

Project Title
Afforestation Project in Tongliao, Inner Mongolia
Gold Standard ID
GS3031
Type of Certification
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial Certification <input type="checkbox"/> New Area Certification
Dual Certification
<input type="checkbox"/> FSC - Dual certification
If the project is certified according the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), the certification status replaces the completion of this template. Please provide the 'FSC Audit Report' in the <i>supporting documents</i> of section '3. Sustainability' and provide a reference to this <i>supporting document</i> in this template: ...

Design of physical meeting(s)

Agenda

- Opening of the meeting
- Explanation of the project; based on the content of the 'Key Project Information'
- Discussion of continuous input and grievance mechanism
- Questions for clarification about the project
- Blind 'SD Matrix' exercise
- Discussion on monitoring the mitigation measures
- Closure of the meeting

Invitation tracking table

Category code	Organisation (if relevant)	Name of invitee	Way of invitation	Date of invitation	Confirmation received? Y/N
A	Local village	Villagers	Oral + notices	Mar. 15 2014	Y
B	Local village head	Bao Haishan	Oral	Mar. 14 2014	Y
B	Bagatala government	Lu Guangming	Telephone	Mar. 14 2014	Y
B	Tongliao Forestry Bureau	Li Yunxiang	Email	Mar. 14 2014	
C	National Development and Reform Commission of China	Su Wei	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
C	National Development and Reform Commission of China	Wang Shu	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
D	Green Network	Da Long	Email	Mar. 17 2014	Y
D	Green Network	Haburi	Email	Mar. 17 2014	Y

D	Cold and Arid Regions Environmental and Engineering Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Zhao Xueyong	Email	Mar. 17 2014	Y
D	Cold and Arid Regions Environmental and Engineering Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Zhang Tonghui	Email	Mar. 17 2014	Y
E	Gold Standard Foundation	Annyta	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
E	Gold Standard Foundation	Shirley	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
F	HELIO International	Helene O'Connor-Lajambe	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
F	Mercy Corps	David Nicholson	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
F	REEEP	Katrin Harvey	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
F	World Vision Australia	Dr. Dean C Thomson	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
F	WWF International	Bella Roscher	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
F	Global Environmental Institute (GEI)	Xu Lili	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
F	Green Camel Bell (Gansu)	Ran Liping	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
F	Kangmei Institute of Community Development and Marketing	Wu Jiawei	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
F	Shanshui Conservation Center, China	Yang Fangyi	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
F	The Climate Group (China)	He Lili	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
F	Yunnan Green Environment Development Foundation, China	Wang Mei	Email	Mar. 14 2014	N
F	UNDP	Liu Yi	Email	Mar. 17 2014	N
F	UNDP	Li Jing	Email	Mar. 17 2014	N
F	UNDP	Zhang Weidong	Email	Mar. 17 2014	N

Describe your selection

According to the GS requirement, the relevant stakeholders include local villagers, local policy makers who are directly impacted by the project, and local and international NGOs involved.

Local villagers directly impacted by the project were invited through their most convenient way: the routine villager assembly. All of the villagers were invited to attend the physical LSC meeting in the assembly. Local

Describe your selection

policy makers and forest experts were also invited by phone calls. Formal invitation letters were all sent through emails to Local non-governmental organisations, local Gold Standard expert and relevant international non-governmental organisations. Considering gender, age and ethnicity diversity, this meeting invited stakeholders including males and females, people from different age groups and different ethnicities (Mongolian and Han ethnicities).

Text of individual invitations

Invitation to Gold Standard Local Stakeholder Consultation of Afforestation Project in Zhaogen Village, Tongliao, Inner Mongolia

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of Jane Goodall Institute – Shanghai Roots & Shoots and Climate Bridge Ltd., we would like to invite you to attend the Local Stakeholder Consultation of the afforestation project in Zhaogen Village, Tongliao, Inner Mongolia.

Afforestation project in Zhaogen Village, Tongliao, Inner Mongolia is designed to plant trees in the degraded and desert barren land beside the village to recover the vegetation and better utilize the land resources. Though a long-term forest monitoring and management plan, the forest carbon sink can be well maintained to contribute to solving climate change challenge.

The local stakeholder consultation aims to collect public opinions on this project, particularly to assess the impact and wellbeing on environmental, socio-economic, and health fields from the project, which is crucial to achieve the goal of sustainable development in local community that is highly valued by the Gold Standard.

Please see below for details of the meeting:

Date: Thursday, 10th April, 2014

Time: 13:00-16:00

Location: Zhaogen Village, Bagatala Town, Keerqin Left Back Banner, Tongliao Municipality, Inner Mongolia, China

Language: Mandarin/Dialect

Attached please find the non-technical summary of this project and the meeting agenda in both English and Chinese.

