



Small Holder Accessibility to Social & Environmental Standards

UNCTAD XII Pre-Event

Arusha, Tanzania

April 2008

About the ISEAL Alliance

- > A **forum** to exchange experiences and best practice
- > **Codifying** best practice and providing benchmarks for identifying credible and accessible systems
- > **Advocating** for the recognition of credible certification as a legitimate policy instrument
- > ISEAL members participate in **collaborative** projects to reduce overlaps



ISEAL Alliance Board Members
June 2007
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Helping to build the foundations for certification



MSC Guidance for the Assessment of Small-Scale & Data-Deficient Fisheries

- Risk assessment methodology to assist certifiers to evaluate the impacts of fishing
- Is piloted in Ecuador, Peru, Argentina, Gambia, Mauritania and the UK

MAC leverage of traditional knowledge of fish and ecosystems

- In the Pacific Isles
- > Both require high levels of stakeholder engagement and collaboration with local communities



Delivering agricultural capacity building

- > 1800 cocoa producers from 6 cooperatives in the Côte d'Ivoire
- > Collaboration between industry (Kraft), development partners (GTZ & US AID), national government (ANADER) and local partners (the Sustainable Tree Crop Programme)
 - Farmer-field schools on GAP
 - Development of Internal Control Systems
 - Guidance on strengthening farmer organisations
 - Training for local auditors and technical staff.



M. Kouassi and the COPAPAIX
RA-certified cocoa collective,
Issia – Côte D'Ivoire
© Rainforest Alliance

Recognising overlaps to reduce costs

- > Recognising overlaps in their standards helps to reduce the scale – and thus costs, of audits
- > Pronatur uses multiple certification schemes including Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance and Organic to help small farmers in Peru get a better price for their produce

© Pronatur Peru



Helping to meet certification costs & to develop markets

- > FLO's Producer Certification Fund helps small farmers' organisations pay to meet the costs of becoming certified

http://www.fairtrade.net/certification_fund.html

- > FLO's Producer Business Unit provides information and support to help small businesses address marketing or export challenges

http://www.fairtrade.net/certification_fund.html



Kenya Panda Flower
© FLO

Supporting communities not just commodities

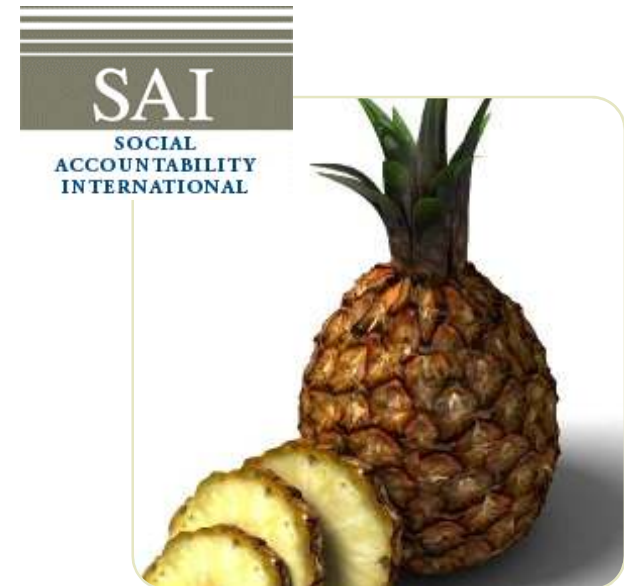
- > More than 40 sq km of productive land of San Juan Nuevo (Mexico) was laid to waste by the lava and ash of a volcano in 1943
- > The town has used FSC certification to become a successful forest-dependent indigenous community, drawing 70% of its income from forestry-related activities, including:
 - two sawmills,
 - a furniture factory,
 - tree nurseries,
 - packaging companies,
 - resin distillation plants and
 - eco-tourism operations
- > Rights and respect for indigenous groups including land tenure have been negotiated



Chico Mendez
© E. Goethals, FSC

Influencing multi-national corporations

- > NGOs in Kenya and Italy, along with a major Italian retailer (COOP Italia), influenced the practices of a major multinational corporation, Del Monte
- > Notable improvements in work conditions and freedom of association were made for more than 5000 workers at the Del Monte pineapple plantation in Thika





The ISEAL Code of Good Practice for Setting Social and Environmental Standards is the international reference for setting credible voluntary social and environmental standards. It requires that standards be set in open, transparent, participatory processes, demands there must be a demonstrable need for the standard and includes measures to ensure that even the most marginalised stakeholders have a say in the standard's development.

- > Define and implement standard-setting and revision processes that are open, balanced and transparent (arts. 5.1 and 5.6).
- > Provide a meaningful voice to those directly affected by the standard in its development (art. 7.2).
- > Facilitate the access and relative influence of disadvantaged groups (art. 7.4).
- > Make the standard available free of charge (art. 5.7).

ISEAL Code of Good Practice for Setting Social and Environmental Standards

standard-setting practices should be based on relevant international normative documents

Interested party: Any person or group concerned with or directly affected by a standard.

publicly documented complaints resolution mechanism

justification of the need for the standard and clear objectives that the standard seeks to achieve

public review phase shall include at least two rounds of comment submissions by interested parties

Final international standards shall be placed in the public domain and made available for free.

The social, environmental and/or economic objectives of a standard shall be clearly and explicitly specified in the standard.

clear guidance for taking into account local economic, social, environmental and regulatory conditions

participation reflects a balance of interests among interested parties

Constraints on disadvantaged groups to participate effectively in standard development shall be addressed

The full text of the ISEAL Code of Good Practice along with guidance notes and case studies is available at www.isealliance.org/code



Members of the ISEAL Alliance are compliant with the ISEAL Code of Good Practice both to strengthen their own social and environmental initiatives and to encourage other standard-setters to commit to industry best practice for setting social and environmental standards.

www.isealliance.org/whowere

Addressing Accessibility at ISEAL



Accessibility meeting
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Managing an **Accessibility Network**, bringing together producer groups, extension services, certification bodies, traders ... to work on systems for managing

- > multiple certifications
- > group certification
- > risk

Thank you

Elizabeth Guttenstein

Policy Director

elizabeth@isealalliance.org

www.isealalliance.org