

VERIFICATION OF

REDD+ PROJECT RESGUARDO INDÍGENA UNIFICADO – SELVA DE MATAVÉN (RIU-SM)



EPIC Sustainability

Document Prepared By: EPIC Sustainability

Project Title	REDD+ PROJECT RESGUARDO INDÍGENA UNIFICADO – SELVA DE MATAVÉN (RIU-SM)
Version	Version 01.1
Report ID	ESSPL/VCS/2018/056

Report Title	Verification of “REDD+ PROJECT RESGUARDO INDÍGENA UNIFICADO – SELVA DE MATAVÉN (RIU-SM)”
Client	MEDIAMOS F&M S.A.S
Pages	52
Date of Issue	19/11/2018
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Summary:

MEDIAMOS F&M S.A.S has appointed EPIC Sustainability Services Private Limited to perform the second periodic verification of the emission reductions reported for the project titled “REDD+ PROJECT RESGUARDO INDÍGENA UNIFICADO – SELVA DE MATAVÉN (RIU-SM)” (Project ID: 1566) for the period from 01st January 2016 to 31st December 2017 for the net reductions achieved by the project during this period. The verification was based on the validated project description (PD) corresponding validation report, first monitoring and verification reports and other supporting documents made available to the verification team by the client.

The REDD+ Project *Resguardo Indígena Unificado–Selva de Mataven* (REDD+ Project RIU-SM) has established and integrated management system of forests and lands of the indigenous reserve, to ensure its sustainability and to mitigate threats of its conservation and recovery. The objective of avoiding deforestation and degradation in the territory of RIU-SM, in a forest area of 1,632,788 ha. (in Project Area and Leakage Belt, 2016) of forests is achieved through the implementation of a REDD+ Project in the territory of *Resguardo Indígena Unificado–Selva de Mataven*. *The location of the project is east of the high plain Orinoco Colombian region in the transition belt between the savannas of the Orinoco and the Amazon forests, in the eastern part of the Department of Vichada, and in the municipality of Cumaribo.*

The verification team identified, through the verification process, 04 CARs and 07 CLs and 01 FAR. The client has taken actions and submitted to EPIC the revised monitoring report and supporting evidence. The verification team, through the verification process, confirmed that the emission reductions achieved by the project activity during the monitoring period are correctly calculated in the monitoring report, Version 2, dated 10th October 2018. Therefore, EPIC has proceeded to certify that the net emission reductions amounting to 6,404,775 tCO₂e for the period from 01st January 2016 to 31st December 2017 are accurate, complete, consistent, transparent and free of material error or omission.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Objective

EPIC Sustainability Services Private Limited (EPIC) has been contracted by MEDIAMOS F&M S.A.S to undertake the validation and second periodic independent verification of the project activity titled “REDD+ PROJECT RESGUARDO INDÍGENA UNIFICADO – SELVA DE MATAVÉN (RIU-SM)”:

- To verify that the actual monitoring system and procedures are in full compliance with the system and procedures described in the monitoring plan of validated PD as well as with the applicable methodology;
- To verify the monitoring report with deviations are in compliance with monitoring plan and VCS rules
- To verify that the data reported were accurate, complete, consistent, transparent and free of material error or omission by checking the monitoring records and the emissions reduction calculation; and
- To verify and certify GHG emission reduction reported for the project for the period from 01st January 2016 to 31st December 2017.

1.2 Scope and Criteria

The scope of the verification was the independent and objective review and ex-post determination of the monitored reductions in GHG emissions from “REDD+ PROJECT RESGUARDO INDÍGENA UNIFICADO – SELVA DE MATAVÉN (RIU-SM)”. The verification of this project was based on the validated project description (PD), validation report, first monitoring and verification reports and supporting documents made available to the verification team. These documents were reviewed against the requirements of the VCS standard version 3.7, VCS guidelines, the CDM Modalities and Procedures, related rules and guidance, and the VCS Validation and Verification manual Version 3.2.

The verification is not meant to provide any consulting towards the client. However, stated request for clarifications and/or corrective actions may provide input for improvement of the project design.

EPIC has performed the verification based on a risk based approach focusing mainly on the significant risks to meet the qualification criteria and the ability to generate VCUs. The work carried out by EPIC is free from any conflict of interest.

1.3 Level of Assurance

In line with VCS requirements and as per ISO 14064-3:2006 para A.2.3.2, a reasonable level of assurance is defined for the verification of the project. This implies that based on the process and procedures conducted EPIC should state whether the information in the monitoring report is materially correct and is a fair representation of the actual project details, and is prepared in accordance with the VCS requirements and the applied methodology for information pertaining to GHG quantification, monitoring and reporting.

1.4 Summary Description of the Project

The REDD+ Project Resguardo Indígena Unificado–Selva de Mataven (REDD+ Project RIU-SM) has established and integrated management system of forests and lands of the indigenous reserve, to ensure its sustainability and to mitigate threats of its conservation and recovery. The objective of avoiding deforestation and degradation in the territory of RIU-SM, in a forest area of 1,632,788 ha. (in Project Area and Leakage Belt, 2016) of forests is achieved through the implementation of a REDD+ Project in the territory of Resguardo Indígena Unificado–Selva de Mataven. The location of the project is east of the high plain Orinoco Colombian region in the transition belt between the savannas of the Orinoco and the Amazon forests, in the eastern part of the Department of Vichada, and in the municipality of Cumaribo.

2 VERIFICATION PROCESS

2.1 Method and Criteria

The verification process consisted of the following phases:

- a document review of the project design documents, monitoring reports and preparation of verification protocol;
- on-site visit to the project activity and interviews with project developer and project consultant;
- resolution of outstanding issues and the issuance of final verification report and opinion

The Verification was based on the guidance documents provided by VCS which included the following: VCS Standard version v3.7 Issued: 21 June 2017, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use Requirements v3.6 Issued: 21 June 2017, VM0007 REDD Methodology Framework, and AFOLU Non-Permanence Risk Tool v3.2 and latest valid version of VCS verification template. The verification and sampling plan methodology was based on VCS guidance documents and ISO 14064-3:2006.

For this verification, the audit was planned to visit 6 samples which were selected based on the strata classification and logistics. As one sample was not accessible due to flooding, extra sample was inspected for conformance with the audit plan. At each site, strata based sampling was followed across the different ages for the trees. For the desktop verification, equivalent sample size was chosen. A risk based approach was used to select the samples to allow a review of members targeted to represent a wide geographic range of sites; sufficient to provide the necessary sample size and to meet a reasonable level of assurance.

During the validation and verification, non-fulfilment of the verification protocol criteria or identified risks to the fulfilment of project objectives were raised as either CAR or CR. Corrective Action Requests (CAR) were issued, where:

- mistakes had been made that directly impacted on the project results; or
- VCS requirements had not been met; or
- there was a risk that the project would not be accepted as a VCS project or that emission reductions will not be certified.

The Clarification Requests (CR) were issued where additional information was needed to clarify issues, and Forward Action Requests (FAR) for issues relating to project implementation that required review during the verification of the project activity. The IRs (Information Requests) were requested when additional information was required. The list of the findings are summarised in Appendix I.

The following team members from EPIC were involved in verification process:

Name	Role	Components reviewed
Dr G Vishnu	Lead Auditor	Completeness check, desk review, onsite inspection, Interview with project representatives, issuance of findings, report preparation.
Dr. R.Madhukar	Team member	Desk review, onsite inspection, Interview with project representatives, issuance of findings, Interviews with community and project representatives
Ms.Catalina Becerra	Host Country expert	onsite inspection, Interview with project representatives
Mr A. Prabu Das	Technical Review	Checking and verifying of information related to draft final report.

2.2 Document Review

The verification was performed primarily based on the review of the monitoring report and the supporting documentation. This process included:-

1. review of data and information presented to verify their completeness
2. review of the Project design, Monitoring Plan and monitoring methodology, paying particular attention to the monitored parameters and QA/QC requirements, and Internal SOPs.
3. an evaluation of data management and the QA/QC system in the context of their influence on the generation and reporting of ERs.