A report on the stakeholder consultation process will take into account any comments and suggestions that are serious, reasonable and proportional and changes will be made to the project design accordingly.

We would also like to facilitate a way for those not attending the public stakeholder consultation to send feedback in writing or via email.

Please let us know if you will attend the meeting before 4th April, 2014, thank you!

Best regards,
Shanghai Roots & Shoots
Climate Bridge Ltd.

Description of other consultation methods used

Some local government officers are unable to attend the main physical meeting, so the project owner arranged several small meetings with them through phone calls and face-to-face conversations to collect their

Description of other consultation methods used

suggestions regarding the project.

Participants' in physical meeting(s)

Reference ID to the original participants' list

Annex I

Additional comments:

27 people attended the meeting, 11 of them were female.

Participants list

Date and time	April 10 2014, 14:00			
Location	Ganqika Town, Tongliao City			
Category Code	Name of participant, job/ position in the community	Male/Female	Signature	Organisation (if relevant) Category Code
A	Tonglaga, villager	M	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Guomin, villager	M	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Aqilatu, villager	M	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Zhaolunbuhe, villager	M	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Liangguichun, villager	M	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Ximei, Committee member of the village	F	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Alatansunaga	M	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Yueliang, villager	F	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Tana, villager	F	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Chunxiang, villager	F	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Wuyun, villager	F	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Haiying, villager	F	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
B	Yongsheng, local officer	M	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
B	Baohaishan, village head	M	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Batu, villager	M	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Jigen, villager	M	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Changyue, villager	F	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
A	Hanjinyu, villager	M	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
B	Lu Guangming, local officer	M	See Annex I	Zhaogen village
D	Da Long	M	See Annex I	Green Network
Project owner	Chen Ting, project director	F	See Annex I	Shanghai Roots & Shoots
Project owner	Yang Huaize, coordinator	M	See Annex I	Shanghai Roots & Shoots

Project owner	Li Yujing, operations director	F	See Annex I	Shanghai Roots & Shoots
D	Zhang Tonghui, deputy chief of Naiman research station	M	See Annex I	Cold and Arid Regions Environmental and Engineering Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Sciences
Project owner	Wang Kai, project manager	M	See Annex I	Shanghai Roots & Shoots
Project owner	Qiao Tianli, coordinator	F	See Annex I	Shanghai Roots & Shoots
Consultant	Huang Shanfeng, project manager	F	See Annex I	Climate Bridge Ltd.

Evaluation forms

Reference ID to the original 'evaluation forms'

Annex II

Additional comments:

13 of the participants filled out the "evaluation forms", some illiterate villagers asked others to help fill in their evaluation forms by telling them their opinion orally.

Summarise the main comments in the table below (please translate into English if necessary). Provide references to the individual 'evaluation forms'.

What is your impression of the meeting?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Planting is good for our village; ➤ Planting is good for local environment; ➤ Got more knowledge of carbon sink; ➤ It is not easy to arrange a meeting in a village, which needs to be prepared in advance; ➤ It is great to communicate with local villagers directly through the stakeholders' meeting, which is a quite effective way for collecting comments and discussing cooperation with locals.
What do you like about the project?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Planting will improve the air condition; ➤ Planting can benefit our descendants and the economic and ecologic environment as well; ➤ Planting can prevent desertification; ➤ The project will increase the income of local villagers and improve their life quality; ➤ Local people's awareness of environmental protection will be raised through the implementation of the project.
What do you not like about the project?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The planting area is a little bit large; ➤ Communication with locals should be strengthened despite the language barrier.

Pictures from physical meeting(s)

The physical meeting:

Pictures from physical meeting(s)



Signing the participants list:



Brief introduction of the project:



Distribution of the meeting documents:



Discussion on the project:

Pictures from physical meeting(s)



Filling in the evaluation forms:



Outcome of consultation process

Minutes of physical meeting(s)

1. Opening of the meeting

- Sign the participation form
- Introduce the presented people
- Explain the aim of the meeting

2. Explanation of the project; based on the content of the 'Key Project Information'

- Brief introduction of the project by **Ms. Chen Ting**, Roots&Shoots
- Translation of the introduction to local language by **Mr. Bao Haishan**, Village Head
- Explanation of the traditional benefits and carbon benefits from A/R projects based on research by **Mr. Zhang Tonghui**, Cold and Arid Regions Environmental and Engineering Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Sciences

3. Discussion of continuous input and grievance mechanism

All the four following methods have been discussed:

- Continuous 'Input & Grievance Expression Process Book'
The stakeholders thought that book could be posted on the notice board of the village or kept by Village Head. Considering the language issue, a translation of local language was also necessary for villagers.

