

### Introduction

The Bonsucro Impact Fund is a new initiative developed by Bonsucro in response to, and shaped by, consultation with Bonsucro members and the wider sector. Beyond the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning work (as outlined by this Framework) that captures the outcomes and impacts of the Fund's supported projects, Bonsucro will also keep track of the performance of the fund. These indicators (below) on the efficiency of the operations of the Fund are not captured in this BIF MEL framework, but are noted here to demonstrate Bonsucro's commitment to channeling resources appropriately and effectively. This is not an exhaustive list

- Have resources been dispersed in a timely manner?
- Has the PSC worked effectively and efficiently to select projects for recommending to the board for funding?
- Has the grant programme provided value for money?

### Three frameworks, one overarching

The Bonsucro monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) framework comprises a single over-arching theory of change and a monitoring, evaluation and learning system of indicators and methods of data collection.

It is built up from theories of change and MEL systems of each of Bonsucro Impact Fund's (BIF) three grant schemes (see appendix);

- Building innovative approaches to reduce emissions or improve water stewardship in sugarcane farming and milling (hereafter referred to as 'GHG/water reductions')
- Innovating sustainability in smallholder sugarcane farming (hereafter 'smallholders')
- Collective action to strengthen human rights and promote decent work in the sugarcane sector (hereafter 'human rights/decent work')

There are important similarities and differences in the aims of each scheme, what can be assumed to normally happen in the life of a funded project in each, and how risks should be mitigated by adhering to Bonsucro's cross-cutting principles.

Specific outcomes and impacts and associated indicators identified in each of the schemes' theories of change and MEL systems, feed into the overarching BIF framework. This provides a comprehensive overview – and portfolio reporting - on the reach, inclusivity, sustainability and financial impact of all BIF supported projects. But it also allows for the capture of stories of change which take into account the context, the distance travelled, lessons learned along the way, and the end results—at project level among groups of producers and other stakeholders, or at individual producer level.

# Key features of the BIF Theory of Change and MEL System

The strategic priorities and aims of the Bonsucro Strategic Plan are at the heart of the BIF MEL framework. The strategic priorities have been articulated as outcomes, the strategic aims as impacts. Each outcome and impact at grant scheme level (expressed in call documents) has also been re-articulated and mapped to these. Bonsucro has helped in clarifying the language.

Bonsucro's four *Core Principles* are operationalised to support grantees in anticipating and mitigating very normal, very commonplace risks. Key data collected in the MEL system allows grantees to reflect on the levels



of inclusivity, adaptability, credibility and collaboration in their approach and projects and make adjustments where necessary to deepen their impact. These will be summarized at portfolio level to aid learning and planning for future cycles of BIF grantmaking.

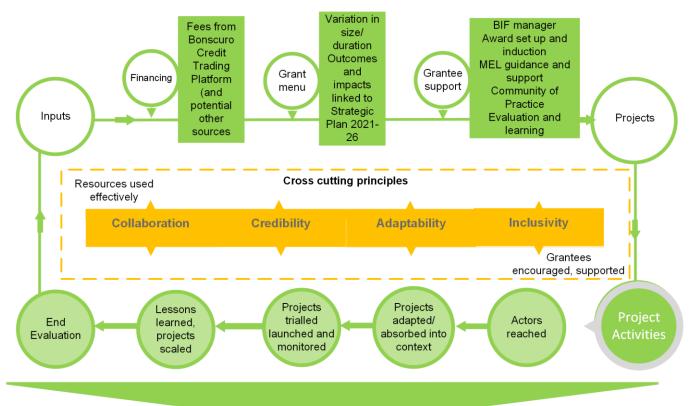
The MEL framework strives to be pragmatic and practical. Grantees select 6 only (or 7 in the Human Rights/Decent Work grant scheme) relevant indicators are necessary at scheme level that will roll up into portfolio level reporting on outcomes and impacts. Methods of data collection are balanced between practicality (e.g. collecting information on sign-up sheets) and ensuring robustness (e.g. twice convening a small, independent panel of workers). Some sensitive topics that focus the effects of the projects on women and marginal groups may require an experienced evaluator, This can be decided on a project-by-project basis. Although grantees will monitor their projects on an ongoing basis, some monitoring tasks including panels, or analysing, reflecting and reporting on data will take place twice; at a mid-point and at the end of their project.