The VCS monitoring report, Version 01, was initially reviewed and further EPIC requested the PP to present the supporting evidences. Additional background information and documents related to the project performance were also reviewed by EPIC. Through the process of the verification, the revised monitoring report and the supporting documents were evaluated to confirm the actions taken by the PP to the CARs and CRs issued by EPIC. The documents reviewed by EPIC are listed in references section of this report. EPIC reviewed the final version (Version 03) of the monitoring report to confirm that all changes agreed had been incorporated. The entire list of documents reviewed is summarised in Section 7.0.

2.3 Interviews

After the review of the Project description and documents a site visit was carried out from 2nd to 9th September 2018. During the site visit physical inspection of the project components followed by interviews with the on-site personnel was carried out to verify the project details. A follow-up meeting was also conducted with the project representatives. The following persons were interviewed.

Name Designation	Location	Company	Interview Topics
Prof. Fransico Quiroga Ms. Monica Barragan Mr. Juan Pablo Muriel Mr. Eider Perez Mr. Paolo Ceasar Barragan Mr. Gustavo Muriel Mr. Nicolas Quiroga Mr. Juan Camilo Muriel Mr. Miguel Idrobo Mr. Daniel Osorio	Mediamos office at Cali	MEDIAMOS	Project design, Project implementation, Procedures, Monitoring plan and Procedures
Mr. Omar Briceno Mr. Wilmer Hernandez Mr. Alejandro Camocho	Orinico, and Cumaribo	Visit to ACATISEMA field office	Monitoring plan and Procedures, Training details, field measurement

Mr. Luis Emilio Gaitan			
Mr. Luis Manuel Cariban			
Mr. Omar Briceno Mr. Wilmer Hernandez Mr. Alejandro Camocho Mr. Luis Emilio Gaitan Mr. Gustavo Muriel Mr. Juan Carlos Silva	Field samples (H-27, P 30, Z-47, H-26, Z-10, L-21, L-29)	MEDIAMOS and ACATISEMA field staff	Field measurements, Species identification, data entry
Community Meeting (5-7 members / community)	Cumaral, Serrapia, Bopone, Camuniana Kalifina	Local stakeholders in the villages	Conservation practices followed, Knowledge of project policies, Benefits from project implementation.

2.4 Site Inspections

The sampling criteria for the site inspections conducted were based on the total number of samples across the different strata as described in section 2.1.

The on-site assessment which was conducted as a part of the verification activity involved:

- 1) An assessment of the implementation and operation of the VCS project activity as per the registered PD
- 2) A review of information flows of the project design for generating, aggregating and reporting of the monitoring parameters
- 3) Interviews with relevant personnel to confirm that the operational and data collection procedures are implemented in accordance with the Monitoring Plan
- 4) A cross-check between information provided in the MR and data from other sources
- 5) A check of the monitoring equipment including calibration performance, and observations of monitoring practices against the requirements of the PD and the applied methodology
- 6) A review of calculations and assumptions made in determining the GHG data and ERs, and
- 7) An identification of QA/QC procedures in place to prevent, or identify and correct, any errors or omissions in the reported monitoring parameters.

After the review of the Project description and documents a site visit was carried out from 2nd to 9th September 2018. During the site visit physical inspection of the project components followed by interviews with the on-site personnel was carried out to verify the project details. A follow-up meeting was also conducted with the project representatives

2.5 Resolution of Findings

Resolution of Clarification and Corrective Action Requests

The objective of this phase of the verification was to resolve the corrective action requests and clarifications and any other outstanding issues which needed to be clarified prior to EPIC positive conclusion on the monitoring report and the project design. During the verification process 04 CARs, 07 CLs and 01 FAR were raised.

All the findings were resolved during this phase. In order to ensure the transparency of the validation process, the concerns raised and responses that were given are summarized in Appendix I of this report and documented in more detail. All the corrective actions have been incorporated into the revised documents.

Internal quality control

A Technical Reviewer is appointed to review the final draft verification report and the final verification report. The comments made by the Technical Reviewer are taken into consideration and incorporated in the final report. The final report (after resolutions of all findings) is then submitted to the Head – Operations for review and approval.

2.5.1 Forward Action Requests

There is one FAR raised during this verification process.

2.6 Eligibility for Validation Activities

EPIC is accredited for validation and verification for the scopes 1 to 16 by CDM UNFCCC and as well as by the VCS board.

3. VALIDATION FINDINGS

No Validation activities were performed and is not applicable.

3.1 Participation under Other GHG Programs

The project has not applied for other GHG programs such as CDM, GS, etc. The same is verified through the declaration letter from PP confirming that the project is not claiming any other environmental credits. The verification team also checked the national as well as international credits trading systems to assess double counting risks and the web links for the same have been listed in the section 7 of this report. The response by the PP to query by VERRA, indicates that the project is willing to comply with and register under the RENARE platform when it is operational and comply with the Resolution 1447 which is applicable to the project. However a FAR is raised to be addressed by the VVB in the subsequent verification.

3.2 Methodology Deviations

No methodology deviations found in this monitoring period.

3.3 Project Description Deviations

From the earlier validated and verified risk assessment score of 17, now the assessment score is revised to 14, based on the change in status of the project during the verification period. However this change does not impact the overall project design or implementation. The revised risk score was verified to be in accordance with the implemented project plan.

3.4 Grouped Project

Not Applicable.

4. VERIFICATION FINDINGS

4.1 Project Implementation Status

The verification based on the onsite observation, found that there is no material discrepancies between the project implementation and the project description. The verification team checked the status of monitoring plan the completeness of monitoring system and found no discrepancies between the actual monitoring system and the monitoring plan set in the validated project description. The project has not applied for under any other GHG scheme and there will not be any double counting. The verification team was able to conclude the project has been implemented as described in the validated project description conform to the eligibility criteria.

4.2 Accuracy of GHG Emission Reduction and Removal Calculations

The verification of all the data ex-ante and data ex-post (monitoring parameters) including data measurement, data transfer, data archiving, aggregation and calculation of baseline emissions, project emissions and leakage emissions are tabulated below.

Parameter	Source considered and value applied	Conclusion by the verification team
Ex- ante		
Net greenhouse	Module BL-UP	There is no deviation from the validated

gas emissions in the baseline from unplanned deforestation	Annex 9 of PDD – VM0007 Table 10	PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Carbon fraction of dry matter	<p>Values from the literature: <i>IPCC 2006, Volume 4 - AFOLU, Chapter 4 – Forest Land, Table 4.3 Carbon Fraction fo aboveground forest biomass (p. 4.48)</i></p> <p>0.47 tonne of C per tonne of biomass (dry weight)</p>	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Root to shoot ratio appropriate to species or forest type / biome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yepes A.P., Navarrete D.A., Duque A.J., Phillips J.F., Cabrera K.R., Álvarez, E., García, M.C., Ordoñez, M.F. 2011. Protocolo para la estimación nacional y subnacional de biomasa - carbono en Colombia. Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología, y Estudios Ambientales-IDEAM- Bogotá D.C., Colombia. 162 p. tabla 14, p. 86. • IPCC 2006, Chapter 4, page 4.49, Table 4.4 “Tropical moist deciduous forest / above-ground biomass >125 tonnes ha-1” <p>R = 0,24</p>	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Depth in cm to which soil sample is collected	Yepes, et al., 2011. Protocol for national and sub-carbon biomass estimate in Colombia), page 93.	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Land use factor before or after conversion	Stock Change Factors are provided in Tables 5.5, 5.10, and 6.2 of the IPCC 2006GL Volume 4	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.

