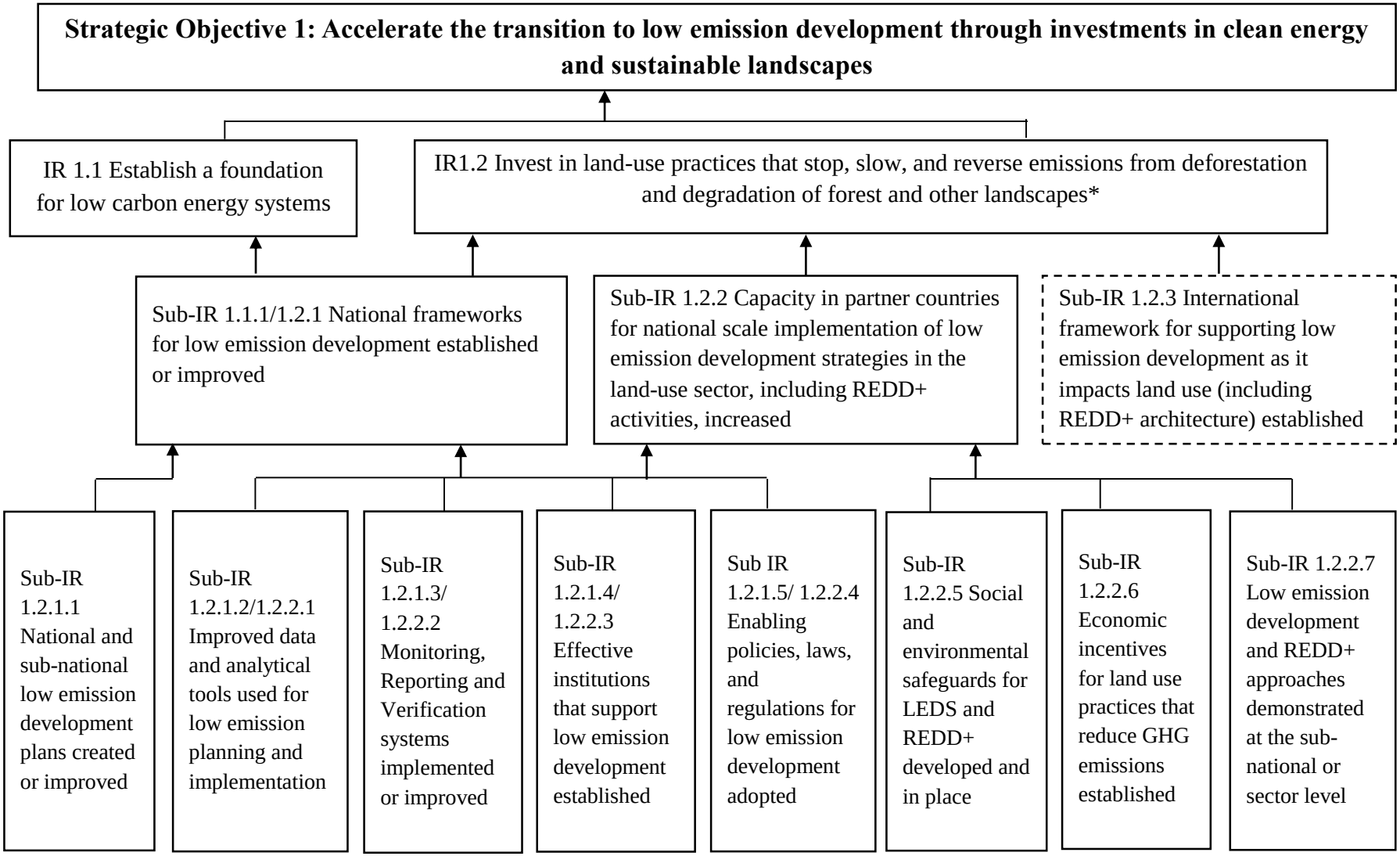
USAID CLIMATE CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY: SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES RESULTS FRAMEWORK



Key

* Including wetlands, freshwater, coastal areas, peatlands, grasslands, agricultural lands, and all other landscapes

USAID shares responsibility for this Sub-IR with other US government and non-government institutions, and with other countries

SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES PILLAR RESULTS FRAMEWORK NARRATIVE

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1: ACCELERATE THE TRANSITION TO LOW EMISSION DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INVESTMENTS IN CLEAN ENERGY AND SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES

Strategic Objective 1 (SO1) of USAID's Climate Change and Development Strategy encompasses USAID's two mitigation pillars: Clean Energy (CE) and Sustainable Landscapes (SL). SO1 seeks to enable partner countries, through investments in clean energy and sustainable landscapes, to advance economic growth and improve the lives of their people in such a way that achieves a long-term economy-wide reduction in net greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions compared to a business-as-usual trajectory. The phrase "accelerate the transition" in SO1 means that USAID seeks to facilitate the transition of partner countries to low emission, sustainable economic development in a faster time frame than would otherwise be achieved without USAID intervention. USAID's support will generally be part of an aggregate effort by a number of donors, NGOs, and partner country leaders. The word "emission" refers to net greenhouse gas emissions, i.e., the objective is to reduce emissions of GHGs to the atmosphere and remove carbon from the atmosphere through sequestration in biomass and soil. The word "low" is defined relative to each partner country's business-as-usual GHG trajectory since what is low for any particular country depends upon that country's current development pathway, natural resource base, and GHG mitigation goals.

USAID investments in clean energy and sustainable landscapes are focused largely on helping to create opportunities for less GHG intensive economic growth, and paving the way for non-USAID investments in clean energy and sustainable landscapes technologies and practices. Examples of USAID's mitigation investments include addressing market barriers and creating enabling environments conducive to private and other public investment, building knowledge and enhancing access to information, demonstrating new technologies and practices, and promoting sound strategic planning. An important component of this assistance is USAID's support for Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS), through which USAID provides technical and analytic support to partner countries and regions for the development and implementation of ambitious and analytically rigorous LEDS. LEDS development, planning, and implementation activities are reflected in the RFs for both the Clean Energy pillar and the Sustainable Landscapes pillar.

Below SO1 are two intermediate results (IRs): IR 1.1 for Clean Energy, and IR 1.2 for Sustainable Landscapes. This narrative explains the Sustainable Landscape Pillar Results Framework under IR 1.2 including its sub-IRs. One sub-IR, relating to the development and implementation of low emission development strategies, underlies both the Clean Energy and Sustainable Landscapes IRs. This sub-IR is listed with two different numbers; the first number, 1.1.1, aligns with the Clean Energy IR, and the second number, 1.2.1, aligns with the Sustainable Landscapes IR. Of the eight lowest-level (4-digit) sub-IRs in the Sustainable Landscapes Pillar Results Framework, four are shared by the two 3-

digit sub-IRs. These four 4-digit sub-IRs are also listed with two different numbers corresponding with the Sustainable Landscapes and Clean Energy frameworks.

IR 1.2: INVEST IN LAND-USE PRACTICES THAT STOP, SLOW, AND REVERSE EMISSIONS FROM DEFORESTATION AND DEGRADATION OF FOREST AND OTHER LANDSCAPES

In IR 1.2 sustainable land-use practices that reduce GHG emissions and sequester atmospheric carbon have received investment in partner countries. The term "land-use practices" in IR 1.2 encompasses practices at all spatial scales, including for example, national level laws and policies that protect landscapes with high carbon stocks, regional enforcement of regulations to prevent illegal logging, community-level cooperatives that manufacture sustainable forest products, and individual farmers that implement conservation agricultural practices that reduce GHG emissions. Whichever carbon mitigation approach, or mix of practices, is relevant in any particular country or region, depends on the development objectives of that partner country or region. USAID works with both public and private sector entities, including governments at all levels, citizens, civil society, and private markets, to help build such systems. However, the focus of this result is at the national level, so that all practices and policies encompassed by this result should be part of a cohesive national sustainable land use system. In other words, the determination of whether this result has been achieved would be based on assessment at the national level in each USAID partner country.

Landscapes for investment can include not only forests, but also other terrestrial landscapes (i.e., woodlands, agricultural lands, grasslands/savanna, freshwater wetlands, peatlands, urban forests), as well as coastal areas.

