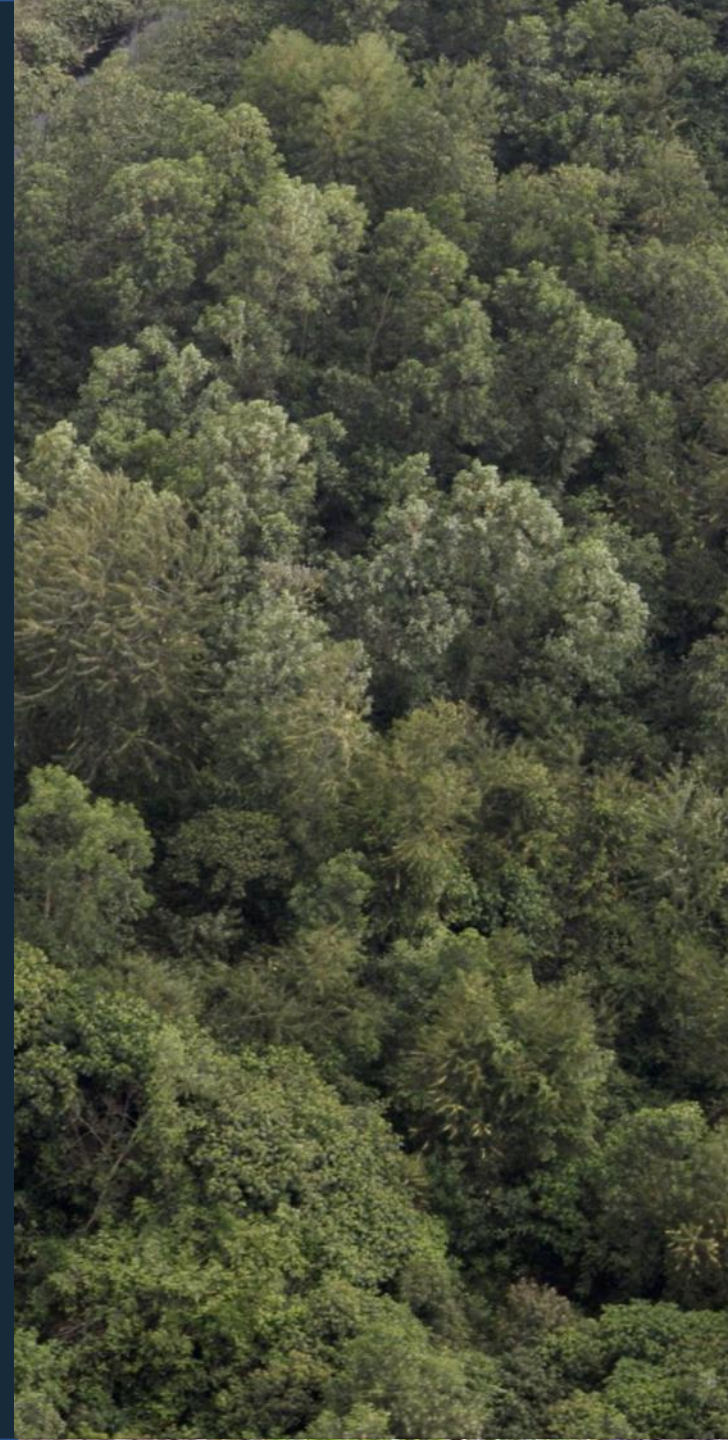


# The Accountability Framework initiative

*Delivering on ethical supply chain commitments*

The Forests Dialogue  
Mouila, Gabon  
October 17, 2017



# Global commitments to eliminate deforestation and human exploitation from supply chains

## Multi-lateral commitments

Sustainable Development Goals

UNFCCC Paris Accords (NDCs)