Management factor before or after conversion	Stock Change Factors are provided in Tables 5.5, 5.10, and 6.2 of the IPCC 2006GL Volume 4	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Input factor before or after conversion	provided in Tables 5.5, 5.10, and 6.2 of the IPCC 2006GL Volume 4	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Total deforested area during the historical reference period (2001 a 2011) in the RRD	Publically available landsat images	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Carbon stock in aboveground biomass in trees in stratum i	Module CP-AB of PDD	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Carbon stock in belowground biomass in trees in stratum i	Module CP-AB of PDD	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Carbon stock in soil organic carbon in the baseline in stratum i	Module CP-S of PDD	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Mean post-deforestation stock in soil organic carbon in the post deforestation stratum i	Module CP-S of PDD	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Net CO ₂ emissions in the baseline from unplanned deforestation in the leakage belt	Module BL-UP of PDD	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.

Area weighted average aboveground tree carbon stock for forests available for unplanned deforestation inside the Leakage Belt	field calculated 443.8 t CO ₂ -e/ha	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Area-weighted average aboveground tree carbon stock for forests available for unplanned deforestation outside the Leakage Belt	Average carbon dioxide –e- (tco ₂ -e/ha) Philips J.F (2011) IDEAM estimaciones de carbon en Colombia Tabla 3.1 C B-ht:132.1 tC/ha 484.37 t CO ₂ -e/ha	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Area of sample plots in ha	50 x 50 meters (0.25 ha) (Yepes et al. IDEAM, 2011. Protocol for national and sub-carbon biomass estimate in Colombia, Table 9 page 52)	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Number of sample points	According to Yepes, 2011. (Protocol for national and sub-estimation of biomass carbon in Colombia, page 24)	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Diameter at breast height of a tree in cm	Field measurements in sample plots	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Soil organic carbon of the sample in g C/100 g soil	Field sampling and laboratory determination	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Baseline Deforestation Maps	Landsat satellite image	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.
Leakage belt área. Map showing the location and stratification of	Landsat satellite image	There is no deviation from the validated PDD and hence the source and value applied is considered acceptable.

forests within the leakage belt. (100% forest at the beginning of the project).		
Expost		
Net GHG emissions in the REDD project scenario up to year t*	Module M- REDD Excel sheet VMD0015	The excel sheet calculations were reviewed to be in line with the applied equations as per the validated PDD. The calculations confirm to this verification period and there are no deviations.
Net greenhouse gas emissions due to activity shifting for projects preventing unplanned deforestation	Module LK-ASU	The excel sheet calculations were reviewed to be in line with the applied equations as per the validated PDD. The calculations confirm to this verification period and there are no deviations.
Project Forest Cover Monitoring Map	satellite images and field verification of deforested areas if any (GPS)	The satellite images were reviewed to meet the requirements as per monitoring plan.
Leakage Belt Forest Cover Monitoring Map	Satellite images and field verification of deforested areas if any (GPS).	The satellite images were reviewed to meet the requirements as per monitoring plan.
Total area of forests under active management nationally	Section 9.3 of REDD-MF Excel sheet (VM0007)	The excel sheet calculations were reviewed to be in line with the applied equations as per the validated PDD. The calculations confirm to this verification period and there are no deviations.
Total area of fully protected forests nationally	Section 9.3 of REDD-MF Excel sheet (VM0007)	The excel sheet calculations were reviewed to be in line with the applied equations as per the validated PDD. The calculations confirm to this verification period and there are no deviations.
Total available national forest area	Section 9.3 of REDD-MF Excel sheet (VM0007)	The excel sheet calculations were reviewed to be in line with the applied equations as per the validated PDD. The calculations confirm to this verification period and there are no deviations.
Net greenhouse gas emissions within the leakage	Module M-REDD Excel sheet VMD0015	The excel sheet calculations were reviewed to be in line with the applied equations as per the validated PDD. The

belt in the project case		calculations confirm to this verification period and there are no deviations.
Estimated proportion of baseline deforestation caused by immigrating population	Section 9.3 of REDD-MF Excel sheet (VM0007)	The excel sheet calculations were reviewed to be in line with the applied equations as per the validated PDD. The calculations confirm to this verification period and there are no deviations.
Estimated proportion of baseline deforestation caused by population that has been resident for ≥ 5 years	Section 9.3 of REDD-MF Excel sheet (VM0007)	The excel sheet calculations were reviewed to be in line with the applied equations as per the validated PDD. The calculations confirm to this verification period and there are no deviations.
Area of recorded deforestation in the leakage belt in the project case in stratum i in year t	Module M-REDD Excel sheet VMD0015	The excel sheet calculations were reviewed to be in line with the applied equations as per the validated PDD. The calculations confirm to this verification period and there are no deviations.
Area of recorded deforestation in the project area in the project case in stratum i in year t	Module M-REDD Excel sheet VMD0015	The excel sheet calculations were reviewed to be in line with the applied equations as per the validated PDD. The calculations confirm to this verification period and there are no deviations.
Leakage Belt Forest Cover Benchmark Map	Module M-REDD Excel sheet VMD0015	The excel sheet calculations were reviewed to be in line with the applied equations as per the validated PDD. The calculations confirm to this verification period and there are no deviations.
Project Forest Cover Monitoring Map	Satellite images and field verification of deforested areas if any (GPS).	The satellite images were reviewed to meet the requirements as per monitoring plan.
Leakage Belt Forest Cover Monitoring Map	Satellite images and field verification of deforested areas if any (GPS).	The satellite images were reviewed to meet the requirements as per monitoring plan.
Area of recorded deforestation in the project area in stratum i converted to land use u at time t	Remote sensing imagery	The satellite images were reviewed to meet the requirements as per monitoring plan.

Area of recorded deforestation in the leakage belt in stratum i converted to land use u at time t	Remote sensing imagery	The satellite images were reviewed to meet the requirements as per monitoring plan.
Remaining area of forest in RRL at time t	Satellite images.	The satellite images were reviewed to meet the requirements as per monitoring plan.
Area of project stratum i	GIS coverages and/or remote imagery (satellite photographs)	The satellite images were reviewed to meet the requirements as per monitoring plan.

The PP submitted emission reduction calculations and other supporting calculations in excel sheets in a excel sheet. The excel sheets are clear, un-protected and easily viewable. The calculation in the excel sheet is verified and found be correct. The methods and formulae set out in the project description for calculating baseline emissions, project emissions and leakage are correctly followed in the monitoring report and ER calculation sheet.

All the values are provided in the MR and ER calculation sheet are cross verified with its sources and confirmed no manual transposition errors between data sets have occurred. Also the consistency of values within MR is checked and found to be OK.

PP has described the reasons with justification for omission and inclusion of certain parameters with respect to the project monitoring:

1. The project does not monitor “height of tree” data even though field measurements were taken.

Hence verification team conclude that the GHG emission reductions and removals have been quantified correctly in accordance with the project description and applied methodology.

4.3 Quality of Evidence to Determine GHG Emission Reductions and Removals

The GHG removals for the project reporting period are based on forest inventory measurements and calculation procedures and factors that have been assessed by the verification team, as described in Section 4.2 of this report. The verification team has attained a reasonable level of assurance that these measurements and procedures, including the internal quality control measures such as check plots, were designed and have been implemented to the highest level of quality. The verification team interviewed personnel from Mediamos relevant to the project and confirmed their qualifications and expertise. Further the QA/ QC procedures adopted by Mediamos for the monitoring of the GHG emission reductions were found to conform with the project design and monitoring plan which ensured a high degree of data reliability.

4.4 Non-Permanence Risk Analysis

The verification team reviewed the Non-Permanence Risk Assessment provided at project validation. Though there has been no change regarding the overall status or applicability of any of the risk factors since project validation, including political factors, socio-economic factors, environmental factors, or factors relating to implementation of project activities, a revision of the risk assessment was undertaken during this verification as the agreement extending the project implementation was implemented. Due to this the non-permanence risk rating is revised to 14%. The verification team therefore concludes that the risk rating is appropriate for the current reporting period. Please refer to the Non-permanence risk report version 02 uploaded along with the MR for a detailed description of the steps taken to assess the non-permanence risk rating determined by the project proponent. The verification team’s assessment of the non-permanence risk rating is attached with this report as Appendix II.

