

# CLAIMS POLICY

PILOT VERSION | 2023

*Disclaimer: this document is still a draft that will be used to pilot LandScale claims mechanism. It may be adjusted after being piloted. For any questions related to the process, please contact the LandScale team.*

Document Name	Document #
Claims Policy	TBD
Date of Publication	Version #
TBD	PILOT VERSION
Summary of Changes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>N/A</li></ul>	

## 1. Introduction

The purpose of LandScale's claims policy is to enable organizations that participate in landscape initiatives or invest in landscape-level sustainability improvements to make credible claims about landscape-level sustainability performance and their contributions toward it. By enabling such claims for landscapes where a LandScale assessment was conducted, LandScale aims to:

- Foster collaboration between actors working and investing in the same landscape
- Provide greater transparency about the activities being carried out and their contribution to landscape-level sustainability outcomes
- Encourage greater investment in activities that deliver tangible improvements in sustainability at the landscape level

This policy details the types of claims that are allowed by LandScale and the requirements for each type of claim.

## 2. Definitions and Types of Claims

In the context of LandScale, a claim is defined as a public communication about landscape performance, investments, or impacts, as described below. Such a claim is subject to this policy if:

1. it is made with reference to a LandScale assessment or together with the LandScale name, LandScale logo, or LandScale website or platform.
2. it is submitted to LandScale for validation and/or
3. it is made with reference to a LandScale assessment or together with the LandScale name, LandScale logo, or LandScale website or platform.

LandScale recognizes three categories of claims:

1. **Landscape performance claim:** Communication of the sustainability status or trends for one or more LandScale indicators or metrics for the given landscape.

### Examples:

- **Trend:** From 2010 to 2020, the rate of deforestation in landscape X decreased by 84% to a recent low of 144 ha (0.17% of the landscape) per year.
- **Trend:** From 2018 to 2020, access to electricity increased by 20%, resulting in 80% of the population in the landscape having access to electricity.
- **Status:** As of 2020, Landscape X has an extensive protected area network, with 37% of its total land area and 67% of its natural forests under effective long-term protection.

2. **Landscape investment claim:** Communication describing actions or investments that specific actor(s) are taking to drive improvements in sustainability at landscape scale. Such improvements must be measurable by metric(s) associated with LandScale indicator(s) and linked to the actions or investments by a valid results chain.

Landscape investment claims are made after actions or investments have been planned and initiated but **before** the predicted landscape-level sustainability results have been achieved.

### Example:

- The Biodiverse Landscapes Fund has committed to restoring 10,000Ha of forest along the Zambezi river between 2022 – 2026. This is expected to contribute to protecting biodiversity and reducing soil erosion and water pollution at the landscape level. These landscape-level outcomes will be monitored and reported via a follow-on LandScale assessment as the restoration activities progress.

3. **Landscape impact claim:** Communication describing how the actions or investments that specific actor(s) have taken have contributed to landscape-level sustainability improvements. These contributions are evidenced by a valid results chain and by the achievement of the intended sustainability improvements, as measured by metric(s) associated with specific LandScale indicator(s).

Impact claims may be made only following the achievement of landscape-level sustainability improvements and their documentation and validation via the LandScale assessment process.

**Examples:**

- Since 2012, the yellow fruit banana company has funded the operation of two schools for the local community in the XX district. This has contributed to a 20% increase in the number of school-aged children attending school in the district between 2012 and 2022, as well as a 10% reduction in the number of school-aged children that are malnourished. These improvements have been documented through validated LandScale assessments in 2012 and 2022.
- In accordance with landscape X's watershed restoration plan, company X planted 16,000 native trees and trained 1,400 farmers in the landscape on soil conservation practices between 2014 and 2017. This contributed to a 19% reduction in sedimentation in the landscape's three main rivers between 2016 and 2020. These improvements have been documented through a water quality analysis conducted in 2016 and a LandScale assessment validated in 2020.

Investment claims and impact claims both pertain to the contribution of given actor(s) to landscape-level sustainability improvements. These contribution-oriented claims are based on the idea of shared causality – that is, that landscape-level sustainability improvements may be the result of contributions from multiple actors. When crafting an investment claim or impact claim, care should be taken not to imply that a result is or will be solely attributable to the focal actions or investments. Attribution claims entail a much higher burden of proof than contribution claims and typically require research methodologies that are currently beyond the scope of LandScale.

Investment claims and impact claims should include the following information:

- A brief summary of the activities or investments that the claimant is undertaking or has undertaken to contribute to landscape-level sustainability outcomes. This summary should include the nature, scale, and timeframe of the activities.
- Identification of the landscape level results to which the activities are expected to contribute or have contributed. These should be described (as closely as is reasonable) in relation to LandScale indicators or metrics that the claimant has identified.