Minutes of physical meeting(s)

- Telephone access
The mobile phone number of contact person of the project (Ms. Chen Ting from Shanghai Roots & Shoots) was provided to all the stakeholders who were told that they can directly make a call in case they have any problem about the project. However, most of the local stakeholders can only speak local language - Mongolian, they asked for another contact person who can speak their language. Thus the telephone number of Village Head Mr. Bao Haishan was also provided.
- Internet and email access
The email address of Ms. Chen Ting was provided, as long as the email address of GS Regional Manager Ms. Shen Yuhuan.
- Nominated Independent Mediator (NIM)
The stakeholders thought the above three methods should be effective and sufficient, so there is no need to nominate an independent mediator in addition.

4. Questions for clarification about the project

- (1) When would the carbon revenue be generated by this project?

The carbon revenue is based on the quantity of GHG emission reductions generated by the project. For this project, we need to go through the Gold Standard application process which includes GS PFA, DOE validation, GS registration, DOE verification and GS issuance.

Generally, it will take 6-12 months for the whole process, however, the carbon sink of the young trees is very small even negative, so the carbon revenue may only be generated from the 3rd or 4th year after planting. Besides, the forest needs to be maintained carefully to make sure the continuity of the carbon sink.

- (2) There would be a conflict between pasture and forest, and the profits of herding on pasture may be affected by planting trees, how would this problem be solved?

The planting area was mostly sandy land before, so there would be no influence on the local pasture. Besides, the planting of trees will improve the local soil condition which is good for growth of the grass. And once the trees grow up, the grass under the trees can be used for grazing too, which should be a win-win situation.

- (3) The planting should be well managed and maintained to ensure a high survival rate, how would this management be planed?

An organization of local village will be established to make sure the planting activity to be well implemented. The planting area will be divided into several pieces for the villagers, and each person will be responsible for his/her own piece.

Shanghai Roots & Shoots will be in charge of the overall management of the planting project, and a special person will be assigned to oversee the implementation of the project.

- (4) At the early stage of the planting, grazing may harm the young trees, what kind of measure would be taken to keep animals out of the planting area?

The project owner will set up fences around the planting area to prevent the animals from trespassing and grazing. A designated person will be assigned to maintain the fences regularly. In addition, although each villager is only responsible for his/her own piece of the land, they should be encouraged to help others to maintain the fences even if they are not for his/her piece of land, because the planting area belongs to everyone as a joint property.

5. Blind 'SD Matrix' exercise

- Brief introduction of the 'SD Matrix' exercise

Minutes of physical meeting(s)

by **Ms. Huang Shanfeng**, Climate Bridge Ltd.

- Blind 'SD Matrix' exercise

All the present stakeholders participated in the exercise, most of them were interested in the environmental impact more than others and thought the planting activity would benefit the local environment.

The detailed results are shown in the SD tables as followed.

6. Discussion on monitoring the mitigation measures

Based on the scores of SD Matrix given by stakeholders, the relevant monitoring measures were also discussed. All the stakeholders were willing to participate in monitoring, and suggested the most practical method for some indicators.

The detailed discussion is shown in the following tables.

7. Closure of the meeting

- Thank everyone for participating this meeting and raising their comments
- Explain the evaluation form and asked the participants to fill out the forms
- Collect the evaluation forms and close the meeting

Some of the stakeholders are illiterate, so they asked others to help fill in their evaluation forms for them by telling them their opinion orally.

Minutes of other consultations

Since the officer of Tongliao Forestry Bureau Mr. Li Yunxiang could not attend the physical meeting due to the long distance, the project owner arranged a small meeting with Mr. Li in Ganqika Town the night after the closure of the physical meeting, to collect his suggestions and comments.

The minutes of the meeting were summarized as below:

Chen Ting, from the project owner explained the project idea and concept to Mr. Li and asked if he had any comments or concerns over it. He asked some further questions over the project phases and future auditions, including the possible influences to the local residents. After hearing the answers, he expressed his support for this project and thought it would bring benefits to the local villagers. Meanwhile, he also showed his concern on the possible misunderstanding between the villagers and the project team, especially when the trees reached a certain period of maturity. He said he would offer his help if needed.

Assessment of all comments

Stakeholder comment	Was comment taken into account (Y/N)	Explanation (Why? How?)
The planting area is quite large	N	The total planting area will be divided into several pieces for each villager, so it is easier for each family to conduct maintenance and management.