Marrakech Declaration/APOI

## Public-private platforms

New York Declaration on Forests

- Pulp/paper/timber
- Palm oil
- Soy
- Cattle

TFA 2020

## Private sector commitments

CGF Deforestation Resolution

Cocoa and Forests Initiative

Individual company commitments

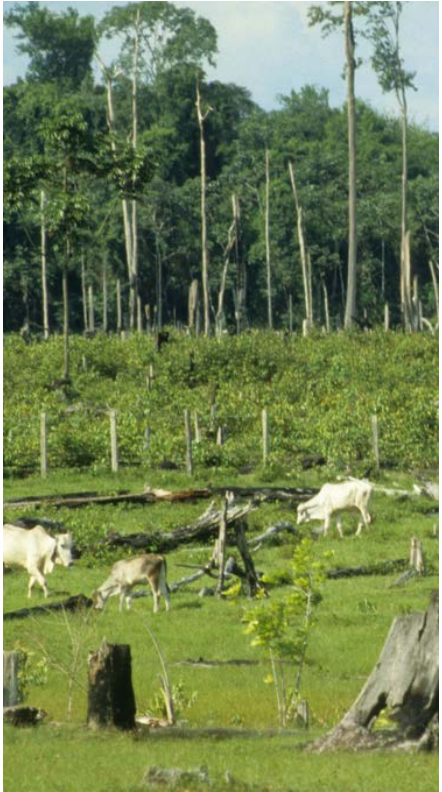


# What is the Accountability Framework initiative?

Launched in December 2016, the Accountability Framework initiative (AFi) is an **effort led by a coalition of NGOs** to accelerate progress and improve accountability related to the delivery of company supply chain commitments in agriculture and forestry. It will do so by **developing and promoting clear and consensus-based norms for setting and implementing responsible supply chain commitments** that address deforestation, human rights, and other key issues.

- *The Accountability Framework is **not a new certification system**, nor does it intend to supersede or duplicate any existing initiatives or programs related to ethical supply chains.*





## Why is this initiative needed?

- **2020 (and 2030) commitments** are fast approaching (NY Declaration on Forests, Sustainable Development Goals, Paris climate agreement, etc.)
- While many individual companies are making progress, **sector-wide change is still a challenge** and **interim milestones are not being met**
- Delivery of company and sector commitments requires **transparency, harmonized tools and directives, and the ability to measure real progress against outcomes** across different companies and sectors
- Aligning and harmonizing tools, instruments, initiatives and vernacular helps **provide clarity and accountability for all stakeholders**

## What are the aims of the Accountability Framework initiative?

- To **accelerate implementation** of corporate ethical supply chain commitments
- To help **support effective and credible implementation** processes
- To **strengthen accountability** based on actual outcomes





## Steering Group






# How is the Accountability Framework initiative governed and who is involved?

- The initiative is led by a **Steering Group** comprised of representatives of a diverse set of environmental and social NGOs
- The Accountability Framework is being co-developed, vetted and refined through technical work streams and stakeholder engagement including:
  - **Working Groups** comprised of global experts and key stakeholders
  - Input from **companies** involved in commodity production and trade
  - **Regional engagement processes** to involve stakeholders in each major tropical producing region
  - Collaboration with **other organizations, initiatives, systems and tools** working to support responsible supply chains

# What is the scope of this initiative?

*The scope of the AFi mirrors the scope of existing commitments for agriculture and forestry supply chains. This includes:*

	Thematic	Supply Chains	Geographies
	Protection of <b>forests</b> and other <b>natural ecosystems</b>	Palm Oil Soy	South America
	Respect for <b>formal and customary land and resource rights</b>	Cattle Pulp/paper/timber	SE Asia West/Central Africa
	Protection of <b>labor rights and other human rights</b>	Cocoa Other commodities	Other producing regions



# The Framework will include three components, providing complementary levels of detail and user interfaces

## Core Document

- Overarching global framework specifying general approaches to a range of key implementation topics

## Operational Manual

- Further clarity on key aspects, including definitions, implementation in different commodity/geography contexts, and roles/responsibilities of actors along the supply chain
- Additional detail related to monitoring, verification, reporting/disclosure, and claims
- Implementation guidance for complex topics, such as remedy and remediation, smallholder participation in responsible supply chains, and the relation between company and government action

## Supporting Tools

- User interface(s) to help companies and other stakeholders access the Framework material
- Tool to help navigate existing implementation systems and clarify how they may be used to fulfill commitments