The overall causal logic of the Sustainable Landscapes Pillar Results Framework is that,
IF:

1. national and sub-national low emission development plans are created or improved;
2. improved data and analytical tools are in use;
3. monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems are implemented or improved;
4. effective institutions that support low emission development are established or strengthened; and
5. enabling laws and policies are implemented;

THEN:

national frameworks for low emission development, including for REDD+, will be established or improved;

AND IF:

1. improved data and analytical tools are in use;
2. monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems are implemented or improved;
3. effective institutions that support low emission development are established or strengthened; and
4. enabling laws and policies are implemented;
5. social and environmental safeguards are in place;
6. economic incentives are established; and
7. low emission development and REDD+ approaches are demonstrated;

THEN:

the capacity of partner countries to implement low emission development in the land-use sector will increase;

AND IF THOSE ARE TRUE AND:

an international framework to support LED as it impacts land use is established;

THEN:

current land-use practices that lead to deforestation and forest degradation and emissions from other land-use will be slowed and halted as they are replaced by practices that do not lead to deforestation and also provide greater economic benefit to local and national stakeholders. Improved policy and capacity for implementation focused on identifying and implementing climate-smart agricultural practices that minimize emissions and land use development that avoids deforestation and increases carbon sequestration will also encourage investments in sustainable land use by other entities for an altered development trajectory that is less GHG intensive than it would have been otherwise.

SUB-IR 1.1.1/1.2.1 NATIONAL FRAMEWORKS FOR LOW EMISSION DEVELOPMENT ESTABLISHED OR IMPROVED

Having an economy-wide national low emission development (LED)strategic framework in place sets the stage for widespread implementation of LED land-use practices, particularly REDD+ practices, and helps ensure that these practices contribute to achieving development priorities and long-term GHG reductions. A strategic national framework can be established once: 1) an economy-wide national LED plan or plans have been created or improved and formally approved by a national government; 2) data and analytical tools needed for national LED planning are in use; 3) systems to monitor, report, and verify the GHG emissions and related mitigation funding streams are fully operational; 4) the national and sub-national institutions needed to implement and fully support national LED are in place; and 5) the national and sub-national policies, laws, and regulations needed for implementation of the national LED plan(s) have been adopted. This sub-IR is greater than the sum of the five sub-results below it because at this level, a variety of relevant national and sub-national LED plans combine to form a cohesive national framework supported by the national government, and systems needed to support continued improvement and implementation of these plans (data and analytical tools, monitoring, reporting, and verification systems, effective institutions, and enabling policies, laws, and regulations) are in place. The Clean Energy and Sustainable Landscapes Pillar RFs share this Sub-IR. The Sub-IRs under 1.1.1/1.2.1 together create an enabling environment for LED.

Note that Sub-IR 1.1.1/1.2.1 encompasses two levels of achievement ("established or improved"). These words should be interpreted as a national framework is established, or an already established framework is improved, because establishment of such a framework is a necessary condition for achievement of the next higher result. This also reflects the various stages of LED framework development in USAID partner countries; some partners have already approved national climate change or low emission policies or strategies that USAID is helping to improve, others have not yet begun developing such policies, while still others are at some stage between initiation and establishment.

SUB-IR 1.2.1.1 NATIONAL AND SUB-NATIONAL LOW EMISSION DEVELOPMENT PLANS CREATED OR IMPROVED

As part of the LEDS process, USAID provides partner countries with support to create LED plans. This process may be national or sub-national, and can encompass one or more economic sector or subsector. National REDD+ strategies and plans are an example of a LED plan that is specifically addressing how to achieve emission reductions from the forest sector. In the sustainable landscapes pillar, national and sub-national LED plans include land-use plans in various sectors, including forest and agriculture, and at various scales, from community level to the national government level. National and sub-national land-use plans can improve LED coordination, including across economic sectors and regions. Sub-IR 1.2.1.1 activities should support developing such plans, but with sensitivity to resource access rights of vulnerable populations, non-coercion, and accountability. The development of such plans should also include participation of industry and other private sector and civil society actors. Analysis and public discussion of a draft plan inform choices among competing priorities and add value to a LEDS. Where applicable, support should build on ongoing efforts to develop plans. Such plans, when at sub-national levels, should also have clear links to the national LED framework.