- For investment claims, a statement of intention or commitment to monitor and report landscape level results via follow-on LandScale assessment(s). For impact claims, a statement that the communicated sustainability improvements were documented through validated LandScale assessment(s) that cover at least two points in time.

The examples above illustrate examples of how this required information may be presented in a concise claim statement.

### 3. General Requirements

Any party that can meet the requirements for the type of claim they wish to make is eligible to make that type of claim, subject to the steps for review and approval outlined in Section 5.

The following requirements apply to all types of claims:

- Claims may only be made on the basis of a completed LandScale assessment. Claims may not be made on the basis of LandScale results that have not been validated. Given that custom indicators and related metrics are not included in the scope of the LandScale validation, these may not be included or referenced as part of claims, even if they are published on the platform. Custom metrics associated with LandScale indicators are included in the scope of the LandScale validation and can therefore be included or referenced as part of claims.
- The LandScale name, platform URL, and logo may not be used on products.
- The LandScale logo may not be used other than as specified in this policy and in LandScale branding guideline or with the express, prior written permission from LandScale.
- All claims must state the date or date range of the activities, investments, results, and trends to which the claim refers.
- When a claim references landscape performance or trends, such elements must be solely based on relevant results from the most recent LandScale assessment conducted in the landscape.
- Wherever possible, current landscape performance should be described in relation to past performance (i.e., conveying the direction and magnitude of the trend) and/or in relation to future targets or milestones.
- Claims may not state or imply that a given landscape is sustainable. Doing so would require defining a threshold for landscape-level sustainability, which is not possible

to do in a consistent way given the diversity of landscapes. However, to convey landscape performance in a holistic manner, users are encouraged to communicate results related to multiple landscape goals and LandScale indicators and metrics.

- To make a claim at the indicator level, all required performance metrics for the given indicator need to have been assessed, validated, and published. However, recommended metrics do not need to be assessed. In addition, the claim does not need to cover all required performance metrics for the given indicator.
- To make a claim at the metric level, all of the information required to assess the metric must be included. For example, performance metric 3.1.2.1 requires reporting of the number of unresolved land and resource conflicts or grievances **AND** the area of land subject to such conflicts. In this case, both the number of conflicts and the area subject to such conflicts needs to be included in the claim.
- The language of claims must be clear and precise. This includes fully and accurately conveying any LandScale results that are referenced as part of claims. Results and their interpretation must not be represented or extrapolated in a manner that states or implies findings or performance beyond the information that has been validated and published through the LandScale assessment process.
- Claims should not state (implicitly or explicitly) that a result is or will be solely attributable to the focal actions or investments.

## 4. Specific Requirements for Each Type of Claim

To make a **Performance Claim**, there needs to be a published LandScale assessment that has been validated in accordance with the assessment guidelines.

To make an **Investment Claim**, there needs to be a published LandScale assessment validated in accordance with the assessment guidelines and the prospective claimant must follow the requirements described in **Annex 1** and provide the documentation listed in **Annex 5** when requesting approval.

To **convert an Investment Claim into an Impact Claim**, there needs to be a published LandScale assessment validated in accordance with the assessment guidelines and the prospective claimant must follow the requirements described in **Annex 3** and provide the documentation listed in **Annex 6** when requesting approval.

To make an **Impact Claim** without prior use of an Investment Claim, there needs to be a published LandScale assessment validated in accordance with the assessment guidelines and the prospective claimant must follow the requirements described in **Annex 3** and provide the documentation listed in **Annex 7** when requesting approval.

## 5. Process for Making Claims

Prior review and approval by the LandScale team is required for any of the following types of claims:

- 1) an investment claim
- 2) an impact claim
- 3) a performance claim made at the level of a LandScale Indicator
- 4) a performance claim made at the level of a LandScale metric for which the claimant wishes to use the LandScale logo

Prior review and approval is optional for a performance claim made at the level of a LandScale metric for which the LandScale logo will not be used.

Following is a summary of the review and approval requirements and pricing for each combination of claim type and logo usage.

**Table 1. Review and approval requirements for different types of claims and logo use scenarios.**

Type of claim	Claimant wishes to use the LandScale logo in association with the claim	Claimant will not use the LandScale logo but may still use the LandScale name or platform URL
Landscape performance claim - indicator level	Review required - free service	Review required - free service
Landscape performance claim - metric level	Review required - free service	Review optional - free service
Landscape investment claim	Review required - for a fee [free during the pilot phase]	Review required - for a fee [free during the pilot phase]
Landscape impact claim	Review required - for a fee [free during the pilot phase]	Review required - for a fee [free during the pilot phase]

At present, LandScale is only able to review claims written in English.

If review is required for the claim that you wish to make - or if you elect to have your claim reviewed on an optional basis - there are five steps to request review and approval for your claim:

- 1) Register to access the LandScale platform, which will require you to sign Terms & Conditions for use of the LandScale name and logo.