5 SAFEGUARDS

5.1 No Net Harm

Section 2.4.1 of the monitoring report describes the ethnic and environmental safeguards, within the constitutional and legal framework of Colombia as defined by ACATISEMA. Further the impact regarding the native flora and fauna was estimated to be moderately to highly positive. Regarding air, landscape, soil and water, it was estimated that the impact would be moderately positive. As observed for the years 2016 and 2017, project activities have continued to encourage the active participation of different actors of the indigenous communities. Hence during this verification, the impact was observed to be overall positive. The conclusion obtained is that the net benefit of the Project on biodiversity is always positive, compared with the negative impact that would continue to occur in a scenario without Project.

The verification team confirmed that the Mediamos has conducted numerous evaluations of the program and has determined that there are no negative environmental or socio-economic impacts. The program was designed to be beneficial to the community and environment and therefore no mitigation is necessary.

5.2 Local Stakeholder Consultations

Since the start date of the project in June 2012 to December 2017, direct communication has been maintained with the local communities about the various aspects of the project in line with requirements as per annex 1 of the PDD. For the current verification period, the minutes of consultation and decisions of the communities through ACATISEMA have been reviewed. Further the meetings of the 5 zones of the RIU-SM (covering the entire Unified Reservation) was carried out in 2017, in which the results that have been obtained by the Project were analyzed, and in which the endorsements were ratified in all 5 zones. Of significance is that the continuity of the Project was also decided for 30 more years, according to clause 12, paragraph 2, of Strategic Alliance Agreement ACATISEMA-MEDIAMOS signed on November 2017.

6 VERIFICATION CONCLUSION

EPIC Sustainability Services Private Limited has been engaged by MEDIAMOS F&M S.A.S to perform the second periodic verification of the emission reductions reported for the project titled “REDD+ PROJECT RESGUARDO INDÍGENA UNIFICADO – SELVA DE MATAVÉN (RIU-SM)” (Project ID: 1566) for the period from 01st January 2016 to 31st December 2017 for the net reductions achieved by the project. The verification was based on the validated project description (PD), corresponding validation report, monitoring report, emission reduction spread sheets and other supporting documents made available to EPIC verification team by the project participant.

The management of project proponents are responsible for the preparation and reporting of GHG emissions data, and the reported GHG emissions reduction on the basis set out within the project monitoring plan.

It is the responsibility of EPIC verification team to express an independent GHG verification opinion on the GHG emissions from the project for the monitoring period starting from 01st January 2016 to 31st December 2017 based on the total instances for net reductions achieved and on the calculation of GHG emission reductions from the project based on the verified emissions for the same period.

The verification was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the VCS Validation and Verification manual Version 3.2 and VCS Standard 3.7. As a result of the verification, the verification team confirms that for the reporting period:

- the project is implemented as described in the validated PD
- the monitoring plan is in accordance with the approved monitoring methodology applied by the project activity
- The monitoring has been carried out in accordance with the validated PD
- the monitoring aspects (i.e. additional monitoring parameters, monitoring frequency and calibration frequency) were in place and functional, with the monitoring procedures in place for generating emission reduction operating appropriately and the calibration of all the equipment had been carried out accordingly, and
- the GHG emission reductions achieved were calculated correctly on the basis of approved monitoring methodology.

We have verified that the information included in the final monitoring report (Version 03, dated 10th October 2018) was correct and that the emission reductions achieved had been determined correctly. In our opinion, the GHG emission reductions for the period from 01st January 2016 to 31st December 2017 in the verified monitoring report for the project are fairly stated.

EPIC confirms that the GHG emission reductions were calculated without material misstatements for the whole monitoring period. Our opinion is based on the project’s GHG emissions and resulting GHG emission reductions reported, and, to the valid and validated project baseline and monitoring documents. We confirm the following:

Verification period: From [01-January-2016] to [31-December-2017]

Net GHG emission reductions or removals (tCO ₂ e)	Risk rating	Buffer pool (VCUs)	Tradable VCUs
7,584,460	14%	1,179,685	6,404,775

Verified GHG emission reductions and removals in the above verification period:

Year	Baseline emissions or removals (tCO ₂ e)	Project emissions or removals (tCO ₂ e)	Leakage emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Net GHG emission reductions or removals (tCO ₂ e)	Total VCUs after applying buffer
01 st January 2016 to 31 st December 2017	9,185,476	759,157	841,860	7,584,460	6,404,775
Total	9,185,476	759,157	841,860	7,584,460	6,404,775

Prepared by:	Approved by :
Dr G Vishnu	K Sudheendra
(Lead Auditor)	(Head Operations)

7 LIST OF DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

S.No.	Document details
1	VCS validated PDD for RIU –SM
2	VCS validation report for RIU- SM
3	VCS first MR for RIU- SM
4	VCS verification report for RIU-SM
5	VCS Monitoring report for second verification version 01
6	VCS Monitoring report for second verification version 03
7	Non- permanence risk report for second verification version 01 and supporting documents
8	Non- permanence risk report for second verification version 02 and supporting documents
9	VCS Standard version v3.7 Issued: 21 June 2017
10	Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use Requirements v3.6 Issued: 21 June 2017
11	AFOLU Non-Permanence Risk Tool v3.2
12	Calculation tables VM 0007
13	Calculation tables VMD 0007
14	Calculation tables VMD 0010
15	Calculation tables VMD 0015
16	Calculation tables VMD 0017
17	Annex 2: Minutes of meetings of Joint Commission, Coordinator Committee, Board of Councils, Zonal Coordinators and Zonal meetings and Budgets defined for 2018 and 2019.
18	Annex 3: Yearly Operating Plans of years 2016 and 2017, with theirs respectives Fourth Project Progress Report 2016 and Fifth Project Progress Report 2017.
19	Annex 4: Surveillance and control of RIU-SM's territory: routes, maps, routes of surveillance and control results, list of indigenous guard, regulation of the indigenous guard, endowments and early fires warnings results.
20	Annex 5: Monitoring of sample plots: templates, guides and results of monitoring of some sample plots.

21	Annex 6: Documentation about implementation of communication, information and transportation system and improve of ACATISEMA governance.
22	Annex 7: Documents about the implementation of auto-census in RIU-SM.
23	Annex 8: Family Agrifood Production Units System (FAPUS): templates, surveys, results of implementation of FAPUS in 2016 and 2017, Captains of communities and evidences about improvement of feeding in RIU-SM.
24	Annex 9: Evidences about implementation of aspects in education.
25	Annex 10: Productive projects: proposals of communities and some advances in productive projects.
26	Annex 11: Evidences about implementation of actions with ACATISEMA Reserves
27	Annex 12: Non-Permanence Risk Report of period 2016-2017 and "VCS Risk Report Calculation Tool".
28	Annex 13: Verification of Land Use and Land Cover (LULC) for Monitoring in the periodo 2016-2017 – GIS Report.

WEB LINKS ACCESSED:

<https://cdm.unfccc.int/Projects/projsearch.html>

https://mer.markit.com/br-reg/public/index.jsp?entity=project&sort=project_name&dir=ASC&start=0&entity_domain=Markit_GoldStandar

<http://www.mvccolombia.co/index.php/proyecto-i>

APPENDIX I: RESOLUTION OF FINDINGS

Finding 1 – CAR 01

Date of agreement with ACATISEMA on extension of project crediting period is dated November 2017 based on which the risk buffer is updated. However this does not reflect the correct calculation of risk for the years 2016 and 2017 valid for this current verification.

PP Response:

The date of agreement with ACATISEMA about the extension of project crediting period with another cycle (30 more years) is November 2017, this implies that the decision on extension of period of accreditation for 60 years is valid starting in 2018 and cannot be apply for the current period of verification (2016-2017), therefore it cannot be made retroactive. Then the correct answers given in the Excel file of T-BAR “VCS_risk_calculation_toolV3_1.xls” regarding the risk factor corresponding to the class 4 “Project Longevity” are:

- **Q1:** Does the project have a legally binding agreement that covers at least a 100 year period from the project start date?