The language translation should be improved	Y	Considering most of the local stakeholders belong to Mongolian ethnicity, the translation of the relevant documents (e.g. Continuous Input and Grievance Expression Process Book, Brief introduction of the project, etc.) will be provided to local stakeholders.
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Summary of alterations based on comments

During the whole implementation of the project, the project owner will provide more translation service for local villagers for better understanding.

Sustainable Development Assessment

Sustainable Development Assessment of the project owner:

Do this assessment before you have the results from the stakeholders.

Indicator	Description and Score	Mitigation measure
Environment	Category score: +1	
1. Air quality	The air quality will be slightly improved by the planting, but the impact is not significant. Indicator score: 0	N/A
2. Water quality and quantity	Forest can preserve and purify water, but the project scale is quite small and the impact is not significant. Indicator score: 0	N/A
3. Soil condition	After planting, the sand dunes can be stabilized and the soil erosion and desertification will be mitigated. Therefore the soil condition can be significantly improved. Indicator score: +1	N/A
4. Other pollutants	No other pollutants caused by the project. Indicator score: 0	N/A
5. Biodiversity	The local biodiversity will be increased along with the increased vegetation coverage. Indicator score: +1	N/A
Social Development	Category score: +1	
6. Quality of employment	The project owner will hire no permanent employees, all the planting will be completed by local villagers and some volunteers, so there is no significant impact to quality of employment. Indicator score: 0	N/A
7. Livelihood of the poor	Local villagers may benefit from the forest pasture after the trees grow up, but the impact on livelihood is not immediate. Indicator score: 0	N/A
8. Access to affordable and clean	Not relevant. Indicator score: 0	N/A

Sustainable Development Assessment of the project owner: Do this assessment before you have the results from the stakeholders.		
Indicator	Description and Score	Mitigation measure
energy services		
9. Human and institutional capacity	A voluntary organization of farmers will be established for implementation of planting which will empower the local residents to express their own needs and reduces risks of conflicts. Indicator score: +1	N/A
Economic & Technical Development	Category score: 0	
10. Quantitative employment and income generation	The project owner will hire no permanent employees, all the planting will be completed by local villagers and some volunteers, so there is no significant impact to quantitative employment and income generation. Indicator score: 0	N/A
11. Access to investment	Through the planting project, local villagers will have more opportunities to be exposed to volunteers from big cities even foreigners, but the direct investment is still hard to predict. Indicator score: 0	N/A
12. Technology transfer and technological self-reliance	New technology and information will be introduced to the local village, but the impact is not significant. Indicator score: 0	N/A

Justification choices, data source and provision of references A justification paragraph and reference source is required for each indicator, regardless of score. References can be an academic or non-academic source, such as a university research document, a feasibility study report, environmental impact assessment, relevant website, etc.	
Environment	
1. Air quality	The air quality in Tongliao is quite well. PM10 is the major pollutant, while SO ₂ will rise during winter season as the coal heating system is on. By planting trees, the air will be cleaner as trees will absorb dirt and pollutant in the air and slower the wind which will blow up the sands and form sand storms in spring. However, such influence is minor compared to the general atmosphere. Reference: TAI Jicheng, LIU Tao, FU Yanqiu etc. <i>Analysis and Evaluation on Status of Air Quality within the Last Three Years in Tongliao City.</i> [J] Journal of Inner Mongolia University of Nationalities. Vol. 28 No.6 Nov. 2013
2. Water quality and quantity	Forest can preserve and purify water. As this project only include 3,000 Mu of forest. Compared to the total of 3.7 billion cubic meters of water quantity in Tongliao, such a positive influence is very small. As there's no intercropping in the project area, pollutant from agricultural chemicals is zero. If pest problems occur, pesticides might be used, which will cause some pollution but the quantity to be applied will not exceed safety limits. Reference: YANG Xiaohui, ZHONG Jianhua, HUO Fenglan, etc. <i>Utilization status and analysis of</i>