- 2) Fill in the claims request form. If you wish to make a landscape investment claim or landscape impact claim, you will be asked to make a payment for the service of reviewing the claim and its supporting evidence. [free during the pilot phase]
- 3) Provide the documentation listed in annex 5 (to apply for a landscape investment claim), in annex 6 (to convert an investment claim into an impact claim) or in annex 7 (to apply for a landscape impact claim without prior use of an investment claim)
- 4) Address feedback on the proposed claim from the LandScale team, if any.
- 5) Once the LandScale team has approved the claim, follow the link provided to download the logo files.

To retain the right to use a Landscape investment claim over time, claimant must follow the requirements described in annex 2, provide the required documentation annually to LandScale team and address all feedback from the LandScale team, if any.

Landscape investment claims that no longer meet these requirements will be removed from the LandScale platform and may no longer be used in any way.

To retain the right to use a Landscape impact claim over time, claimant must send annually a compilation of all the uses of the claim in the past 12 months, showing compliance with LandScale Claims Policy.

LandScale reserves the right to invalidate a claim if it becomes aware of credible evidence that the activity is having negative legal, environmental, social, or economic impacts or that the claimant is engaged in activities or practices that are contrary to the aims of the claim or otherwise contrary to the public good.



## Annex 1- Applying for a Landscape Investment Claim

Entities wishing to make a landscape investment claim must meet the requirements and provide the documentation outlined in this section. To validate any proposed landscape investment claim, the LandScale team will assess whether the claim meets the requirements through a review of the documentation provided, alongside consultation with local experts and landscape stakeholders as needed.

### **1.1. Investment scope**

A landscape investment claim must show a clear link between the investment made in the landscape and sustainability outcomes at landscape level. While preparatory and planning activities can be essential precursors to implementation, on their own they might not be enough to drive improvements in landscape-level outcomes. Therefore, as specified in requirement 1.1.1 in the following table, activities that are the subject of an investment claim must include – or be closely linked to – implementation activities that are likely to deliver outcomes related to one or more LandScale indicators.

What constitutes an implementation activity may differ depending on the desired outcomes. For example:

- Outcomes associated with ecosystem health (LandScale assessment framework Pillar 1) and sustainable production (Pillar 4) often require on-the-ground training or implementation related to conservation, restoration, or improved production practices. Policy changes – such as adjusting land-use designations, creating protected areas, or incentivizing ecologically-based farming practices – may also constitute implementation.
- Outcomes associated with improved human well-being (Pillar 2) may need on-the-ground training or implementation as well as social processes such as sensitization, community engagement, or improved law enforcement and oversight.
- Outcomes associated with governance (Pillar 3) typically require policy development and/or stakeholder engagement and participation. When governance improvements are the desired outcome of a landscape investment, on-the-ground activities are not necessarily required.

See Annex 4 for further examples of the types of activities that may fulfill requirement 1.1.1.

The claimant must meet the following requirements regarding the activities that are the basis for an investment claim.

Requirements	Documentation
<p><b>1.1.1. Nature of the activity</b></p> <p>Activities must consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ implementation activities directly contributing to improvements in one or more LandScale indicators</li> </ul> <p>and/or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ preparatory activities that are closely linked to implementation activities contributing to improvements in one or more LandScale indicators</li> </ul> <p>If the claimant's investment focuses on preparatory or planning activities, these activities must be part of a broader package of activities that also include implementation steps. In this case, there must be a commitment from other actors to carry out the broader package of activities, and this commitment and the identity of these actors must be documented.</p> <p>In all cases, the activities must be relevant to the targeted sustainability improvements (specified according to requirements 1.1-1.3) and expected to have a material impact in driving these improvements.</p> <p>See Annex 4 for some examples of eligible activities.</p>	<p>A written description of the activity or set of activities that form the subject of the investment claim. This may be included within a landscape action plan if one is available.</p> <p>This description should include information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the scope and scale of the activity in relation to the landscape and/or to the influence of the claimant on the landscape</li> <li>▪ how the activity is relevant to the targeted sustainability improvements and are expected to have a material impact in driving these improvements.</li> </ul> <p>E.g., Organization X is building a school that will provide 500 children with access to education. This represents 20% of the school-age population of the landscape.</p> <p>E.g., Organization X is providing training in best agricultural practices to 1,000 coconut smallholder farmers. These farmers collectively supply 50% of the coconut oil that organization X sources from the landscape.</p> <p>The list of data sources used to demonstrate that the activity will have a material impact on the outcome<sup>1</sup>.</p>

<sup>1</sup> For more recommendations on how to identify and procure datasets, claimants should refer to LandScale Step 4 Guidelines, section 1.2.