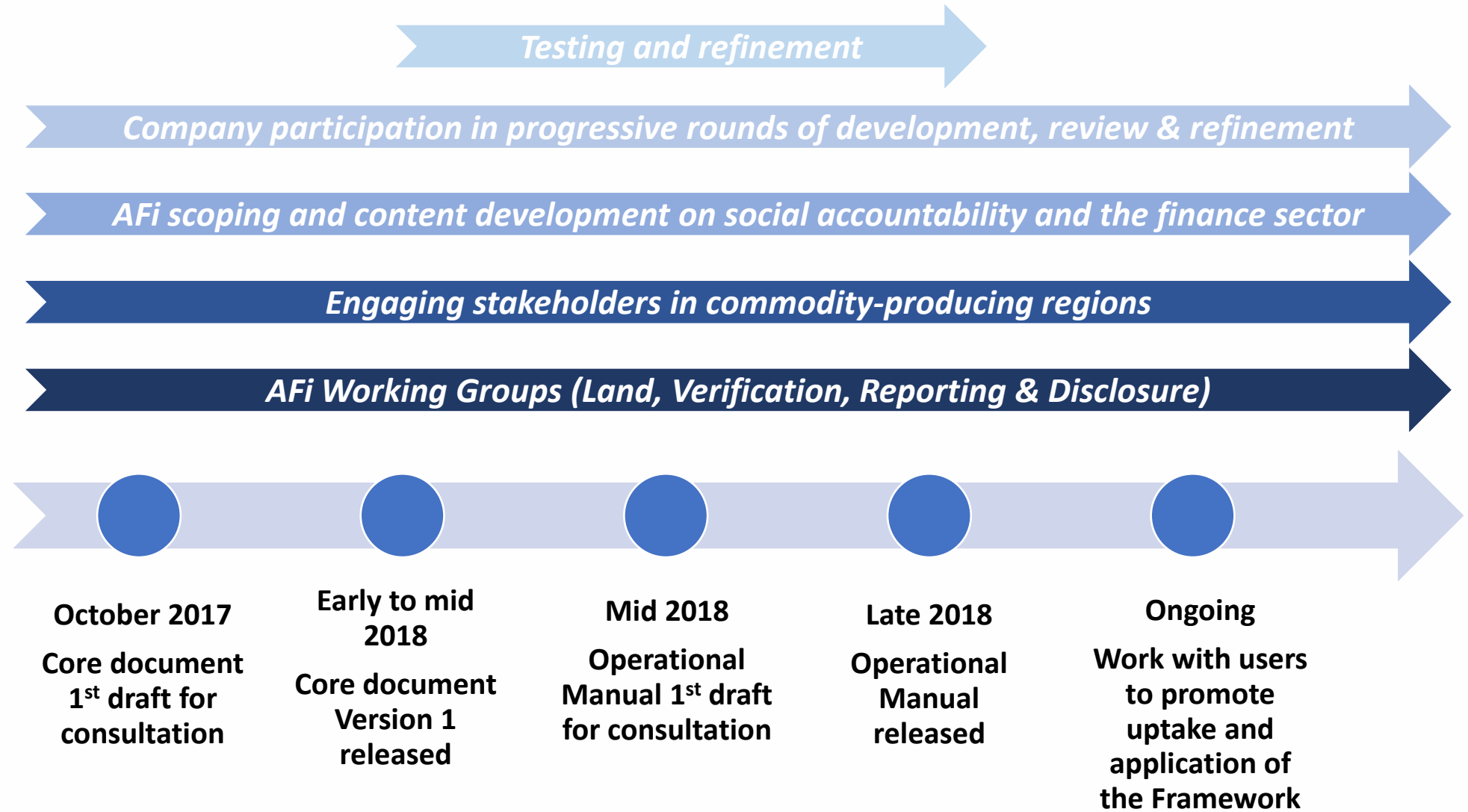


# What is the relationship between the Accountability Framework and other implementation systems?

The Accountability Framework is not meant to replace or supersede other initiatives or tools to guide the implementation of supply chain commitments. Rather, it serves as an **overarching framework** that: i) helps better align existing initiatives and clarify how they can be used in a complementarity way to fulfill commitments; and ii) helps to fill present gaps in implementation guidance and systems.



# Accountability Framework development process



# Accountability Framework Core Document

## Section 1

Scope and Specification of Commitments

## Section 2

Business and Supply Chain Management Systems

## Section 3

Supply Chains are Deforestation-Free and Protective of other Natural Ecosystems

## Section 4

Supply Chains Respect and Promote Human Rights

## Section 5

Responsible Land Use Planning and Management

## Section 6

Monitoring, Verification, Reporting and Claims

## Section 7

Remediation and Access to Remedy

## Section 8

Stakeholder Engagement and External Relations

# Public consultation process: many opportunities for input & dialogue

**During the public consultation period on the draft core document, stakeholders are invited to participate in:**

- **E-consultation:** Self-guided online review & feedback tool
- **Global in-person consultation events:** AFi events within or on the sidelines of key meetings from Oct-Dec 2017 (e.g., UNFCCC meetings)
- **Consultation sessions in tropical producing regions:**
  - **South America:** Steering Group member Imaflora will lead in-person and virtual consultations throughout the region in partnership with other Steering Group members
  - **Africa (west/central):** Consultations will be held in conjunction with other relevant events/processes in the region; additional stakeholders will be consulted virtually
  - **Southeast Asia:** Consultations will be held in conjunction with other relevant events/processes in the region; additional stakeholders will be consulted virtually

➤ *Please see the calendar of events at <https://accountability-framework.org> for more information on upcoming events and how to participate.*





[accountability-framework.org](https://accountability-framework.org)