Answer: No, there is no binding legal agreement that covers at least a100 year period from the starting date.

- **Q2:** What is the project Longevity in years?

Answer: The longevity of the Project is of 30 years and not 60 years, for this verification period (2016-2017), according with the explanation given before.

- **Q3:** Legal Agreement or requirement to continue management practice?

Answer: Yes, likewise according with the explanation given before, since the decision taken by ACATISEMA in November 2017, there is a legal agreement to continue with the project for an additional cycle, which means 30 more years.

So, the Excel file of T-BAR “VCS_risk_calculation_toolV3_1.xls”, regarding the risk factor corresponding to the Class 4: “Project Longevity”, gives the following result:

- | | |
|--|----|
| a) Without legal agreement or requirement to continue the management practice: | 0 |
| b) With legal agreement or requirement to continue the management practice: | 15 |

This way the value is corrected from 0 to 15 for the “Total Project Longevity”, from 0 to 13 for the “Total Internal Risk (PM + FV + OC + PL)” and from 10 to **14** for the “Total Risk Assessment”.

This way, following information is adjusted:

- Table 4 Project Longevity, literal b) (pages 7-9) and Table 5 Total Internal Risk (page 9) of section “1 Internal Risk”; Table 15. Overall Risk Rating (page 23) of section “4.1 Overall Risk Rating” and section “4.2 Calculation of Total VCUs” (page 24) in Annex 12 of Monitoring Report 2016-2017: NON-PERMANENCE RISK REPORT (T-BAR).

- File “VCS_risk_calculation_toolV3_1.xls” (folder “calculation_tables”), Sheet “Risk Tool v3” (rows 52, 55, 56, 58, 122, 125, 129, and 131).

- The buffer calculation in section “4.4.2 Buffer, 2016-2017 period” (page 151) of Monitoring Report 2016-2017, that changes from 842,632 t CO₂-e to 1,179,685 t CO₂-e.
- The quantity of the VCUs in section “4.4.4 VCUs, 2016-2017 period” (page 153) of Monitoring Report 2016-2017, leading to an adjustment from 6,741,828 VCUs to 6,404,775 VCUs.
- In Table 4 Project Longevity del Annex 12 of Monitoring Report 2016-2017 (page 7) the corrections are presented.

VVB Response:

Clarify the risk rating applied to project longevity as during the first verification it is 18 and now it is revised to 15, considering that the project life is still 30 years.

PP Response:

The difference between the risk rating applied to “project longevity” in first verification (it was 18) vs. this second verification (it is 15) is in the answer to third question “Legal Agreement or requirement to continue management practice?”, because now there is a legal agreement to continue with the project for an additional cycle, which means 30 more years (in total 60 years), however the “project longevity” stays in 30 years for this monitoring period, as it is specified in the answer to **Q2** above (as it is explained in the first part of the first answer to this finding 1, and according to evidence presented).

With respect to the calculations to determinate the risk rating 15 in "project longevity", in the Annex 12 of Monitoring Report 2016-2017, file “VCS-Risk-Report-Calculation-Tool-v3.1.xls”, rows 50 to 56 about “Project Longevity”, how is calculated is explained:

Project Longevity		
50		
51	Q	Does the project have a legally binding agreement that covers at least a 100 year period from the project start date? No
52	Q	What is the project Longevity in years? 30
53	Q	Legal Agreement or requirement to continue management practice? Yes
54	a)	Without legal agreement or requirement to continue the management practice 0
55	b)	With legal agreement or requirement to continue the management practice 15
56		Total Project Longevity 15

- Row 51 Question 1 (Q1 above): “Does the project have a legally binding agreement that covers at least a 100 year period from the project start date?” in which there are two options (Yes / No) to answer.
 - Option “**No**” is selected (according with the explanation given above, in the first answer to this finding 1).

- Row 52 Question 2 (Q2 above): “*What is the project Longevity in years?*” to registry the number of years of project life cycle.
 - “**30**” is registry (according with the explanation given above, in the first answer to this finding 1).

- Row 53 Question 3 (Q3 above): “*Legal Agreement or requirement to continue management practice?*” in which there are two options (Yes / No) to answer.
 - Option “**Yes**” is selected (according with the explanation given above, in the first answer to this finding 1).

- Row 54 a): “*Without legal agreement or requirement to continue the management practice*” is calculated automatically by excel function = if the answer in row 53 is “Yes” then the value in this row 54 is equal to zero (0), else (answer in row 53 is “No”) the value in this row 54 is equal to “24 minus the fifth part of the number registered in row 52”.
 - As the answer in row 53 is “**Yes**”, then the value in this row 54 is equal to **zero (0)**.

- Row 55 b): “*With legal agreement or requirement to continue the management practice*” is calculated automatically by excel function = if the answer in row 53 is “Yes” then the value in this row 55 is equal to “30 minus the half of the number registered in row 52”, else (answer in row 53 is “No”) the value in this row 55 is equal to zero (0).
 - As the answer in row 53 is “Yes”, then the value in this row 55 is equal to $30 - (30/2) = 30 - 15 =$ **15**.

- Row 56 “*Total Project Longevity*” is calculated automatically by excel function, a little extensive:

If the answer in row 51 is “Yes” then the value in this row 56 is zero (0).

If the answer in row 51 is “No” then:

If the number in row 52 is greater than or equal to 30 then:

If the answer in row 53 is “Yes” then:

If the value in row 55 is greater than zero (0) then the value in this row 56 is equal to the value in row 55.

If the value in row 55 is less than zero (0) then the value in this row 56 is equal to zero (0).

If the answer in row 53 is “No” then:

If the value in row 54 is greater than zero (0) then the value in this row 56 is equal to the value in row 54.

If the value in row 54 is less than zero (0) then the value in this row 56 is equal to zero (0).

If the number in row 52 is less than 30 then the project is in “Risk Failed” status.

- As the answer in row 51 is “No” then the value in this row 56 cannot be zero (0).
- As the answer in row 51 is “No”, the number in row 52 is greater than or equal to 30, the answer in row 53 is “Yes”, and the value in row 55 is greater than zero (0), then the value in this row 56 is equal to the value in row 55 = 15.

VVB Response:

The reply by PP is reviewed to satisfy the requirements and provides justification for the change in the risk assessment score.

Finding 2 – CAR 02

In the project longevity section of the submitted risk report, the date of the agreement referred with ACATISEMA does not refer to the actual evidence submitted.

PP Response:

The date is corrected in *Table 4 Project Longevity, literal b)* (page 7) of section “1 Internal Risk” in Annex 12 of Monitoring Report 2016-2017: “according to meeting of Board of Councils, Coordinator Committee and Zonal Coordinators on November 8-9, 2018”, for the correct date, November 8 and 9, **2017**. (Annex 2.9 of Monitoring Report 2016-2017, numeral 11, page 8).

VVB Response:

The corrected Non-Permanence risk report addresses the CAR satisfactorily

Finding 3 – CAR 03

The declaration to conform that the project is not under any other GHG certification for the current verification period 2016 to 2017 has not been submitted.

PP Response:

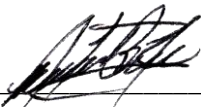
In section “1.9.3 Participation under Other GHG Programs” (page 35) of Monitoring Report 2016-2017 a declaration is presented that explains that for the period of verification 2016-2017 the REDD+ Project Resguardo Indígena Unificado – Selva de Matavén (RIU-SM) does not participate in any other certifications or programs of GEI.

Section “1.9.3 Participation under Other GHG Programs” change to:

“DECLARATION

The subscribed Legal Representatives of the organizations of the Strategic Alliance: *Asociación de Cabildos y Autoridades Tradicionales Indígenas de la Selva de Matavén* (ACATISEMA) and *MEDIAMOS F&M S.A.S.*, that constitute the “Project Proponents” of the “REDD+ Project *Resguardo Indígena Unificado - Selva de Matavén* (RIU-SM)”, with Registration ID VCS PD 1566 (VCS Project Database <http://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/home>) and APX -VCS Registry VCSR1235 (<https://vcsregistry2.apx.com/myModule/rpt/myrpt.asp?r=111>), are declaring that for the period of verification 2016-2017 the Project has not participated or registered under another GHG program.