The MEL framework will also provide Bonsucro the opportunity to consider efficiency indicators for the BIF as a portfolio. We would like to consider indicators around value for money, operational efficiency etc. The full list of indicators will need to be developed further.

### Appendices:

- Appendix 1: GHG/water reductions Theory of Change and MEL system
- Appendix 2: Smallholders Theory of Change and MEL system
- Appendix 3: Human rights/Decent work Theory or change and MEL system

# Bonsucro Impact Fund Overarching Theory of Change



Cross-cutting principles

Risks

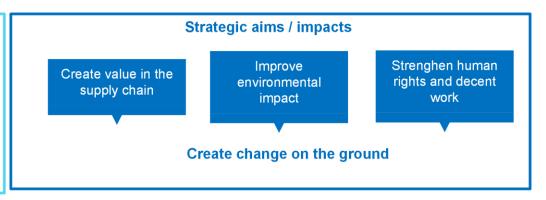
Strategic priorities / Outcomes

Strategic aims / Impacts

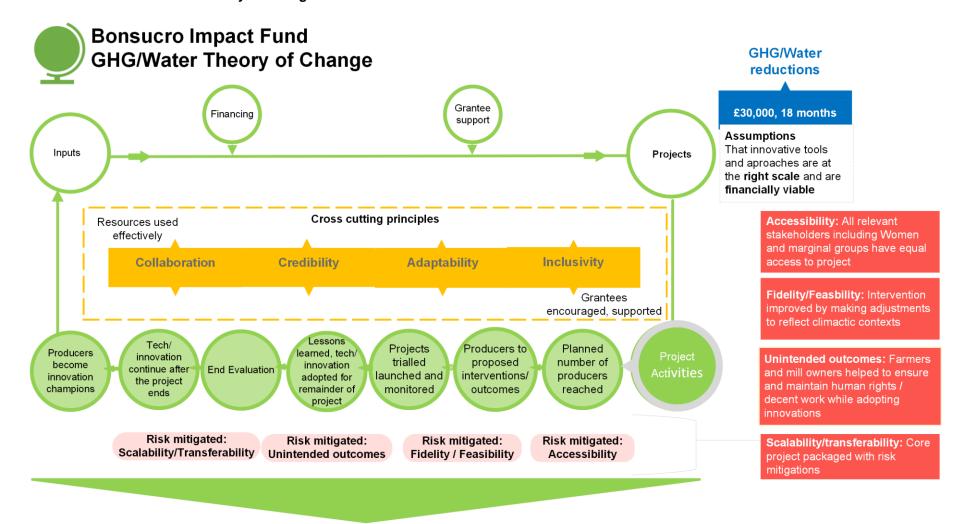
If risks are mitigated by applying Bonsucro's cross cutting principles, then Accessibility: projects are accessible to as many people as possible in the context; Fidelity: projects are delivered as broadly intended;

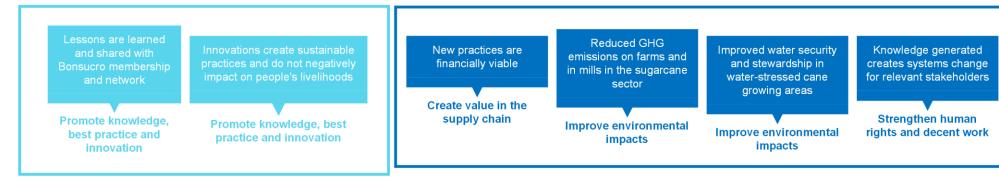
Unintended outcomes; the projects do no harm to sustainability and human rights/ decent work standards or practices; Scalability / transferability: projects can reach more people or be transferred to another location while delivering positive

# Test effective scalable solutions to challenges in the sector Generate and share learning of use to the wider sector Promote knowledge, best practice and innovation Catalyse investment and collaboration in the sector (promote partnership working and leverage funding) Convene the sector to meet complex challenges