Justification choices, data source and provision of references	
A justification paragraph and reference source is required for each indicator, regardless of score. References can be an academic or non-academic source, such as a university research document, a feasibility study report, environmental impact assessment, relevant website, etc.	
	<i>Tongliao's Water Resources</i> . [J] Inner Mongolia Irrigation. November 2011 Issue 134. SI Qin, FANG Hong, JIANG Dongkai. <i>On the water pollution in Tongliao</i> . [J] Technology and Economics of Inner Mongolia. No. 14, 2014
3. Soil condition	<p>The local soil condition is very sandy. Part of the project area is mobile sand dunes. Nutrients in the soil are very low and water is easy to evaporate. Erosion and degradation are very severe in this area. According to the experts, by proactive human interference (such as fencing), planting trees/bushes /grasses, such degraded grasslands can be well managed, sand dunes can be stabilized and soil condition improved. In some of the afforestation/reforestation project implemented in similar areas, it is observed that the top-soil's quality has improved, especially after some years when the forest is grown. Fallen leaves and regenerated vegetation offer great nutrients, while the rich root system stabilizes the sands.</p> <p>Reference: FAN Fu, ZHANG Yongliang, LI Zhigang, etc. <i>Characteristics of the natural grassland soil in Tongliao and Improvement Measures</i>. [J] Symposium of China Grassland Society 2000. LIN Ruilan, <i>Analysis to the Environmental Influence and Prevention Measures of Ecological Construction in Kubuqi Forest</i>. [J] Central South Forest Inventory and Planning, May 2013, Vol.32 No.2.</p>
4. Other pollutants	Planting is a quite clean activity and no other pollutants will be caused.
5. Biodiversity	<p>Although the afforestation practices will involve digging the land for planting, the working period is quite short and the influence on plants and animals is very limited. It is not likely that any species will go extinct because of the afforestation project. At the same time, planting trees and bushes, especially in the sandy lands, increases the vegetation coverage and raises the biodiversity of this micro ecological system. When trees get taller and crowned, they will provide shelter for animals such as birds, insects and small mammals. In general, the biodiversity will increase because of the afforestation project.</p> <p>Reference: LIN Ruilan, <i>Analysis to the Environmental Influence and Prevention Measures of Ecological Construction in Kubuqi Forest</i>. [J] Central South Forest Inventory and Planning, May 2013, Vol.32 No.2 World Bank. 2012. <i>China – Hunan Forest Restoration and Development Project</i>. Washington D.C.: The World Bank.</p>
Social Development	
6. Quality of employment	<p>In the CDM afforestation/reforestation project in Heilongjiang Province, it has positive effect on the employment quality as there are a lot of forestry workers out of work or suffering from bad working conditions. Such a project solves these problems. However, for this project in Inner Mongolia, local residents earn their living from herding and farming. The project owner hires no permanent employees, all the planting will be finished by local villagers and some volunteers. Although the locals enjoy the extra income from planting, the quality of their employment is not obviously changed due to this project.</p> <p>Reference: KE Shuifa, LI Zhou, ZHENG Yan, etc. <i>Analysis of the Influence on Employment of Afforestation in China</i>. Agricultural Economics. Issue 3, 2010. HUANG Yinli, YU Peiyan, LI Aiqin, etc. <i>Analysis of Expected Influence on Employment of CDM Afforestation and Reforestation Project: An Research Based on Heilongjiang Province</i>. Ecological Economics. Issue 2, 2012</p>
7. Livelihood of	Local villagers may benefit from the forest pasture after the trees grow up. Such benefit is

Justification choices, data source and provision of references	
<p>A justification paragraph and reference source is required for each indicator, regardless of score. References can be an academic or non-academic source, such as a university research document, a feasibility study report, environmental impact assessment, relevant website, etc.</p>	
the poor	<p>good to improve their life slightly, but not great enough to change their livelihood. As the land is barren before planting, this project won't make their livelihood worse either.</p> <p>Reference: YE Jingzhong, CHENG Tianshu, YANG Zhao, etc. <i>Social Economical Analysis on Afforestation and Sand-Control Project Design</i>. [J] Soft Science of China. Issue 8, 2005.</p>
8. Access to affordable and clean energy services	Not relevant.
9. Human and institutional capacity	<p>Forest is a public resource. To better manage this, a voluntary organization of farmers will be established as a key part of the afforestation project. This organization will empower the local residents to express their own needs and reduce risks of conflicts. When problems occur, this organization can offer a platform for everyone to effectively communicate and solve the problem. Through managing this organization, the community members will develop their own communications and problem solving skills.</p> <p>LIANG Chuan. <i>The Relationship between Villagers' self-organized Committee and Forest Restoration and Protection</i>. [J] Forestry and Society, Issue 13, 2005.</p>
Economic & Technical Development	
10. Quantitative employment and income generation	<p>According to other similar forestation project, it is estimated that the employment and income generation might improve because of the project. However, the improvement is minor over a long period of time.</p> <p>World Bank. 2012. <i>China – Hunan Forest Restoration and Development Project: indigenous people plan: Social Assessment Report</i>. Washington D.C.: The World Bank.</p>
11. Access to investment	<p>As the infrastructure will improve in the coming years, the access of investment for the local villagers will increase for sure. However, such an increase doesn't have a lot to do with the afforestation project as we see it. By joining in this project, the villagers have more opportunities to meet the volunteers from big cities, even foreign countries, but not necessarily investment opportunities.</p> <p>Reference: World Bank. 2012. <i>China – Hunan Forest Restoration and Development Project: indigenous people plan: Social Assessment Report</i>. Washington D.C.: The World Bank.</p>
12. Technology transfer and technological self-reliance	<p>New technology and information will be introduced to this village. This will broaden their view and improve their planting practices. However because of their comparatively low education level and language barrier, technology transfer and technological self-reliance do not seem likely.</p> <p>Reference: World Bank. 2012. <i>China – Hunan Forest Restoration and Development Project: indigenous people plan: Social Assessment Report</i>. Washington D.C.: The World Bank.</p>