<p><b>1.1.2. Location of activity</b> The activities must be focused in locations appropriate to delivering sustainability improvements in the subject landscape (i.e., within the boundary of the LandScale assessment).</p> <p>Typically, this means that activities must take place mostly or entirely within the landscape boundary.</p>	<p>Information on the locations where the activities will be implemented. Where possible, this should be in the form of GPS coordinates or polygons.</p>
<p><b>1.1.3. Timing of activity</b> Activities must have already been initiated or be due to begin within 6 months of the date that the investment claim is submitted for validation.</p> <p>“Initiation” means that funds or other resources have begun to be deployed and that implementation activities have begun according to plans . See also requirement 1.2.2.</p>	<p>A timeline for the implementation of the activities. This may be stand-alone documentation, or it may be included in the activity description or in a landscape action plan or work plan (if the proposed activities are included in such a plan).</p>
<p><b>1.1.4. Stakeholder engagement</b> The objective, scope, and plan for the activity were co-designed with its intended participants and beneficiaries.</p> <p>Other potentially affected local stakeholders were consulted and confirm that the activities are acceptable before they are carried out. If valid concerns were raised, these have been addressed in the proposed activities that the claimant is submitting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A description of how the consultation was conducted, a summary of the information that was shared with those consulted</li> <li>▪ A list of the people and organizations consulted (including the intended participants and beneficiaries and any other potentially affected local stakeholder)</li> <li>▪ A summary of comments received, and</li> <li>▪ A summary of how this feedback was or is being addressed in the final plan for the activities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>1.1.5. Assessment and mitigation of potential negative impacts</b> Measures are taken to identify and avoid adverse environmental, social and governance impacts associated with each activity.</p> <p>If avoidance is not possible, measures to mitigate and manage adverse impacts must be included. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completing all environmental or social impact assessment (ESIA) or similar planning and review processes required by</li> </ul>	<p>A description of all ESIA or safeguards procedures or protocols that were conducted</p> <p>Copies of impact assessment or safeguards documents that were prepared in relation to the activities</p> <p>A summary of any features of the activities to avoid or mitigate risks (this may be included in the above-listed documentation)</p>

<p>law for the activity being implemented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completing all ESIA or safeguards process required or recommended as good practice for the types of activities being implemented.</li> </ul> <p>Regardless of whether external ESIA or safeguards requirements apply to the activities, claimants must ensure that potential adverse environmental or socioeconomic impacts have been identified and avoided or mitigated following good practices and in consultation with those who could be negatively affected by the activities.</p>	
---	--

### **1.2 Role and commitment of each entity involved**

The claimant must meet the following requirements for the roles and documented commitments of those who will be carrying out the proposed activities.

<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Documentation</b>
<p><b>1.2.1. Roles of all relevant entities</b></p> <p>The claimant must identify the different entities that will be responsible for enabling, supporting or implementing the activities as well as the role of each entity.</p>	<p>A table listing the entities (legally registered names where possible) involved in enabling, supporting or implementing the activities and the role of each entity. If this information is included within a landscape action plan, then that plan may be provided as documentation.</p> <p>If the activity/ies will be funded by multiple entities, the description should include a breakdown of funding sources per year, including the financial contribution of each claimant.</p> <p>If the claimant is part of a multi-stakeholder partnership, then the claimant's role in this partnership should also be described.</p>
<p><b>1.2.2. Commitment of resources</b></p> <p>The claimant must demonstrate that the financial and other resources needed to implement the activities have been secured and committed.</p>	<p>Overview of the resources required for the activity and documentation that these resources have been secured and committed.</p>
<p><b>1.2.3. Claimant's other activities and practices</b></p> <p>The entity making the claim must not be</p>	<p>A written description of all of the claimant's current and planned activities and practices in</p>

engaged in activities or practices that are contrary to the aims of the investment claim or otherwise contrary to the public good.	<p>the landscape, as well as prior activities over the past five years.</p> <p>This includes project or landscape investment as well as commodity sourcing and other practices.</p>
--	---

### **1.3. Results chain**

The claimant must prepare a results chain that demonstrates how their landscape investments will contribute to improvements in sustainability at a landscape level.