### **Bonsucro Impact Fund** Scheme level operational principles, outcomes and impacts **Overarching MEL System** GHG / Water Human Rights / **Smallholders** reduction **Decent work** Overarching principles - Key partners (buyers, - Time is taken to adapt NGOs, state) engaged, support, advice and - Intervention improved quidance to different frank dialogue ensures by making adjustments to reflect contexts farm sizes and practices buy in Operational - Social and labour - Project includes all - Project includes all context of key aims relevant stakeholders relevant stakeholders taken into consideration and ensures women and and ensures women and marginal groups have gender, age, ethnicity, marginal groups have class, status (class, equal access to equal access to migrant citizenship) participate participate **Overarching outcomes** - Concept proven / - Concept - Concept proven / innovation embedded proven / innovation innovation embedded - Test effective scalable - Smallholders work with - Innovations create embedded solutions in the sector that BPSS principles in sustainable practices - Key stakeholders are - Generate and share and do not negatively an interconnected way. committed to better learning of use to the Outcomes labour rights are not impact on people's practices among sector traded for env gains livelihoods producers - Catalyse investment and - Lessons are learned - Lessons are learned - Lessons are learned collaboration in the sector and shared within and shared within and shared within (promote partnership Bonsucro membership Bonsucro membership Bonsucro membership working and leverage and network and network and network funding) - Smallholders address No child/forced labour. - Reduced GHG one or more barriers to Household incomes improve. emissions on farms and adopting principles in the women, workers and others Overarching impacts in mills in the sugarcane **BPSS** are empowered, AND/OR sector OR - Relevant stakeholders health improves - Improve environmental - Improved water (including women and - New practices are impact of sugarcane security and stewardship **Impacts** marginal groups) equally financially viable / Key - Strengthen human rights in water-stressed cane and decent work in farms benefit stakeholders benefit from growing areas - New practices are and mills - New practices are better practices among financially viable - Create value across the financially viable producers - Knowledge generated - Knowledge generated supply chain - Knowledge generated creates systems change creates systems change for creates systems change for relevant stakeholders for relevant stakeholders relevant stakeholders







# Bonsucro Impact Fund GHG / Water Reduction MEL System

# Indicators / data

# Data collection methods

# Data collection frequency

Operational principles

- Intervention improved by making adjustments to reflect contexts

Project includes all relevant stakeholders and ensures that women and marginal groups have equal access to participate

Context, location of producers

- No of producers engaged in project activities, by size of farm
- by gender
- by number of workers
- type of job and wage levelsplit by gender

Grantees to: check
http://bonsucro.com/site/production-standard/
climatic-zones/
and make a note on signup sheets

**Grantees to:** collect sign-up and sign-off forms (and check in with producers who exit the project).

As producers sign up

Sign up forms collected at beginning, sign off forms collected at end Ongoing monitoring and as producers exit

**Outcomes** 

- Innovations create sustainable practices and do not negatively impact on people's livelihoods

 Concept proven / innovation embedded
 Lessons are learned and shared within Bonsucro membership and network Level of stability of livelihoods of workers, including women and marginal groups

Reflections on and actively share what worked, and the positive effects, what contexts would be most appropriate for replication, and any additional investment achieved Grantees to: pose 2-3 questions to a panel of % of workers in a sample location(s) (sample size . location decided on project-by-project basis with MEL consultant)

**Grantees to:** check in with % of producers (sample size decided on project-by-project basis with MEL consultant)

**Grantees to:** share observations informed by check-ins and other MEL data with MEL consultant, and reflect on progress with MEL consultant

Panel at 6-monthly intervals during project

Check-ins at 6-monthly intervals during project

Regular observations and reflections with MEL consultant

**Impacts** 

- Reduced GHG emissions on farms and in mills in the sugarcane sector OR
- Improved water security and stewardship in waterstressed cane growing areas
- New practices are financially viable
- Knowledge generated creates systems change for relevant stakeholders

