



CONSERVATION  
FINANCE ALLIANCE

RedLAC Annual Assembly  
Costa Rica  
November 2013



# PRACTICE STANDARDS



# Core Group members

## Sponsoring members



CONSERVATION  
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GORDON AND BETTY  
**MOORE**  
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## Other members



café





**2012**

Stakeholder meeting in COP 11 and call for funds participation in RedLAC Assembly

**Mar 2013**

Core areas discussion

**May and Jun 2013**

Weekly review by topic – calls

**Jun 2013**

2-day meeting for review

**Sept 2013**

CAFÉ Assembly

Broad feedback from the "sounding board"

CTFs  
Executive Directors for interview

**Nov 2013**

RedLAC Assembly



# Practice Standards for CTFs

## Objective

*To improve the design, management and monitoring and evaluation*

Can serve as basis for harmonization of international donor rules and policies




Also to increase understanding of how CTFs function:

- By CTFs
- Current and potential donors
- National governments
- Civil society organizations

Intended to assist CTFs in becoming sustainable, efficient and effective mechanisms for biodiversity conservation



## Important

- Aspirational
- Appropriate norms
- Good reference
- Sources of guidance for growth and improvement
- Not set in stone  Certification standards
- May not “fit” all types of CTFs – or not in the same “formats”
- Guidelines. Not expected that each CTF apply all standards.

Target users: Private independent CTFs

Many aspects can be applied, adopted and adapted to quasi-autonomous environmental funds hosted by government agencies or ministries





1. Governance
2. Operations
3. Administration
4. Asset management
5. Monitoring and reporting
6. Sustainable financial resource mobilization



- **Table of standards.** Text of each one for easy reference
- **For each core area:** glossary of terms





## For every standard in each core area

**Reason for the standard:** Why it is important

**Practical considerations:** Based on successful practices, who carries it out or is responsible

**Evidenced by:** What evidence is used to establish how the CTF achieves the standard

## Standards for Operations

7. CTFs encourage cost-sharing (matching funds) of projects

**Reason for the standard:** indicates commitment by grantee and allows CTF to finance more projects

### **Practical considerations:**

- Guidelines to cost-sharing as part of manual for grant-making
- Small organizations allowed in-kind contributions
- Cost-sharing commitments are monitored as part of project implementation and taken into account in evaluation of grantee

**Evidenced by:** Manual on grant-making; approved grant proposals; project or grantee accounts; grantee progress reports

**Annex 1.** Checklist of standards to consider when creating a CTF

**Annex 2.** Checklist of standards to consider when assessing a CTF





## How the standards can be applied

- To guide CTF or Fund design
- To educate governing bodies
- To derive indicators for strategic planning, business plans, etc
- To self-assess
- To structure independent evaluations
- To expedite fundraising negotiations with new donors
- To systematize and share best practices

FMCN

Fondo Acción

MAR Fund

Others?





- Practice standards are a great tool
- Good way to organize procedures and norms internally
- By applying them, we can collectively improve them or add to them

### Other core areas for consideration:

- Internal communication
- External communication and public awareness
- Human capital management
- Information technologies



- Questions: please take to Kathy
- Printed executive summary + CD will be available  
- 2014
- Also electronic version
- Translation to French and Spanish
  
- On-line opportunity to provide results of funds' implementation of standards – two-year period
- Review of standards



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Thank You!



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