<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Documentation</b>
<p><b>1.3.1. Focal indicators and metrics</b></p> <p>The activities must be predicted to positively contribute to one or more core, landscape-dependent or optional LandScale indicators in the most recent version of the LandScale assessment framework.</p> <p>One or more corresponding required, recommended, or custom metrics must also be identified for each focal indicator.</p>	<p>A list of the LandScale indicators to which the activities will contribute and the corresponding metrics that will be used to measure and track the indicators. This information may be included in the results chain template if desired.</p>
<p><b>1.3.2. Link to landscape goals and/or targets</b></p> <p>A landscape-level goal must be specified for each focal indicator listed in 1.3.1.</p> <p>A goal is defined as a longer-term aspiration for the landscape that specifies the desired change for given indicators (e.g. to reduce deforestation, improve water quality, or achieve living wages across key production sectors).</p> <p>If goal(s) were already defined and published as part of the LandScale assessment, or are otherwise included in a landscape action plan, then these are the goals that should be specified for the focal indicators in relation to the claim.</p> <p>If goals were not previously specified, then the applicant should define goal(s) for each focal indicator in consultation with local stakeholders.</p> <p>In addition to goals, targets may also be specified for focal metric(s) where possible.</p> <p>A target states the desired future performance level for a given metric(s) and should be timebound, specific, and quantitative where possible (e.g., restore 70% of all degraded lands in the</p>	<p><b>Required</b></p> <p>Documentation of a goal for each focal indicator and the source of this goal (e.g., published as part of the LandScale assessment, included within a landscape action plan, or defined by the claimant in consultation with local stakeholders).</p> <p><b>Optional</b></p> <p>Documentation of a target for one or more focal metrics and the source of any such targets (e.g. published as part of the LandScale assessment, included within a landscape action plan, or defined by the claimant in consultation with local stakeholders).</p>

<p>landscape by 2035).</p> <p>If targets(s) were already defined and published as part of the LandScale assessment, or are otherwise included in a landscape action plan, then these are the targets that should be specified for the focal metrics in relation to the claim. If targets were not previously specified, then the applicant should define targets(s) for focal metric(s) in consultation with local stakeholders.</p>	
<p><b>1.3.3. Results chain</b></p> <p>The claimant must provide a description of the chain of results showing how the activities subject of the claim will result in sustainability improvements in the focal LandScale indicators and metrics specified in 1.3.1.</p> <p>The results chain must include a description of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Input(s). The resources used to implement the activities. These should be quantified where possible.</li> <li>• Output(s). The tangible products or direct results of the activity. These should be quantified where possible.</li> <li>• Activity-level outcome(s). The positive changes in environmental, social, governance, or production system attributes that will be achieved as a direct result of the activity.</li> <li>• Landscape-level outcomes. The positive changes in landscape-level performance to which the activity is predicted to contribute, as measured by LandScale indicators and metrics.</li> </ul> <p>For the outputs, activity-level outcome(s) and landscape-level outcomes, the following information must also be provided, unless stated otherwise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expected timing and milestones</li> <li>• Key assumptions that must hold true and key enabling conditions that must be present for the activities to deliver the desired landscape-level outcomes. This should include actions expected to be undertaken by other actors, responses of stakeholders to the proposed activities, and required enabling conditions.</li> <li>• Indicators that will be used to monitor progress (this is optional for inputs and activity-level outcomes)</li> <li>• Entities responsible for implementation and monitoring</li> </ul> <p>Claimants are encouraged to develop the results chains in collaboration with relevant subject-matter experts and local stakeholders.</p>	<p>A completed version of the <a href="#">results chain template</a> or an alternative format developed by the claimant that includes the information listed in this template.</p> <p>A list of the persons involved in developing the results chain and their subject matter expertise or interest in the landscape.</p>

#### **1.4 Monitoring and reporting**

The claimant must monitor and report progress in the following areas:

- implementing the activity
- delivering the outputs and outcomes in the results chain
- achieving the desired improvements in sustainability at landscape level

Monitoring and reporting must be in accordance with the requirements outlined below.

<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Documentation</b>
<b>1.4.1. Baseline</b> Baseline results for all metrics to which the focal activity is intended to contribute have been validated by LandScale and published on the LandScale platform.	Validated results published on the LandScale platform for all metrics identified in 1.3.1.
<b>1.4.2. Measuring change at landscape level</b> There must be a defined plan – including responsibilities and timeline – for conducting a repeat assessment of the metric(s) that form the focus of the investment claim.  An updated result must be published at least every five years for the focal metrics defined in 1.3.1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The name of the organization that will be responsible for ensuring that the repeat assessment is conducted and written commitment from this organization to do so</li> <li>• The planned timing of assessing and publishing updated results for the focal metric(s) on the LandScale platform</li> </ul>
<b>1.4.3. Activity monitoring plan</b> A plan to monitor and publicly report the implementation of the activity and progress in achieving the results chain on an annual basis must be developed. The plan should cover all metrics included in the results chain and identify the entity responsible for monitoring and reporting on each metric.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring plan covering the elements stated in the requirement.</li> </ul>

## Annex 2- Retaining the Right to Use a Landscape Investment Claim

A landscape investment claim remains valid for the period of time during which the following requirements are met.