For constancy, we are signing on the 24th day of the month of September, 2018:




Albeiro Beltrán Salcedo

C.C. No. 18250791

Legal Representative

ACATISEMA



Francisco A. Quiroga Zea

C.C. No. 14196754

Legal Representative

MEDIAMOS F&M S.A.S.

VVB Response:

The evidence submitted addresses the CAR satisfactorily.

Finding 4 – CAR 04

The submitted monitoring excel sheets refer to a number of instances for the calculations where the incorrect year (2013 – 2014) is mentioned.

PP Response:

The mentioned instances are corrected, changing from “2014-2015” to “2016-2017”, where correspond to the current monitoring period, in file “*monitoring.xlsx*”, sheet “*Monitoring_summary*” (folder “*calculation_tables*”).

VVB Response:

The revised calculation tables excel sheets submitted addresses the CAR satisfactorily.

Finding 5 CL 01

Clarify on the inconsistencies on the number of verification points as per the presentation during the opening meeting which indicated 68 points as per the report for the project and leakage forest cover maps dated January 2018 whereas it listed 69 points in the annex submitted.

PP Response:

The number of GPS verification points of field samples and in the verification of results correspond to 69 points, which can be corroborated in the Annex 13 of Monitoring Report 2016-2017 “*Verification of Land Use and Land Cover (LULC), for monitoring in the periods 2016-2017*”, section “5.3 Validation results Analysis”, *Table 5 Confusion Matrix for the accuracy assessment* (page 32), *Table 6 Sample points* (pages 34-35), and *Illustration 30 Verification Points MAP* (page 33).

A mistake during the editing of the presentation (in the opening meeting) was made, when the value of 68 points was written; the number has been corrected to 69 points.

VVB Response:

The justification by the PP addresses the clarification satisfactorily.

Finding 6 CL 02

Clarify on the monitoring frequency for the parameters project and leakage forest cover maps, which is indicated as annual monitoring with images while actually it is annual / biannual as per the validated PDD.

PP Response:

Effectively, the frequency of monitoring for these parameters is annual/biennial (each time a process of verification is executed), they are validated and presented in the PDD. The information presented in section “3.2.2 Data and Parameters Monitored annual or biennial when verification occurs” of Monitoring Report 2016-2017, Parameters: “*Project Forest Cover Monitoring Map*” and “*Leakage Belt Forest Cover Monitoring Map*” (pages 105-106) is corrected and change, in each of the two parameters, as following: “*Monitoring frequency: It will be monitored when verification occurs (annual or biennial)*”.

VVB Response:

The corrected Monitoring report addresses the clarification satisfactorily

Finding 7 CL 03

Clarify on the reason parameters such as DBH and soil analysis which are included under the monitoring section whereas their actual values are determined ex-ante and fixed at validation itself.

PP Response:

Effectively, for the parameters such as DBH and soil (that are included in section “3.2 Data and Parameters Monitored” of Monitoring Report 2016-2017) their current values were determined ex ante and were set in the validation. They are included in the Monitoring Report 2016-2017, section “3.2 *Data and Parameters Monitored*”, in such a way that in this section all the parameters that should be monitored are presented, whether they were obtained annual/biennial or every 10 years (on the revision base line).

The parameters as those indicated (DBH and soil) must be monitored every 10 years, as presented in the corresponding chart (Monitoring Report 2016-2017, pages 97 -DBH- and 98 -C_{SOCsample}-).

To avoid any doubts or confusions, the section “3.2 *Data and Parameters Monitored*” of Monitoring Report 2016-2017 is divided in two sub-sections: “3.2.1 *Data and Parameters Monitored every ten years for baseline renewal*” and “3.2.2 *Data and Parameters Monitored annual or biennial when verification occurs*”. It is made clear then, the data and parameters monitored for the current verification period (2016-2017) are the ones presented in section “3.2.2”.

It is important to keep in mind that due to requirements of the auditors of EPIC, some plots were identified and located, at which the groups of indigenous, by zones, took measurements of DBH and illustrated the way of recollection of soil samples.

VVB Response:

The corrected Monitoring report addresses the clarification satisfactorily

Finding 8 CL 04

In the plot Z-47, the identification of trees (as a sequential numbering) when compared to the baseline survey performed in 2013 was not the same and was entirely different for the entire plot for all the trees. Clarify on the reason for this inconsistency.

PP Response:

During the maintenance of the plots for the second verification (2016-2017), done in August, 2018, the second column of the plot form was filled out well, in terms of the identification of the trees with a numerical sequence (1, ..., 175). Effectively, in the installation of the plots for the determination of the baseline, done in the year 2013, there was an error in the filling out of the second column in the plot form (that permits the identification of each tree) as it was not done in sequence for all the trees, as it was done in 2018, so it was done in a different way, adding the number of the sub-plot to the number of the tree. This was corrected in the digital registration of the plots in the conformation of the data base of the plots and for their statistic processing.

This coding error did not impede the well identification of each tree in the digital registry and to obtain the correct corresponding of digital registration of identification of each individual or tree within each of the plots.

This kind of errors was well identified and explained to teams of installation and maintenance of the plots (groups of indigenous people in each zone), the same as the solution or correction of the error.

All the field data contained in the forms reference to the trees and plots, when the installation and maintenance was made, have been submitted to a rigorous study process and analysis of consistencies and detention of possible errors, the determination of the cause of these possible inconsistencies and errors, the identification, classification and corresponding correction.

Everything is explained to the groups or teams of indigenous people responsible of these functions in their plots, the solutions and their corrections. These facilitates the permanent training and actualization of the groups (see answer to Finding 9 CL 05).

In the Annex 1.1 of this document "Answers to: VCS Verification Assessment Findings Ver. 01", corresponding to the archive of the digital process of the register of data of the plot Z-47, it is illustrated how the actualizations look in the files of the data base of the project plots.

VVB Response:

The justification by the PP addresses the clarification satisfactorily.

Finding 9 CL 05

Clarify on the procedures for QA/QC by MEDIAMOS on the periodic field monitoring sheets submitted by ACATISEMA. Further provide evidences on training conducted to the field monitoring survey team.

PP Response:

a) QA/QC procedures applied by MEDIAMOS to the field monitoring forms filled out by ACATISEMA.

QA/QC procedures were applied by MEDIAMOS to the field monitoring forms filled out by indigenous people groups of ACATISEMA, responsible for this task.

That is, the QA/QC procedures applied in the phase in which the process of digitizing data for the constitution of the databases of plots, sub-plots and trees must be initiated are below, meeting the following steps:

Step 1: The data recorded in forms (in field) by indigenous groups of ACATISEMA resulting of observations and field measurements, are supplied and delivered to MEDIAMOS to the responsible group, through the leader of the Information Systems area.

Step 2: These field formats received by MEDIAMOS are, in a first instance, reviewed, recording what is received, noting in special templates the name of who is received, how many templates, of what plots and the level of completeness of the same, and registering the corresponding observations. A review is made of what they should deliver vs. what they delivered; if something is missing, resulting of this first review, it is immediately required to correct it to the corresponding group of ACATISEMA; for example, if one or several sheets of the forms are missing, if they are illegible or if the requested data are incomplete.

Step 3: Completed the step 2, the digital edition of the data of the field forms continues, according to the previous design of the file in the corresponding database. This task is done by a group of trained digitizers organized and supervised by the leader of the MEDIAMOS Information System

area.

