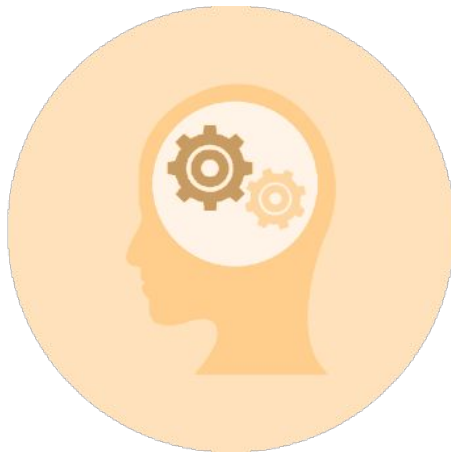
Guideline 9: Gender mainstreaming

Guideline 10: Gender and intersectionality

Guideline 11: Gender representation

Challenge 12

Need for regional knowledge centre active space co-learning on knowledge sharing in stakeholder engagement with the agricultural sector.



Guideline 12: Knowledge Management

Develop a regional hub to ensure new knowledge is incorporated to operationalize and troubleshoot stakeholder engagement best practices.



Challenge 13

Historically weak capacity and under-resourced stakeholder groups in the agricultural and low trust in the sector.

Guideline 13: Trust and relationship-building

Country-level stakeholder engagement relationship specialists deployed to support engagement processes with key sub sectors at the community levels.



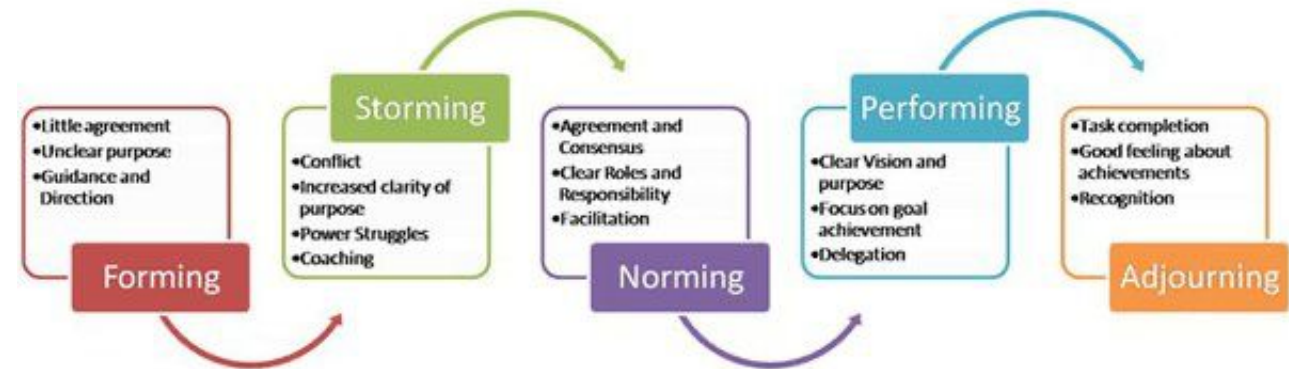
Challenge 14

Highly decentralized and fragmented sector, with multiple, heterogeneous, interdependent stakeholders.



Guideline 14: Group formation for collective action

Support group building processes to enhance collective action where there are no stakeholder groups at the sub sector and sector levels.



Conclusion

- Stakeholder engagement in the agriculture sector involves vulnerable heterogeneous, interdependent stakeholders groups at different levels.
- GCF-financed stakeholder engagement holds importance in creating conditions that support high-impact and gender transformative change.
- Stakeholder mapping to the sub sector level is critical (interest & influence).
- Guidelines provide means to bring together stakeholders, enhance mitigation and adaptation, reduce impacts of planned projects and promote the development of appropriate agriculture-based projects.

Thank you for your attention.

Questions?

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Agricultural Stakeholder Engagement in
GCF and Broader Climate Processes
Survey (Caribbean) 2021