Requirements	Documentation
<p><b>2.1 Activity implementation</b></p> <p>The activities that are the subject of the landscape investment claim are being implemented in line with the results chain.</p> <p>If the activities are not being implemented according to the original plan or timeline, a revised plan and timeline and an explanation for the changes is documented. These changes may reflect adaptive management of the investment to improve its likelihood of delivering the desired results.</p> <p>If the activities are resulting in adverse impacts, or if a stakeholder has raised a grievance in relation to the activities, then these adverse impacts or concerns and their resolution should be documented. If the issues cannot be satisfactorily addressed, then the activities should be discontinued.</p> <p>Annual updates on the progress of the activities and the results chain are publicly reported via the LandScale platform, in accordance with the monitoring plan.</p> <p>Monitoring reports demonstrate that the activity is being implemented and progressing toward delivering outputs and outcomes in accordance with the results chain. If this is not the case, then documentation must be provided showing plans for adjusting the activities or the results chain so that the desired results are achieved.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual updates on activity implementation and delivery of the results chain on the LandScale platform, including any adverse impacts or grievances if applicable, as well as any updates to the original plan.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2.2 Implementation of landscape monitoring</b></p> <p>For all focal metrics, an updated result is published at least every five years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated results validated and published on the LandScale platform</li> </ul>
<p><b>2.3 Compliance with LandScale Claims Policy</b></p> <p>The LandScale Investment claim is used in compliance with LandScale Claims Policy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compilation of all the uses of the LandScale</li> </ul>



	investment claim in the past 12 months
--	---

## Annex 3- Applying for a Landscape Impact Claim

### **3.1. Converting a landscape investment claim into an impact claim**

Entities wishing to convert an existing investment claim into an impact claim must meet the following requirements.

Requirements	Documentation
3.1.1 The activities have been implemented and completed consistent with the requirements of Annex 2, section 2.1	See Annex 2, section 2.1
<p>3.1.2 Updated results for the focal metrics defined when applying for the Landscape Investment Claim, according to Annex 1, section 1.3.1, must be published and demonstrate improvement for at least one focal metric relative to the baseline condition at the time the activity was initiated.</p> <p>None of the focal metrics show a worsening of performance from the baseline value or condition since the activity was initiated.</p> <p>Note that the baseline condition can be provided by a LandScale baseline assessment or another source of information from prior time periods.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An updated result for the relevant metrics, validated and published on the LandScale platform</li> </ul>

### **3.2. Making a landscape impact claim without first having made a landscape investment claim**

To make a landscape impact claim without first having made a landscape investment claim, the requirements outlined in Annex 1, sections 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, and Annex 2, section 2.1 must be met, with the following exceptions and additional requirements:

- Annex 1, section 1. Status of the activity: The activity must be in progress or completed.
- Annex 1, section 1.1. ESIA, safeguards, and stakeholder consultations: All applicable ESIA and safeguards procedures (requirement 1.1.5), as well as the required stakeholder engagement (requirement 1.1.4), must have been conducted prior to the activity being initiated.
- A validated LandScale assessment must be published and demonstrate improvement for at least one focal metric relative to the baseline condition at the time the activity was initiated. None of the focal metrics show a worsening of performance from the baseline value or condition since the activity was initiated. Note that the baseline condition can be provided by a LandScale baseline assessment or another source of information from prior time periods.

### **3.3. Duration**

Claim of having contributed to improving sustainability at landscape level between the baseline and repeated LandScale assessment remains valid for five years following the repeat assessment if:

- the activities that are the subject of the claim have been fully implemented;
- the outputs stated in the results chain have been delivered; and
- the focal indicators demonstrate improvement from the baseline value or condition.

If activities are continuing and landscape-level performance improves in subsequent repeat assessments, then this five-year validity period may be renewed following completion of each such assessment.

## Annex 4 - Examples of activities that may be eligible as the basis for landscape investment and impact claims.

As explained above and specified in Annex 1, section 1.1, implementation activities may be eligible on their own, while preparatory or coordination activities are only eligible when they are part of a set of activities that also includes implementation activities. Activities are categorized based on the related LandScale assessment framework pillar. However, some activities may also support improvements in other pillars.

Pillar	Implementation activities	Preparatory or coordination activities (eligible only as part of a set of activities)
Ecosystems	Support livelihood activities that generate income while reducing pressure on ecosystems or wildlife	
	Implementation of restoration or rehabilitation activities	
	Training or capacity building on protection and monitoring of natural ecosystems and species	Studies or mapping related to ecosystems and biodiversity, such as wildlife surveys or participatory mapping of priority forests and natural ecosystems (e.g., High Conservation Values and High Carbon Stock areas)
	Implementation of conservation activities or setting up necessary infrastructure (e.g., fire prevention, etc.)	
	Systems or processes to enforce compliance with land use laws or to respond to deforestation and natural ecosystem conversion	Development of a management plan to conserve, restore or rehabilitate forests and natural ecosystems in consultation with relevant stakeholders
	Implementation of water catchment management activities	Development of a water catchment management plan