Appropriate % reduction - reduction in GHG emissions OR

reduction in or efficient use of water use

Type of buyer and level of profit made from sugar sales

Evidence that project is / may be replicated elsewhere

**Grantees to** use data collected on sign-up /sign - off sheets or the Bonsucro Calculator used in producer check-ins.

**Grantees to:** review sign-up / sign-off sheets or Check registries of trade

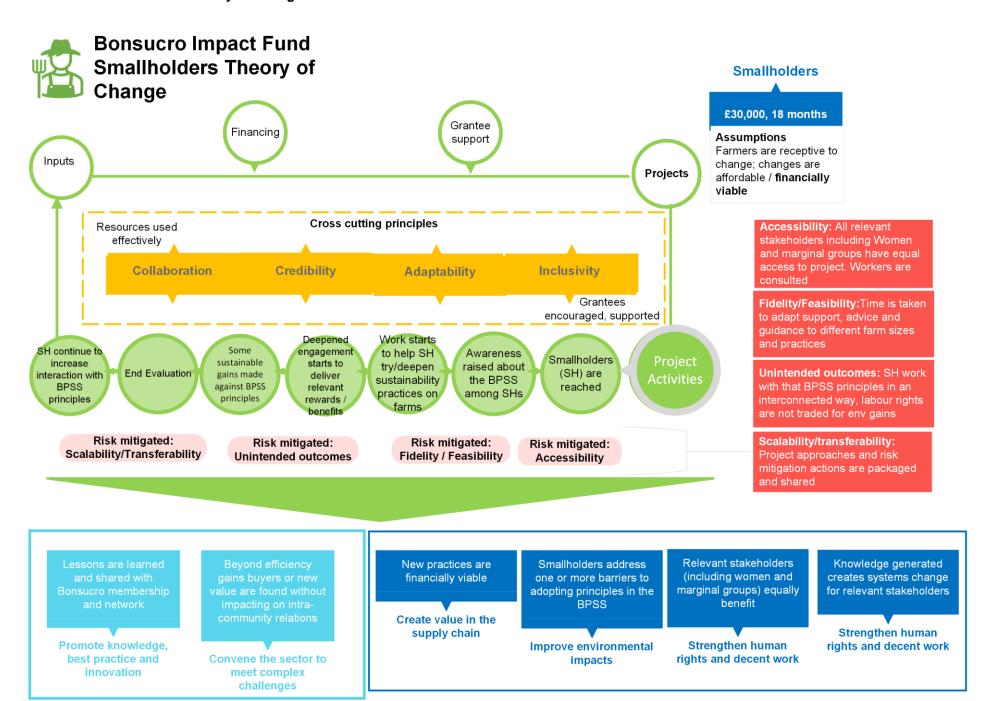
**MEL Consultant** to collect observations of grantees and **Bonsucro** to review sample of reports by Bonsucro members

6 monthly check ins with producers.

Sign-off sheets at endpoint

At start and at end

Grantees end/post project check-in / annual desk review of sample of member reports against BPS/BPSS





# Bonsucro Impact Fund Smallholders MEL system

Operational principles

- Time is taken to adapt support, advice and guidance to different farm sizes and practices - Project includes all relevant stakeholders and ensures that women and marginal groups have equal access to participate

### Indicators / data

Context, location of smallholders

No of participants engaged in project activities, by size of farm

- by gender
- by number of workers
- type of job and wage level split by gender

# Data collection methods

Grantees to: check

http://bonsucro.com/site/production-standard/climatic-zones/

and make a note on signup sheets

**Grantees to:** collect sign-up and sign-off forms (and check in with producers who exit the project).

# Data collection frequency

As producers sign up

Sign up forms collected at beginning, sign off forms collected at end Ongoing monitoring and as producers exit

### Outcomes

- Smallholders work with BPSS principles in an interconnected way, labour rights are not traded for env gains
- Concept proven /
- Lessons are learned and shared within Bonsucro membership and network

### Updates on

- changes in practices
- number of workers
- type of job and wage level split by gender

Reflect on and actively share what worked and the positive effects, potential for replication, any additional investment

Reflections on what worked and the positive effects, potential for replication, any additional investment

Type of buyer and level of profit made from sugar sales, split by gender

Evidence that project is / may be replicated elsewhere

**Grantees to:** check in with % of smallholders (sample size decided on project-by-project basis with MEL consultant)

**Grantees to:** share observations informed by check-ins and other MEL data with MEL consultant, and reflect on progress with MEL consultant

Check-ins at 6-monthly intervals during project

Regular observations and reflections with MEL consultant

# **Impacts**

- Smallholders address one or more barriers to adopting principles in the BPSS
- Relevant stakeholders (including women and marginal groups) equally benefit
- New practices are financially viable
- Knowledge generated creates systems change for relevant stakeholders

**Grantees to:** to share observations informed by check-ins and other MEL data with MEL consultant, and reflect on progress with MEL consultant