Summary of Sustainable Development Assessment of the stakeholders - BLIND exercise:		
Indicator	Description and Score	Mitigation measure

Summary of Sustainable Development Assessment of the stakeholders - BLIND exercise:		
Indicator	Description and Score	Mitigation measure
Environment	Category score: +1	
13. Air quality	The air quality will be improved after planting trees. Indicator score: +1	N/A
14. Water quality and quantity	It is not an industrial project, so there will be no significant impact on local water quality; Also, the project area is rich of underground water. Therefore the water quantity will not be affected. Indicator score: 0	N/A
15. Soil condition	The soil condition can be improved by planting, and the forest pasture may be possible which is good for local shepherds. Indicator score: +1	N/A
16. Other pollutants	There is no other pollutant. Indicator score: 0	N/A
17. Biodiversity	Planting will increase the vegetation coverage, and improve the local ecosystem which will also increase biodiversity. Indicator score: +1	N/A
Social Development	Category score: +1	
18. Quality of employment	No significant impact. Indicator score: 0	N/A
19. Livelihood of the poor	No significant impact. Indicator score: 0	N/A
20. Access to affordable and clean energy services	No significant impact. Indicator score: 0	N/A
21. Human and institutional capacity	It is good to establish a local organization for the planting project. By learning more advanced technology and management skills, the local community's capacity can be significantly improved. Indicator score: +1	N/A
Economic & Technical Development	Category score: 0	
22. Quantitative employment and income generation	No significant impact. Indicator score: 0	N/A
23. Access to investment	No significant impact. Indicator score: 0	N/A
24. Technology transfer and technological self-reliance	No significant impact. Indicator score: 0	N/A

Comments accompanying the BLIND exercise

The stakeholders were more concerned about the environmental impact than social and economic impact, and they thought the planting could benefit the local environment by improving the soil condition, air quality and ecosystem.

Main differences

The stakeholders thought the air quality could be significantly improved after planting, since the planting area is mostly sandy and degraded grassland and the local air quality is quite bad during the windy season, the stakeholders expected the forest could mitigate the local desertification and improve ecological and environmental quality. Therefore they scored +1 for air quality, soil condition and biodiversity.

However, according to the research, the planting scale of this project is quite small, thus the impact on local environment not so significant. Also, the monitoring method for the environmental impact is quite complicated and it is not easy for local stakeholders to participate in monitoring. Based on this, the indicator scores of air quality and soil condition were changed from +1 to 0.

Consolidated Sustainable Development Assessment - with final scores		
Indicator	Description and Score	Mitigation measure
Environment	Category score: +1	
25. Air quality	The air quality will be slightly improved by the planting, but the impact is not significant. Indicator score: 0	N/A
26. Water quality and quantity	Forests can preserve and purify water, but the project scale is quite small and the impact is not significant. Indicator score: 0	N/A
27. Soil condition	After planting, the sand dunes can be stabilized and the soil erosion and desertification will be mitigated. Therefore the soil condition can be significantly improved but the monitoring method is quite complicated and it is not easy for local stakeholders' participant, so the indicator was scored as 0. Indicator score: 0	N/A
28. Other pollutants	No other pollutants caused by the project. Indicator score: 0	N/A
29. Biodiversity	The local biodiversity will be increased along with the increased vegetation coverage. Indicator score: +1	N/A
Social Development	Category score: +1	
30. Quality of employment	The project owner will hire no permanent employees, all the planting will be completed by local villagers and some volunteers, so there is no significant impact to quality of employment. Indicator score: 0	N/A
31. Livelihood of the poor	Local villagers may benefit from the forest pasture after the trees grow up, but the impact on livelihood is not obvious.	N/A