	Provision of financial incentives, payments, or favorable access to capital to implement conservation-friendly land use practices (e.g., sustainability-linked loans or payment for ecosystem service)	
<b>Human wellbeing</b>	Infrastructure development or improvements, such as housing, schools, medical facilities, water and sanitation, or energy systems	
	Implementation of programs to improve food security and nutrition	Studies of livelihood conditions, wage/income levels, levels of social services, etc.
	Scholarships to enable access to education	Human rights risk assessments or studies
	Training, capacity building or implementation of activities designed to address child labor or forced labor	Establishment of committees or groups on issues related to livelihoods or human rights
	Training, capacity building or implementation of activities designed to protect the rights of indigenous peoples, workers, women, or vulnerable groups in the landscape	
	Establishing or improving grievance mechanisms	
<b>Governance</b>	Capacity building, multi-stakeholder processes, or technical support to develop or improve government policies related to land use or other matters	
	Providing financial support to fund Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes	
	Supporting smallholders, communities, or other rights-holders to clarify and secure land or resource tenure rights	

	Anti-corruption training for government officials	
<b>Production</b>	Training, provision of inputs, or other support to producers, producer groups, and primary processors to improve agricultural or forestry practices and technologies	Improving the traceability of commodity supply chains
	Development of new infrastructure to improve water management, input use efficiency, cultivation of seedlings or planting stock, or waste management	

## Annex 5 - Checklist for Investment Claim applications

### 1.1.1. Nature of the activity

A written description of the activity or set of activities that form the subject of the investment claim. This may be included within a landscape action plan if one is available. This description should include information on:

- the scope and scale of the activity in relation to the landscape and/or to the influence of the claimant on the landscape
- how the activity is relevant to the targeted sustainability improvements and are expected to have a material impact in driving these improvements.

*E.g. Organization X is building a school that will provide 500 children with access to education. This represents 20% of the school-age population of the landscape.*

*E.g. Organization X is providing training in best agricultural practices to 1,000 coconut smallholder farmers. These farmers collectively supply 50% of the coconut oil that organization X sources from the landscape.*

- The list of data sources used to demonstrate that the activity will have a material impact on the outcome .

### 1.1.2. Location of activity

Information on the locations where the activities will be implemented.  
*Where possible, this should be in the form of GPS coordinates or polygons.*

### 1.1.3. Timing of activity

A timeline for the implementation of the activities.  
*This may be standalone documentation, or it may be included in the activity description or in a landscape action plan or work plan (if the proposed activities are included in such a plan).*

### 1.1.4. Stakeholder engagement

- A description of how the consultation was conducted
- A summary of the information that was shared with those consulted
- A list of the people and organizations consulted (including the intended participants and beneficiaries and any other potentially affected local stakeholder)
- A summary of comments received
- A summary of how this feedback was or is being addressed in the final plan for the activities.

### 1.1.5. Assessment and mitigation of potential negative impacts

- A description of all ESIA or safeguards procedures or protocols that were conducted
- Copies of impact assessment or safeguards documents that were prepared in relation to the activities
- A summary of any features of the activities to avoid or mitigate risks  
*This may be included in the above-listed documentation.*

#### **1.2.1. Roles of all relevant entities**

- A table listing the entities (legally registered names where possible) involved in enabling, supporting or implementing the activities and the role of each entity.  
*If this information is included within a landscape action plan, then that plan may be provided as documentation. If the activity/ies will be funded by multiple entities, the description should include a breakdown of funding sources per year, including the financial contribution of each claimant. If the claimant is part of a multi-stakeholder partnership, then the claimant's role in this partnership should also be described.*

#### **1.2.2. Commitment of resources**

- Overview of the resources required for the activity
- Documentation that these resources have been secured and committed.

#### **1.2.3. Claimant's other activities and practices**

A written description of all of the claimant's current and planned activities and practices in the landscape being assessed, as well as prior activities over the past five years. *This includes project or landscape investment as well as commodity sourcing and other practices.*

##### **1.3.1. Focal indicators and metrics**

A list of the LandScale indicators to which the activities will contribute and the corresponding metrics that will be used to measure and track the indicators.  
*This information may be included in the results chain template if desired.*

##### **1.3.2. Link to landscape goals and/or targets**

- Documentation of a goal for each focal indicator and the source of this goal (*e.g., published as part of the LandScale assessment, included within a landscape action plan, or defined by the claimant in consultation with local stakeholders*).
- (Optional) Documentation of a target for one or more focal metrics and the source of any such targets (*e.g., published as part of the LandScale assessment, included within a landscape action plan, or defined by the claimant in consultation with local stakeholders*).

##### **1.3.3. Results chain**

A completed version of the [results chain template](#) or an alternative format developed by the claimant that includes at least the same information as this template.



A list of the persons involved in developing the results chain and their subject matter expertise or interest in the landscape.

#### **1.4.1. Baseline**

Validated results published on the LandScale platform for all metrics identified in 1.3.1.