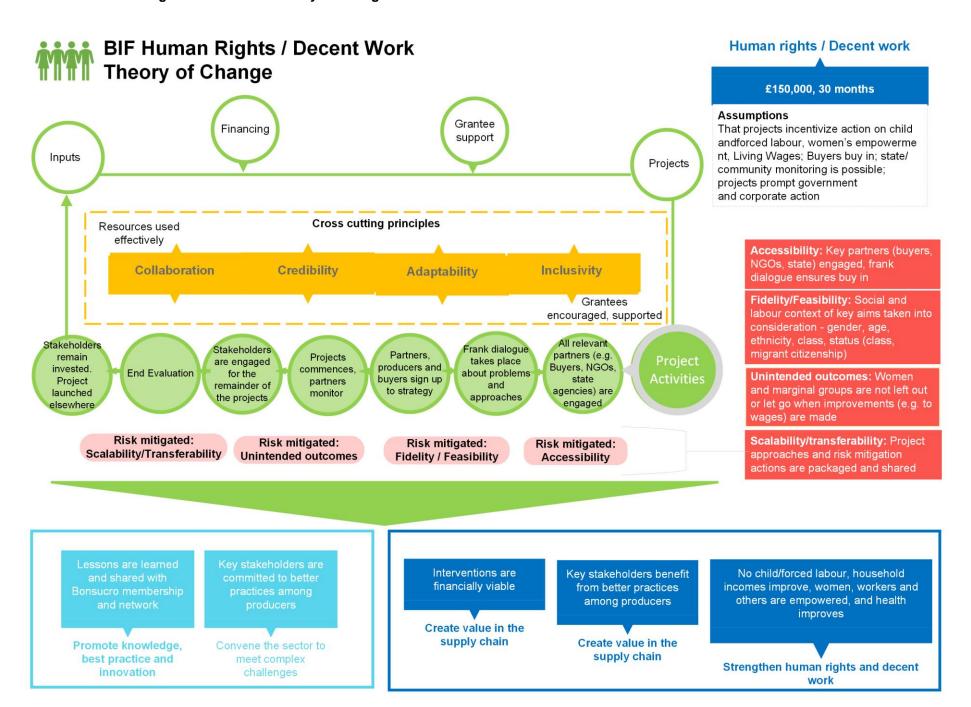
**Grantees to:** review sign-up / sign-off sheets or Check registries of trade

**MEL Consultant** to collect observations of grantees and **Bonsucro** to review sample of reports by Bonsucro members

Regular observations and reflections with MEL consultant

At start and at end

Grantees end/post project check-in / annual desk review of sample of member reports against BPSS





# **Bonsucro Impact Fund** Human Rights/Decent Work **MEL system**

Operational

# Outcomes

- Key partners are committed to better practices among producers
- Concept proven / innovation embedded
- Lessons are learned and shared within Bonsucro membership and network
- Household incomes improve, women, workers and others are empowered, and health improves
- New practices are financially viable / Key stakeholders benefit from better practices among producers
- for relevant stakeholders

# Indicators / data

- Cross-sector stakeholders by type (buyer, NGO, state)
- No of producers engaged in project activities, by size of farm
- by gender
- by number of workers
- type of job and wage levelsplit by gender

# Data collection methods

Grantees to review organisation type of partnership agreements

Grantees to: collect sign-up and sign-off forms (and check in with producers who exit the project).

# Data collection frequency

As stakehlolders sign up

Sign up forms collected at beginning, sign off forms collected at end Ongoing monitoring and as producers exit

# - Level of buy-in

Key partners'

Monitoring capacity

Reflections on what worked and the positive effects, what potential for replication. what additional investment has been achieved

The following, by gender

Grantees to: facilitate review meetings with key partners to review how much they are involved and who/what they have monitored, and outcomes

Grantees to: share their observations informed by partner meetings and relfections with MEL consultant

Review meetings as needed and formally at 6-monthly intervals

Observations and reflections with MEL consultant on an ongoing basis

# **Impacts**

- no child / forced labour - income, wage volatility - Increase in worker
- Knowledge generated creates systems change

Association/producer organisations

- AND/OR Incidence of chronic occupational health issues

Type of buyer and level of profit made from sugar sales

Evidence that project is / may be replicated elsewhere

Grantees to: pose 2-3 questions to a panel of % of workers in a sample location(s) (sample size . location decided on project-by-project basis with MEL consultant)

Grantees to: review sign-up / sign-off sheets or Check registries of trade

MEL Consultant to collect observations of grantees and **Bonsucro** to review sample of reports by Bonsucro members

Panel to meet at 6monthly intervals

At start and at end

Grantee check-in / desk review of sample of member reports on BPS/S