Consolidated Sustainable Development Assessment - with final scores		
Indicator	Description and Score	Mitigation measure
	Indicator score: 0	
32. Access to affordable and clean energy services	Not relevant. Indicator score: 0	N/A
33. Human and institutional capacity	A voluntary organization of farmers will be established for implementation of the planting which will empower the local residents to express their own needs and reduce risks of conflicts. Also, given the diversified ethnic structure of Zhaogen Village, the ethnically Mongolian residents who are minorities are also able to participate in local decision-making, which is good for local institutional capacity. Indicator score: +1	N/A
Economic & Technical Development	Category score: 0	
34. Quantitative employment and income generation	The project owner will hire no permanent employees. All the planting will be completed by local villagers and some volunteers, so there is no significant impact to quality of employment. Indicator score: 0	N/A
35. Access to investment	Local villagers may benefit from the forest pasture after the trees grow up, but the impact on livelihood is not obvious. Indicator score: 0	N/A
36. Technology transfer and technological self-reliance	Not relevant. Indicator score: 0	N/A

Sustainability Monitoring Plan

Discussion on Sustainability Monitoring Plan

The stakeholders thought the project would significantly benefit the local environment and they were willing to participate in monitoring of the SD indicators.

For the indicator of biodiversity, a questionnaire could be used for local stakeholders to monitor the visible change of the local ecosystem.

For the indicator of human and institutional capacity, the stakeholders suggested also using a questionnaire to reflect their own feelings about the local community with regards to this project.

Please refer to the specific Sustainability Monitoring Plan for detailed monitoring method for the SD indicators.

Discussion on continuous Input and Grievance Mechanism

Discussion on Sustainability Monitoring Plan

Discuss the continuous Input and Grievance Mechanism expression method and details, as discussed with local stakeholders.

	Method chosen (include all known details e.g. location of book, phone, number, identity of mediator)	Justification
Continuous Input and Grievance Expression Process Book	<p>The Continuous Input and Grievance Expression Process Book has been published on the notice board of the local village. Stakeholders can write their comments or suggestions in the book anytime.</p> <p>As most of the local residents are ethnically Mongolian, the book has been translated into Mongolian language for the convenience of locals.</p> <p>The project owner will check the book regularly and collect all the comments received.</p>	<p>The Continuous Input and Grievance Expression Process Book is the most efficient way to collect the stakeholders' comments, especially for those who ask to give comments anonymously.</p>
Telephone access	<p>Ms. Chen Ting Tel: +86 21 6352 3580</p> <p>Mr. Bao Haishan Tel: +86 138 4805 9079</p>	<p>As the Director of the Million Tree Project of Shanghai Roots & Shoots, Ms. Chen Ting is responsible for the implementation of the project. Stakeholders can get direct feedback from her if they have any comments or problem about the project.</p> <p>Mr. Bao Haishan is the local village head who can speak the local language, and it is easier for local residents to speak with him through telephone for any request.</p>
Internet/email access	<p>Project owner: Ms. Chen Ting Email: ting.chen@jgi-shanghai.org</p> <p>GS Regional Manager: Ms. Shen Yuhuan Email: shirley@cdmgoldstandard.org</p>	<p>Email access is the most convenient way for stakeholders who have frequent email access, and it is also convenient for project owner to record all the comments and feedback process.</p>

Nominated Independent Mediator (optional)	N/A	Since local residents have easy access to telephone and there will be Mongolian translation in the book, there is no need to nominate an independent mediator additionally.
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Stakeholder feedback round

Description of the design of the stakeholder feedback round

The LSC report and other project documents (non-confidential) has been submitted to Gold Standard Registry on August 5 2014 and has been published for all the stakeholders to make comments, also some hard copies with brief translation of the documents have been provided to local residents.

Besides, project owner made a simple interview for the stakeholders who attended the physical LSC meeting during the following site visit of the Initial Certification on April 22 of 2015 to find out if there is any follow-up feedback from them. According to the interview, the stakeholders thought the planting was quite successful in the past year, and once all the trees grow up, the local environment would be significantly improved since the degenerated desert land would be turned into forest.

From August 2014 when LSC was published to April 2015 when site visit of Initial Certification was conduct by the auditor, no comments were received.