Step 4: A first method of control of data recording is applied to these digital files, comparing and / or calculating certain statistical indicators, which are analyzed and interpreted to determine what specific data may have outliers or erroneous values, for example:

- The number of trees per plot, which must be equal to the one registered in the field form; if it is not the same, the error is sought to correct it, reviewing and comparing the data of the field form with those of the digital file and making the corresponding inquiries with the leader of the indigenous group that elaborated it.
- The identification number of the tree is reviewed and compared with that registered in the field form, and it is defined if there are inconsistencies to identify and correct them, as illustrated in the answer to Finding 8 – CL 04.
- The circumference of the tree at breast height measured in the field should be within a certain range to detect and identify atypical data, for example, a circumference with a very high value. Once these outliers are identified, they are reviewed and analysed to determine if there is an error, first comparing the field data in the form and correcting it, if it is erroneous.
- The diameters are calculated at the breast height with the data of the circumferences of the trees and, again, the same control procedure that was done with the circumferences is applied, using as reference a defined range.
- In each plot, the arithmetic means, standard deviations and variation coefficients of the circumference and diameter data are calculated, and a first comparison of these statistical indicators is made between the plots of the same stratum or biome. If very different values are presented between the respective indicators, their possible causes are investigated and it is defined if there are measurement errors in order to, once again, review the data, identify the errors and correct them

Step 5: New revisions and field measurements of certain plots may be required according to the results of the previous steps, to make the corresponding corrections and apply to them again the previous steps.

Step 6: The successes, errors and correction methods resulting in each step are synthesized and systematized as lessons.

Step 7: The results of step 6 are presented and explained to the indigenous groups of ACATISEMA, responsible for the field data collection tasks, to improve their competencies and update to them for the new measurements.

The previous steps were applied when the plots were installed in year 2013, to determine the baseline of the project.

When the first audit was carried out to verify the results of the 2013, 2014 and 2015 periods, in 2016, the previous steps were applied to the plots that were monitored and other control steps were added to compare the resulting data in the plots in 2013 and those of the corresponding plots in the year 2016.

Step 8: The data of the files of each plot monitored in 2016 are compared with those of each corresponding plot in the year 2013, according to the paths through the sub-plots, in each chance,

as illustrated in the answer to Finding 8 CL 04, with plot Z-47. The data of the same tree is identified in the year 2013 and in the year 2016, in such way that digital record is being built for each tree in each year of measurement.

Step 9: The differences of the values of the diameter of each tree between the data of the year 2016 and that of the year 2013 are calculated, whose difference must be zero or greater, due to a possible growth of the diameter of the tree; if the difference is less than zero, the possible inconsistency is studied and if there is an error or not, the possible cause of that inconsistency is identified and corrected.

Step 10: The arithmetic average of the differences obtained in the previous step is calculated and analyzed in a similar way to what was done in step 9.

Step 11: The same procedures of steps 5, 6 and 7 are applied to the results of steps 8, 9 and 10.

When a new audit is done, such as the one for year 2018, steps 1 to 11 (of comparisons between the data for the year 2013, 2016 and 2018, described above), are applied.

And so on for new audits in the coming years.

Results of these procedures are illustrated with plots Z-47, P-30 and H-27; see Annexes 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 of this document "Answers to: VCS Verification Assessment Findings Ver. 01".

These procedures are in a new annex of Monitoring Report: "Annex 5.9 QA/QC procedures applied to the field monitoring forms".

b) Evidences of training for ACATISEMA monitoring teams of field data collection.

These training sessions have been carried out by the professional technical group of MEDIAMOS.

1. Training for data collection to define the baseline (year 2013)

Evidence 1.1: Minutes of the meeting of the Cabildos Board and the Coordinator Committee of ACATISEMA; May 29, 30 and 31, 2013, Community Guayabal Anapo, Sector Berrocal Ajota, Orinoco river, Zone 3. Document 2 (annex to the minutes): Management report of the REDD+ Project RIU-SM.

Title: "REPORT AND CONCEPT ABOUT THE REDD+ PROJECT RESGUARDO INDÍGENA UNIFICADO - SELVA DE MATAVÉN: STRATEGIC ALLIANCE OF ACATISEMA AND MEDIAMOS F&M LTD."

1. MANAGEMENT REPORT, numeral 7, literal I (page 4): "**Training of 65 indigenous people for the execution of the carbon inventory sampling for biomass and soils.**"

2. IMMEDIATE TASKS, where the members of the Coordinator Committee inform to Cabildos Board about the training that (page 6): "As you can see and we also know because we worked together, MEDIAMOS F&M is a serious company, which has accomplished the commitments acquired with ACATISEMA in the agreements celebrated previously; its technical team has shown us that it is competent, **they have trained us in REDD+ projects, GPS management and installation of plots for forest inventories**; they gave us the opportunity to show us that we are capable of carrying out this type of technical activities that contribute to the project and that, as the project progresses, we will learning to perform them until to lead the project."

Reference: Annex 2.1 of this document, which is part of Annex 1.2.1 of the PDD, among several other documents (which, although it appears in the list of documents of that Annex 1.2.1 of the PDD, it was not included by the large number and size of files).

Evidence 1.2: Commission report about the training of indigenous people for the installation of plots in the framework of the REDD+ Project RIU-SM; February 20 - 28, 2013, Community Laguna Negra, Guaviare river, Zone 4.

Report presented by the instructor Hugo Martínez Higuera, Forestry Engineer (Curriculum Vitae in Annex 2.2.1, CvLAC: http://scienti.colciencias.gov.co:8081/cvlac/visualizador/generarCurriculoCv.do?cod_rh=0000627429 and availability request in Annex 2.2.2).

Objective: *"Train 64 leaders belonging to the Sikuani, Piapoco, Piaroa ethnic groups of the communities Barranquito – Laguna Colorado, Cawasi, Atana Pirariame, Berrocal Ajota (Pueblo Escondido), Pirariame, Caño Zama (Pueblo Nuevo), Sarrapia, Comuniana, Brazo Amanavén (Cumaral), Morichall (Brazo Amanavén), in installation of plots for the monitoring of carbon capture (aboveground biomass, natural regeneration, herbaceous vegetation and soil sampling) in the project territory MEDIAMOS - ACATISEMA in the MATAVEN JUNGLE".*

Includes the list of the 64 trained indigenous

Reference: Annex 2.2 of this document "Answers to: VCS Verification Assessment Findings Ver. 01".

Materials delivered in the training workshop:

- ✓ Illustrative booklet for measuring trees - Protocol: structural evaluation, 2013 (Annex 2.2.3).
- ✓ Booklet for the "ESTIMATION OF ORGANIC CARBON CONTENT IN SOILS" (Annex 2.2.4), prepared by Agronomist Freddy Adalberto Martinez Astudillo (Curriculum Vitae in Annex 2.2.5).
- ✓ Forms for recording data on tree measurements, soil samples, herbaceous samples and verification of coverage according to GPS points (Annex 2.2.6).

Evidence 1.3: Training Report for the location and collection of geographic data in the REDD+ Project RIU-SM; January 25 - February 18, 2013, Communities Cumariana, Camoniana, El Progreso, Sarrapia, Laguna Colorada and Yuri.

Report presented by the instructor: Miguel Andrés Idrobo Sánchez, Topographic Engineer (Curriculum Vitae in Annex 2.3.1, CvLAC: http://scienti.colciencias.gov.co:8081/cvlac/visualizador/generarCurriculoCv.do?cod_rh=0001375241).

Objectives:

- ✓ To train in the handling of GPS (Global Position System).
- ✓ To interpret the cartographic elements and the thematic verification in the field by filling out of a form adapted to the standards of the REDD projects.
- ✓ To leave in the RIU-SM a trained staff to perform the technical tasks of field verification,

monitoring of permanent plots and surveillance of the Project Area.

It includes the list of the 33 indigenous people trained in each of the workshops held in the RIU-SM's Zones.

Reference: (Annex 2.3 of this document "Answers to: VCS Verification Assessment Findings Ver. 01").

2. For the monitoring of field data for the first verification of the 2013 and 2014-2015 periods (2016):

Actualization workshops of short-duration were held about the topics discussed in number 1 above; they were carried out through the zonal coordinators at the time of data collection at the respective sites

Date: January 4-15, 2016.

