

**The Role of Commodity Roundtables & Avoided Forest
Conversion in Subnational REDD+¹
Agriculture, Food Security & Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Accounting
Weaver Center, Institute of the Americas, at the University of
California San Diego**

Operationalizing Land Sparing

Block 3 – Breakout Discussions – Topic 1

Framers

Gary Paoli & Craig Hanson

Facilitator

Eric Palola



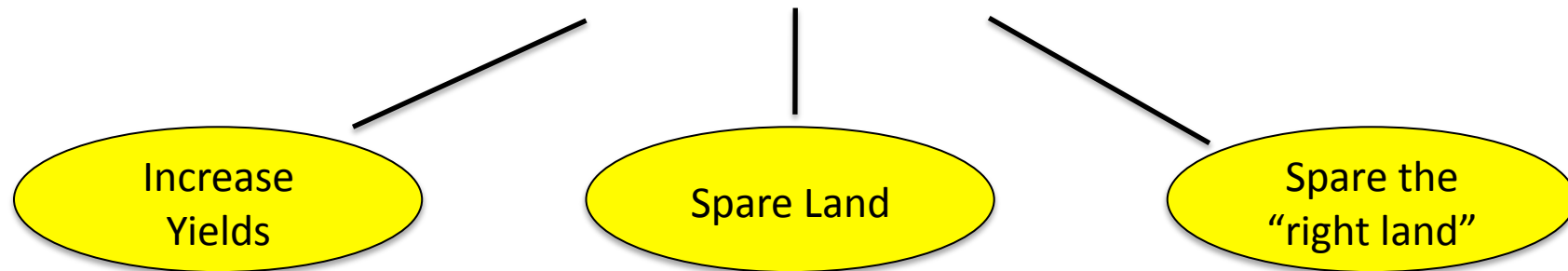
WORLD
RESOURCES
INSTITUTE



Land Sparing

$$\text{Total Production} = \text{Yield} \times \text{Area Cultivated}$$

How do we operationalize it ?



1 - How do we increase yields ?

2 - How do we translate yield increase to "land spared" ?

3 - How do we ensure "land spared" is "the right land" ?

Land Sparing

How do we operationalize it ?



Technical Issues

Actors & Drivers of their Decisions

Uptake (awareness & incentives)

Safeguards

Governance

Step 1

Land Sparing

How do we operationalize it ?



TECHNICAL

- How to increase yields ?
- How to sustain continuous increases ?

UPTAKE

- Voluntary Approaches
- Mandatory Approaches

Awareness raising

Techniques & cost

Outcomes & benefit

Incentives

Reduced cost & higher yields = more profit

Enhanced market access (via Roundtables)

SAFEGUARDS

- Equity among producers
- Risk of farm consolidation ?

Step 2

Land Sparing

How do we operationalize it ?



TECHNICAL

- Improved geo-spatial data (Ag types, location & extent)
- Actors (Large company versus Smallholder)
- Coherent system to monitor & report

DRIVERS

- What is the key commodity, which actors, how vary with geography ?
- What is linkage (if any) between Yield and decision to expand ?

UPTAKE

- Positive incentives
 - Direct rewards (PES & REDD+)
 - Roundtables (market access & price premium)
 - Fiscal policy (reduced land tax)
- Mandatory requirements
 - Absolute limits imposed by government
 - Lobby with 'enlightenment' & meaningful offer to gain govt support

Step 3

Land Sparing

How do we operationalize it ?



TECHNICAL

- Scale appropriate geo-spatial data (Ag & ecosystems/biodiversity/carbon/social)
- What are the objectives, criteria for evaluation, how reach consensus on priorities

INCENTIVES

- How direct expansion onto the land deemed 'suitable' for expansion ?
- REDD+, PES, Roundtables
- Mandatory compliance with government (or Roundtable) defined no-go areas

SAFEGUARDS

- How accommodate livelihoods of people on 'degraded' lands ?
- What will be fate of ecosystems deemed lower priority to be spared ?