SUB-IR 1.2.1.2/1.2.2.1 IMPROVED DATA AND ANALYTICAL TOOLS USED FOR LOW EMISSION PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

Assessment of GHG mitigation options, analysis of economic trends, development of mitigation plans, and monitoring of mitigation results, at all spatial scales, must all be done in tandem with accurate, complete, and up-to-date data and analytical tools. Sub-IR 1.2.1.2/1.2.2.1 activities support accurate data collection, for example: economic data; effective and transparent archiving processes; and development of robust data baselines and alternative scenarios of socioeconomic development and GHG emissions. This will enable countries to model future economic growth and emissions scenarios, make informed and analytically rigorous decisions about possible LED interventions, and monitor results of LED interventions. Activities include analyzing the GHG reduction potential of promising technologies and practices, applying improved methodologies and tools for modeling long-term economic and emissions scenarios, modeling the costs of climate change mitigation interventions in a country-specific marginal abatement cost curve, model land use and land use change projections, including the identification of key drivers of deforestation and dissemination of GHG reduction potential for specific technologies and practices, development of REDD+ reference scenarios and assessment of the impacts of specific LED land-use practices.

SUB-IR 1.2.1.3/1.2.2.2 MONITORING, REPORTING AND VERIFICATION SYSTEMS IMPLEMENTED OR IMPROVED

Sub-IR 1.2.1.3/1.2.2.2 monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems encompass not only systems for compiling, reporting, documenting, and archiving national GHG inventories economy-wide, but also systems for monitoring, reporting, and verifying the GHG impacts of mitigation actions at scales ranging from individual technologies and practices to national policies and regulations, for example field level forest monitoring practices and national satellite-based forest monitoring system. MRV systems should also potentially be developed to meet the requirements for developing international financing

systems such as REDD+ where relevant, as well consider the potential for linkage to relevant local level monitoring or mitigation activities. A sustained inventory and MRV system is essential to confidence and transparency among countries as well as investors. Unlike Sub-IR 1.2.1.2/1.2.2.1, this sub-IR includes data and analytical tools related to improved GHG accounting and inventory methodologies. Analytical tools developed or disseminated for other purposes should be counted under Sub-IR 1.2.1.2/1.2.2.1.

Implementation of MRV systems generally requires an interconnected series of tasks, including collecting emission factors and activity data, selecting or developing appropriate emission estimation methods, estimating GHG emissions, evaluating uncertainties, implementing quality control procedures, reporting results, and documenting and archiving all relevant data and procedures thoroughly and transparently. These tasks require well-coordinated and trained teams of individuals, networks of contacts for accessing data and reviewing results, and effective management systems. An effective MRV system also requires a process for independent and internationally accepted verification. At the same time, consideration should be given to the effect of the system on local populations, including small-holder farmers and land owners; activities should strive to minimize additional burdens on these populations as is feasible.

As with Sub-IR 1.1.1/1.2.1 and Sub-IR 1.2.1.1, this sub-IR can be iterative, in that an already implemented MRV system can be subsequently improved. "Implemented" should be interpreted as meaning not only that an MRV system is operational, but that it is institutionalized so that each new round of MRV improvements builds on the existing system rather than recreating procedures. The words "implemented or improved" should be interpreted as meaning an MRV system has been implemented, or an already implemented MRV system has been improved in a significant way. To count as "improved" a project can be supporting improvements related to M, R, or V.

SUB-IR 1.2.1.4/1.2.2.3 EFFECTIVE INSTITUTIONS THAT SUPPORT LOW EMISSION DEVELOPMENT ESTABLISHED

Competent public and private institutions are essential to establish and sustain strategic frameworks for and implementation of LED land-use practices. Sub-IR 1.2.1.4/1.2.2.3 activities focus on developing effective LED capacity in appropriate local, national, and multi-national institutions and professions, including governmental, academic, civic, and private institutions. "Effective institutions" include those that, for example, successfully develop and implement land use and economic policies, laws, and regulations; plan and develop energy supply over the long term; conduct robust national GHG inventories; accurately and transparently monitor, verify and report on mitigation-related finance flows and GHG emissions; coordinate inter-ministerial collaboration on land use or energy policy and GHG mitigation; conduct economic modeling and analysis; and raise awareness and increase understanding in citizen groups.

Examples of such institution building that contribute to national LEDS Frameworks include improving the ability of leading ministries or agencies to coordinate among LEDS-relevant ministries; support to government agencies for the collection and analysis of emissions and economic data to develop or update a LEDS.

"Effective institutions" include effective human as well as institutional capacity, including new or improved professions, such as land use planners and GHG certifiers. Institutions are considered "established" when their capacity has been raised from a determined baseline, such that they can successfully accomplish their relevant role in supporting LED.