Annex I: Original participants' list



内蒙古通辽造林项目
黄金标准利益相关方会议签到表

会议时间：2014年04月10日（星期四）				
会议地点：通辽市甘旗卡镇				
编号	姓名, 职务	性别	签字	单位
1	通拉嘎	男	通拉嘎	党员
2	国民	男	国民	村民代表
3	阿其拉图	男	阿其拉图	退休教师
4	朝轮布和	男	朝轮布和	村民代表
5	梁桂春	男	梁桂春	村民代表
6	喜梅	女	喜梅	村委委员
7	阿拉坦苏那嘎	男	阿拉坦苏那嘎	党员
8	月亮	女	月亮	村民代表
9	塔娜	女	塔娜	村民代表
10	春香	女	春香	村民代表
11	乌云	女	乌云	党员
12	海英	女	海英	村民代表
13	永胜	男	梁永生	支部书记
14	包瀚山	男	包瀚山	召福村长
15	巴心	男	巴心	文书
16	吉增根	男	吉增根	村民代表
17	长月	女	长月	村民代表
18	韩金鱼	男	韩金鱼	党员



19				班村
20	卢广明	男	卢广明	森林领导
21	大龙隆司	男	大龙隆司	水 绿化网络
22	陈婷	女	陈婷	根与芽
23	杨慧萍	男	杨慧萍	根与芽
24	李煜菁	女	李煜菁	根与芽
25	张丽会	男	张丽会	中科院寒旱所
26	王凯	男	王凯	根与芽
27	王天臣	女	王天臣	根与芽
28	袁山根	女	袁山根	环境研
29				
30				

Annex II: Original 'evaluation forms'

利益相关方会议满意度评估表

姓名	通拉嘎
您对本次会议有何感想?	栽树对我们村有好处
关于本项目您喜欢哪方面?	项目有好处
关于本项目您不喜欢哪方面?	没有
签名	通拉嘎

利益相关方会议满意度评估表

姓名	王梅山
您对本次会议有何感想?	对我们的好话。
关于本项目您喜欢哪方面?	我喜欢空气好。
关于本项目您不喜欢哪方面?	没有意见。
签名	王梅山

利益相关方会议满意度评估表

姓名	郭敬东
您对本次会议有何感想?	理解植树造林的深远意义
关于本项目您喜欢哪方面?	对气候.生态.环境.土地少 化改善
关于本项目您不喜欢哪方面?	无
签名	郭敬东

利益相关方会议满意度评估表

姓名	阿其托因
您对本次会议有何感想?	对碳汇的理解更深
关于本项目您喜欢哪方面?	植树造林有利于子孙后代,有利于 生态有利于经济效益。
关于本项目您不喜欢哪方面?	无
签名	阿其托因



利益相关方会议满意度评估表

姓名	梁程春
您对本次会议有何感想?	种树种草, 利于改善环境
关于本项目您喜欢哪方面?	无
关于本项目您不喜欢哪方面?	无
签名	梁程春

利益相关方会议满意度评估表

姓名	大高兴
您对本次会议有何感想?	对我们好处。
关于本项目您喜欢哪方面?	我喜欢空气良。
关于本项目您不喜欢哪方面?	没有意见。
签名	大高兴

利益相关方会议满意度评估表

姓名	吉口根
您对本次会议有何感想?	对我有好处
关于本项目您喜欢哪方面?	对空气好
关于本项目您不喜欢哪方面?	没有
签名	吉口根

利益相关方会议满意度评估表

姓名	韩金鱼
您对本次会议有何感想?	有好处
关于本项目您喜欢哪方面?	对空气好
关于本项目您不喜欢哪方面?	没有
签名	韩金鱼



利益相关方会议满意度评估表

姓名	喜梅
您对本次会议有何感想?	有我好处。
关于本项目您喜欢哪方面?	对空气好
关于本项目您不喜欢哪方面?	没有
签名	喜梅

利益相关方会议满意度评估表

姓名	大松隆司
您对本次会议有何感想?	在村里开会不容易, 要提前准备。
关于本项目您喜欢哪方面?	收入
关于本项目您不喜欢哪方面?	面积大。
签名	大松隆司



利益相关方会议满意度评估表

姓名	李品芳
您对本次会议有何感想?	很好,近距离和农民接触,较有效率的收集信息,确定合作方式
关于本项目您喜欢哪方面?	正确引导农民植树造林,改善生活,改善沙化环境,普及环保意识.
关于本项目您不喜欢哪方面?	语言沟通需专业解释上需耐心.
签名	李品芳

利益相关方会议满意度评估表

姓名	张翎令
您对本次会议有何感想?	非常好,了解基层实际,促进项目开展.
关于本项目您喜欢哪方面?	将造林,碳汇与生态环境建设相结合.
关于本项目您不喜欢哪方面?	语言沟通需加强(蒙语翻译)
签名	张翎令

利益相关方会议满意度评估表

姓名	彭吐
您对本次会议有何感想?	对本次项目有我村好处。
关于本项目您喜欢哪方面?	空气好。
关于本项目您不喜欢哪方面?	没有。
签名	彭吐