

Sustainable Development Benefits and Safeguards

A. Environmental and Social Risks – Assessment and management

In line with our requirement of listing only those carbon credits that have been achieved by adhering to all environmental, legal, and social safeguards, please confirm your organisation (as a Carbon Verification or Validation Body (CVB) working with the Assidium Registry), requires all mitigation activity proponents involved in the project or projects to:

- 1) abide by national and local laws, conventions, objectives, programs and regulations and where relevant, international ones also.

Ref: chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIPE_web.pdf

Ref: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/what-are-human-rights/international-bill-human-rights>

- 2) assess any associated risks of negative environmental and social impacts
- 3) and ensure Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes for Indigenous Peoples (IPs), and local communities (LC's), conduct local and general stakeholder consultations, in a manner that is inclusive and culturally respectful and appropriate, and to take these consultations into account and always respond to local stakeholders' views.

For each aspect of the environmental and social impacts assessment, the Project must demonstrate how these risks have been assessed and, if applicable, what mitigation plan is in place to prevent them. If risks are not applicable to the project this finding must be reported to Assidium Registry, and environmental and social regulators where applicable, and justified within the PDD.

B. Labour rights and working conditions

Please confirm that you require safe and healthy working conditions for all employees involved across the project/s, while ensuring their fair treatment; avoiding discrimination and ensuring equal opportunities. Forced labour, child labour, or trafficked persons is prohibited, including contracted workers employed by third parties. Please confirm in validated design documents that the mitigation activity adheres to the above safeguards.

C. Environment: Pollution prevention and resource efficiency

A Project must demonstrate that it creates no net environmental harm. The Assidium Registry strongly advocates the protection of the natural environment, and all its partners are required to work with this focus. It is the responsibility of the CVB to identify specific requirements for Environmental Impact Assessments within the location and type of a project. Please confirm your

organisation requires that the entire project ensures that the mitigation activity minimizes the following:

Pollution prevention and resource efficiency such as

1. pollutant emissions to air;
2. discharges to water, noise and vibration;
3. as well as generation of waste and release of hazardous materials, chemical pesticides and fertilisers

Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources

1. avoids, or minimises negative impacts on terrestrial and marine biodiversity and ecosystems
2. protects the habitats of rare, threatened, and endangered species, including areas needed for habitat connectivity.
3. does not convert natural forests, grasslands, wetlands, or high conservation value habitats.
4. minimises soil degradation and soil erosion.
5. minimises water consumption and stress in the mitigation activity.

Accordingly, do you require that mitigation activity proponents confirm in validated design documents that these factors are measured and reported; and where such impacts might occur, that it has put in place the measures to mitigate same?

D. Land acquisition and involuntary resettlement

Does your organisation ensure that the mitigation activity of the project avoids, or where this is not feasible, minimises forced physical and/or economic displacement?

Are reporting requirements in place, and where such activity results in these impacts, measures will have been put in place to identify the risks and to minimize such risks as far as possible?

E. Indigenous Peoples (IPs), local communities (LC's) and cultural heritage

Where the mitigation activity directly or indirectly impacts IPs & LCs, including livelihoods, ancestral knowledge and cultural heritage, confirm your organisation ensures that the mitigation activity:

- 1) recognises, respects and promotes the protection of the rights of IPs & LCs in line with applicable international human rights law, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples as noted above
- 2) identifies the rights-holders possibly affected by the mitigation activity (including customary rights of local rights holders) and where relevant, has applied the FPIC process.
- 3) does not force eviction or any physical or economic displacement of IPs & LCs, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, or resources, unless agreed upon with IPs & LCs during the FPIC process.
- 4) preserves and protects cultural heritage consistent with IPs & LCs protocols/rules/plans on the management of cultural heritage or UNESCO Cultural Heritage conventions.

b) Does your organisation confirm in validated design documents that the mitigation activity adheres to the above safeguards or that it has put in place mitigation methods?

F. Human rights and stakeholder engagement

Please confirm your organisation ensures that the project avoids discrimination including those based on gender and equal opportunity from every angle; abides by the International Bill of Human Rights and universal instruments ratified by the host country; and takes into account and responds to local stakeholders' views. Does it provide equal pay for equal work? Does it protect against and respond appropriately to any violence or abuse against women and girls.

We require your organisation to confirm in validated design documents that the mitigation activity adheres to the above safeguards, or that it has put in place appropriate mitigation measures.

G. Robust benefit-sharing

If your organisation requires arrangements for benefit-sharing with IPs & LCs, please confirm that you include in validated design documents information on how appropriate benefit-sharing arrangements will be designed and implemented; and that these will have been shared with affected IPs & LCs in a manner understandable to them. We require your organisation to make benefit-sharing outcomes that result from the benefit-sharing plan publicly available, subject to applicable legal restrictions.

H. Cancun safeguards

Please confirm your organisation requires for all REDD+ mitigation activities that the mitigation activity is consistent with all relevant Cancun Safeguards as set out in paragraph 71 of decision 1/CP.16 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

I. Sustainable Development Goals

Projects must demonstrate, where relevant and feasible, how their carbon removal activities are consistent with relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) objectives of all jurisdictions in which they operate. The SDGs are a set of 17 global and interconnected goals established by the United Nations in 2015 to address a wide range of social, economic, and environmental issues, available here:

[Sustainable Development Goals | United Nations Development Programme \(undp.org\)](https://undp.org/sustainable-development-goals)

Such an explanation should be included in the Project Design Document. If applicable, a qualitative assessment should be included for any positive impacts identified in relation to SDGs other than SDG13. Project Proponents should provide information on any standardized assessment tools and methods used as part of this explanation.

Signed in agreement with all of the above, except where specifically noted:

Company Details _____

Signed this _____ day of _____ in _____

Signed _____ Witnessed _____

Signatory Name

Signed on behalf of the Assidium Registry Limited:

Signed _____ Witnessed _____

Signatory Name