#### **1.4.2. Measuring change at landscape level**

- The name of the organization that will be responsible for ensuring that the repeat assessment is conducted (assessment proponent)
- Written commitment from this organization to do so
- The planned timing of assessing and publishing updated results for the focal metric(s) on the LandScale platform

#### **1.4.3. Activity monitoring plan**

Plan to monitor and publicly report the implementation of the activity and progress in achieving the results chain on an annual basis. *This plan must cover all metrics included in the results chain and identify the entity responsible for monitoring and reporting on each metric.*

## Annex 6 - Checklist to apply for conversion of investment claim into impact claim

- Annual updates on activity implementation and delivery of the results chain on the LandScale platform, including any adverse impacts or grievances if applicable, as well as any updates to the original plan.
- An updated result for the relevant metrics, validated and published on the LandScale platform

## Annex 7 - Checklist for impact claim applications, without prior investment claims

### 1.1.1. Nature of the activity

- A written description of the activity or set of activities that form the subject of the investment claim. This may be included within a landscape action plan if one is available. This description should information on:
  - the scope and scale of the activity in relation to the landscape and/or to the influence of the claimant on the landscape
  - how the activity is relevant to the targeted sustainability improvements and are expected to have a material impact in driving these improvements.

*E.g. Organization X is building a school that will provide 500 children with access to education. This represents 20% of the school-age population of the landscape.*

*E.g. Organization X is providing training in best agricultural practices to 1,000 coconut smallholder farmers. These farmers collectively supply 50% of the coconut oil that organization X sources from the landscape.*

- The list of data sources used to demonstrate that the activity will have a material impact on the outcome<sup>2</sup>.

### 1.1.2. Location of activity

Information on the locations where the activities will be implemented.  
Where possible, this should be in the form of GPS coordinates or polygons.

### 1.1.3. Timing of activity

A timeline for the implementation of the activities.  
This may be standalone documentation, or it may be included in the activity description or in a landscape action plan or work plan (if the proposed activities are included in such a plan).

### 1.1.4. Stakeholder engagement

- A list of required stakeholder engagement
- A description of how the consultation was conducted
- A summary of the information that was shared with those consulted
- A list of the people and organizations consulted (including the intended participants and beneficiaries and any other potentially affected local stakeholder)
- A summary of comments received
- A summary of how this feedback was or is being addressed in the final plan for the activities.

---

<sup>2</sup> For more recommendations on how to identify and procure datasets, claimants should refer to LandScale Step 4 Guidelines, section 1.2.

#### 1.1.5. Assessment and mitigation of potential negative impacts

- A list of all applicable ESIA and safeguards procedures
- A description of all ESIA or safeguards procedures or protocols that were conducted
- Copies of impact assessment or safeguards documents that were prepared in relation to the activities
- A summary of any features of the activities to avoid or mitigate risks  
*This may be included in the above-listed documentation.*

#### Status of the activity

Status of the activity showing the activity is in progress or completed.

#### 1.2.1. Roles of all relevant entities

A table listing the entities (legally registered names where possible) involved in enabling, supporting or implementing the activities and the role of each entity.

*If this information is included within a landscape action plan, then that plan may be provided as documentation. If the activity/ies will be funded by multiple entities, the description should include a breakdown of funding sources per year, including the financial contribution of each claimant. If the claimant is part of a multi-stakeholder partnership, then the claimant's role in this partnership should also be described.*

#### 1.2.2. Commitment of resources

- Overview of the resources required for the activity
- Documentation that these resources have been secured and committed.

#### 1.2.3. Claimant's other activities and practices

A written description of all of the claimant's current and planned activities and practices in the landscape being assessed, as well as prior activities over the past five years. *This includes project or landscape investment as well as commodity sourcing and other practices.*

#### 1.3.1. Focal indicators and metrics

A list of the LandScale indicators to which the activities will contribute and the corresponding metrics by which change in these indicators will be measured.  
*This information may be included in the results chain template if desired.*

#### 1.3.2. Link to landscape goals and/or targets

- Documentation of a goal for each focal indicator and the source of this goal (*e.g., published as part of the LandScale assessment, included within a landscape action plan, or defined by the claimant in consultation with local stakeholders*).
- (Optional) Documentation of a target for one or more focal metrics and the source of any such targets (*e.g., published as part of the LandScale assessment, included*

*within a landscape action plan, or defined by the claimant in consultation with local stakeholders).*

#### **1.3.3. Results chain**

- A completed version of the [results chain template](#) or an alternative format developed by the claimant that includes at least the same information as this template.
- A list of the persons involved in developing the results chain and their subject matter expertise or interest in the landscape.

#### **LandScale assessment**

- The published LandScale assessment (or multiple assessments taken together) demonstrating improvement from the baseline value or condition for the focal metrics since the activity was initiated.
- Annual updates on activity implementation and delivery of the results chain on the LandScale platform, including any adverse impacts or grievances if applicable, as well as any updates to the original plan.
- An updated result for the relevant metrics, validated and published on the LandScale platform