SUB-IR 1.2.1.5/1.2.2.4 ENABLING POLICIES, LAWS AND REGULATIONS FOR LOW EMISSION STRATEGIES ADOPTED

Government at all levels can fundamentally influence the context for LED land use. Sub-IR 1.2.1.5/1.2.2.4 activities support developing, establishing, and implementing laws, policies, and regulations that create an environment that encourages LED of the land use sector. Enabling laws, policies, and regulations for developing and maintaining a national LEDS framework in the land-use sector include, for example: fair and equitable land tenure laws, conservation agriculture policies, including access to financing for agriculture that promotes agriculture development without deforestation, establishing community forest rights, laws and regulations discouraging illegal logging, and policy needed for engagement with emission trading systems such as cap-and-trade and emission offset programs, including definition of carbon rights and benefit sharing policies. Activities that inform and motivate legal and policy reforms might include policy analysis, testimony or site visits to demonstration sites, awareness campaigns, and stakeholder involvement in legislative and policy processes that can culminate in the adoption of LED-enabling laws and policies.

SUB-IR 1.2.2 CAPACITY IN PARTNER COUNTRIES FOR NATIONAL SCALE IMPLEMENTATION OF LOW EMISSION DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES IN THE LAND-USE SECTOR, INCLUDING REDD+ ACTIVITIES, INCREASED

Sub-IR 1.2.2 is a necessary result in order to achieve national-scale implementation of LED land-use practices. This result includes sub-national and regional LEDS implementation, but with the caveat that they inform and contribute to the goal of national implementation. An assumption is that partner countries have the political will to create institutions with sufficient authority and resources to drive implementation of LED. Also, some institutions may support LED land-use practices by facilitating this political will. The following results are necessary to achieve Sub-IR 1.2.2.

SUB-IR 1.2.1.2/1.2.2.1 IMPROVED DATA AND ANALYTICAL TOOLS USED FOR LOW EMISSION PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

See above. Data and analytical tools relevant to establishing LEDS frameworks also inform implementation of land use activities under LEDS.

SUB-IR 1.2.1.3/1.2.2.2 MONITORING, REPORTING AND VERIFICATION SYSTEMS IMPLEMENTED OR IMPROVED

See above. MRV systems are important throughout implementation of mitigation activities under LEDS to continue to measure the emissions impacts of activities and feed back into future decision making.

SUB-IR 1.2.1.4/1.2.2.3 EFFECTIVE INSTITUTIONS THAT SUPPORT LOW EMISSION DEVELOPMENT ESTABLISHED OR STRENGTHENED

See Above. Examples of institution-building for the implementation of LED land-use practices include, for example building advanced skills in forestry, agriculture and environment ministries or agencies to develop land regulations and enforcement, improving

concession management, helping civil society groups and government extension services promote public education and awareness on sustainable land use actions, establishing public-private partnerships with mitigation objectives, working with government registries to register land or carbon rights, and setting up structures that generate income, establishing voluntary certification schemes, or conducting field demonstrations of sustainable practices. Sustainable agricultural practices, for instance, might involve building soil organic matter and delivering reliable yields without heavy reliance on fossil-fuel-based inputs.

"Effective institutions" include working with farmers groups or other professions, including input supplies, commodity producers, law enforcement agents, or "climate-smart" agricultural extensions agents.

Institutions are considered "established" when their capacity has been raised from a determined baseline, such that they can successfully accomplish their relevant role in implementing LED.

SUB-IR 1.2.1.5/1.2.2.4 ENABLING LAWS AND POLICIES FOR LOW EMISSION STRATEGIES IMPLEMENTED

See above. Sub-IR 1.2.1.5/1.2.2.4 activities should support developing laws and policies that create an environment in which LED interventions can be effectively implemented. These activities should focus on reducing barriers to widespread adoption of LED practices and establishing an enabling environment to attract private sector investments in sustainable land use. It might include support to improve the abilities of civil society groups to evaluate and identify necessary enabling conditions for sustainable land use, such as land rights or support to legal and economic scholars for research on improvements in land and environmental laws. As examples, laws or policies that give tax preference to low GHG emitting companies or products could favor LED adoption; a policy recognizing traditional resource governance rights could encourage local community adoption of LED; policies and laws establishing national standards for MRV could enable REDD+ carbon markets; and protected areas legislation could reduce deforestation. Laws or governmental action might be needed to create key regulatory institutions or promulgate certification standards. Policies should also include measures to ensure that: a) actions to reduce deforestation and forest or land degradation in one location do not increase pressures on such landscapes (and emissions) in other locations; and b) measures to address large-scale clear-cutting of forests are not followed by increased degradation of such forests.

SUB-IR 1.2.2.5 SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS FOR LEDS AND REDD+ DEVELOPED AND IN PLACE

LED priorities, based on objectives of economic growth with low GHG emissions, may at times conflict with biodiversity conservation priorities or the socio-economic interests and rights of local populations, particularly resource-dependent traditional communities and indigenous peoples. Sub-IR 1.2.2.5 activities should ensure these social and environmental values are appropriately protected. An example is to develop and implement policies, laws, regulations, and effective implementation mechanisms to give traditional communities a voice in LED decisions. Land tenure and land rights are of particular importance as laws impacting land use may disproportionately impact poor or others with less clearly defined land rights.

Note: Recognizing that having social and environmental safeguards only "in place" is not sufficient, this sub-IR implies a further goal to have safeguards effectively implemented.

SUB-IR 1.2.2.6 ECONOMIC INCENTIVES FOR LAND-USE PRACTICES THAT REDUCE GHG EMISSIONS ESTABLISHED

Sub-IR 1.2.2.6 activities should seek to establish mechanisms that motivate relevant public and private actors to embrace LED-compatible land uses. While improved land and forest management is generally cost-effective in itself, a pay-for performance mechanism, for instance, could create market incentives to adopt land uses that reduce long-term GHG emissions and/or sequester carbon. Extension support could overcome technical or cultural barriers to private sector adoption of LED practices. Other examples include certification schemes, grant-based projects, levying industries and reinvesting those funds in sustainable land-use practices/development or using the charges to provide incentives for land protection (such as along logging roads), reforming concession management, or tax systems that incentivize low emission activities. Incentives can also be created by offering innovative agricultural loan practices, i.e., loans for cultivating degraded lands, loans for farmers who comply with local forest protection laws, etc.

Payment for performance mechanisms should be designed to transition to long term sustainable economic growth activities. Payments should support programs and near-term activities that can achieve a transition to low emission land use and forest management systems that will be self-sustaining over the long-term, after payments end. Such self-sustaining development and livelihood activities can include agroforestry, ecotourism, plantations to meet demand for wood and other forest products, harvesting of non-timber forest products, and others.

This sub-IR also captures public-private partnerships that draw in private-sector actors to invest in and participate in LED actions. A private sector that gains from LED land-use practices would powerfully drive their widespread adoption.

SUB-IR 1.2.2.7 LOW EMISSION DEVELOPMENT AND REDD+ APPROACHES DEMONSTRATED AT THE SUB-NATIONAL OR SECTOR LEVEL

Field demonstrations test LED land-use practice approaches, theories, strategies, assumptions, and expectations under real-world circumstances, communicate LED practices to stakeholders, and promote their wide-scale adoption. Sustainable landscapes activities include field demonstrations to assess specific LED land-use practices and to catalyze stakeholder adoption. For example, there is significant potential for GHG emission reduction and carbon sequestration in the agriculture sector in many countries through altered land-use practices, such as altered cropland and grazing land management. Activities under this sub-IR could also include studying and adapting traditional practices that have been, over time, replaced by GHG intensive practices. Field demonstrations can test the feasibility and acceptability of practices in specific locations. Inclusion of LED/REDD+ demonstrations as an explicit sub-IR is consistent with the inclusion of REDD+ demonstrations in the USG REDD+ strategy.

SUB-IR 1.2.3 INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SUPPORTING LOW EMISSION DEVELOPMENT AS IT IMPACTS LAND USE, INCLUDING REDD+ ARCHITECTURE, ESTABLISHED

An international framework for low emission development will provide structure and incentives underlying sustainable land use, including REDD+, and as a framework for sharing lessons learned. REDD+ is a focus of this sub-IR because the USG REDD+ Strategy objective to establish an international REDD+ architecture is a component of Sub-IR 1.2.3. While national sustainable landscapes programs should function independently to the extent possible, and should create low emission development pathways that are self-sustaining without external support over the long term, an international REDD+ architecture will greatly enhance the ability of domestic REDD+ pay-for-service mechanisms to begin operations and function effectively in the near-term. Activities that contribute to this result involve negotiating international agreements on financing mechanisms, scientific standards, GHG monitoring methods, and environmental and social safeguards. USAID shares responsibility for this Sub-IR with other U.S. government and non-government institutions, and with other countries.