About these trainings, there are no reports or specific minutes. There are filled out forms that are part of the work that was carried out during the field audit visit by ICONTEC from January 18 to 21, 2016 (Annex 4 -year 2016- of this document "Answers to: VCS Verification Assessment Findings Ver. 01").

3. For the monitoring of field data for the second verification of the period 2016-2017 (year 2018):

Evidence 3.1: Meeting Minutes - Second Indigenous Training Workshop for the Second Verification of Project Results (years 2016 and 2017); June 1 - 3, 2018, Inírida - Guainia. Number of participants: 19 indigenous leaders.

Objective: Train conceptually and methodologically to ACATISEMA indigenous group in the field work to contribute to the execution of the second verification process of the results of the REDD+ Project RIU-SM.

Instructors: Francisco Antonio Quiroga Zea (Forest Engineer, Project Director), Juan Carlos Silva M. (Biologist, leader of the Biodiversity area), Miguel Andrés Idrobo S. (Topographic Engineer, leader of the GIS area), Paulo Cesar Barragán S. (communications and ICT professional), all professionals of MEDIAMOS F&M S.A.S.

Delivered materials:

Agenda, booklet "*Protocol for forest inventory (quantification of aboveground biomass) - Guide for the installation of plots and for the measurement of trees (June, 2018)*", forms for data collection of plots, control and surveillance routes, forms for survey about surveillance and control and results of implementation of FAPUS, work reports by indigenous groups about the results of deforestation monitoring in the 2016-2017 period (Annex 2.4 of this document "Answers to: VCS Verification Assessment Findings Ver. 01").

Reference: Annex 2.17 of Monitoring Report 2016-2017.

Other complementary forms of training:

4. In the literal a) of the answer to this Finding 9 CL 05, it is indicated that there is feedback of the field work carried out by the indigenous people; These feedbacks are processes of continuous improvement or updating.
5. Other evidence that can be considered in terms of the results of the training is the direct observation in the field, by the auditors, of the behavior in the work done by the indigenous groups in the first and second verification.

Undoubtedly, there is renewal of the members of the teams due to the mobility of the population, but the base group trained since 2013 keeps, whose axis is the zonal coordinators.

Future training events are also planned, the topics of which will be, among others, the observations, recommendations and lessons indicated by the EPIC audit team.

VVB Response:

The justification by the PP and evidences submitted addresses the clarification satisfactorily.

Finding 10 CL 06

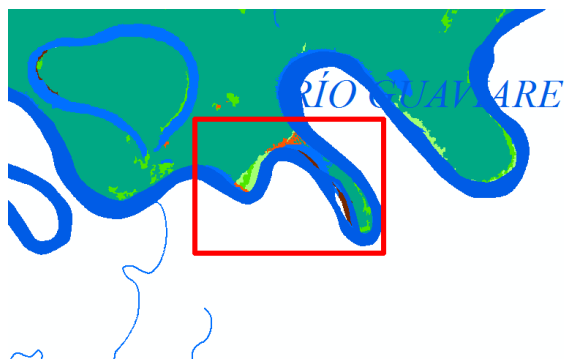
Clarifications need to be provided regarding the transition from forest cover to SD (Column N, table Defor2016-2017).

PP Response:

The changes from "Forest" to "Bare Soil" correspond to natural changes adjacent to the river banks or wetlands typical of the geomorphology of the rivers in this region.

The identified changes of land coverage from Primary Forest and Flooded Primary Forest (in December, 2015) to Bare Soil (in December, 2017), correspond to natural changes typical of the geomorphology of the alluvial plains, where the interaction between rivers and their banks generates changes in the land coverages. Parts of the "2016-2017 coverage map" ("map5_general_coverage_2016_2017.pdf" in folder "general_maps") show three zones where this change has occurred, and all of them are adjacent to the rivers. Below are the 3 illustrations of this type of land coverage change:

Illustration 1. Change over the Guaviare river



In illustration 1, a change in the riverbed can be observed, producing the generation of "beaches" or

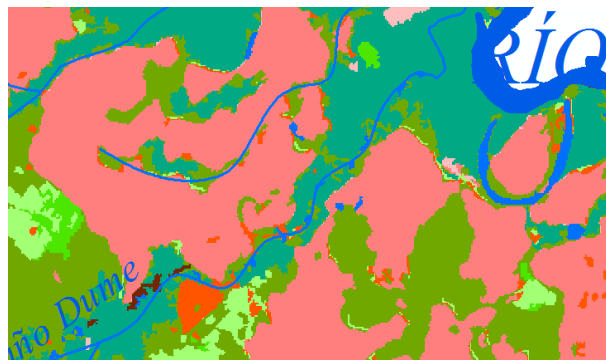
sandbanks over the Guaviare river.

Illustration 2. Change over the Vichada river



In illustration 2, also the change from Forest to Bare Soil adjacent to the Vichada river is observed, obeying the generation of sandbanks. Although in a smaller proportion than in the Guaviare river.

Illustration 3. Change over the Dume creek



Over the Dume creek, the pattern of change is repeated, as can be seen in Illustration 3. These changes are due to the lot of rainfall of the last year, in which changes from Primary Forest to Wetlands were observed; this same dynamic also caused changes from Forest to Bare Soil over the banks of the rivers. It should be noted that these changes are not due to anthropic actions, but to the generation of sandbanks catalogued according to the *Corine Land Cover* standard, adapted to Colombia, as Bare Soil.

The proportions of changes from Forest to Bare Soil in this monitoring period (2016-2017) are considered of little significance, as presented below:

Spatial boundary	Change Forest to Nude Soil (SD) 2016- 2017	Change total Forest to other coverage 2016-2017	% change Forest (2016) to Nude Soil (2017) respect change total Forest to other coverage 2016-2017
PA	36.4 ha.	2049.4 ha.	1.7 %
LB	60.3 ha.	2522.1 ha.	2.4 %
RRL	96.7 ha.	4571.6 ha.	2.1 %

VVB Response:

The justification by the PP and evidences submitted addresses the clarification satisfactorily.

Finding 11 CL 07

Clarify on the results of equation 1, Module VMD0010, section 4.3.7 of monitoring report.

1)

$$C_{LK-ASU-LB} = \Delta C_{P,LB} - \Delta C_{BSL,LK,unplanned} = \quad \quad \quad \Delta \quad \quad \quad \text{(VMD0010, Equation 1)}$$

$$1,015,925 - 4,007,551 = -2,991,626$$

Where: $\Delta C_{LK-ASU-LB}$: Net CO₂ emissions due to unplanned deforestation displaced from the project area to the leakage belt.

$\Delta C_{P,LB}$: $\Delta C_{P,DefLB,i,t}$: carbon change by deforestation, in project case, in LB.

$\Delta C_{BSL,LK,unplanned}$: baseline carbon stock change in LB in 2016-2017.

If $\Delta C_{LK-ASU-LB} < 0$, then $\Delta C_{LK-ASU-LB} = 0$

$$\Delta C_{LK-AS,unplanned} = \Delta C_{LK-ASU-LB} + \Delta C_{LK-ASU,OLB} + GHG_{LK,E} = \quad \quad \quad \text{(VMD0010, Equation 16)}$$

$$0 + 841,860 + 0 = 841,860$$

$$C_{REDD,i} = \Delta C_{BSL} - \Delta C_P - \Delta C_{LK} = \quad \quad \quad \text{(VM0007, Equation 2)}$$

$$9,185,476 - 759,157 - 841,860 = 7,584,460$$

$$VCU = \text{Adjusted } C_{REDD} - \text{Buffer } TOTAL = \quad \quad \quad \text{(VM0007, Equation 13)}$$

$$7,584,460 - 1,179,685 = 6,404,775 \text{ VCUs}$$

In this way, a conservative result is obtained.

2)

the condition is not applied (If $\Delta C_{LK-ASU-LB} < 0$, then $\Delta C_{LK-ASU-LB} = 0$), the result would be:

$$\Delta C_{LK-AS,unplanned} = \Delta C_{LK-ASU-LB} + \Delta C_{LK-ASU,OLB} + GHG_{LK,E} = \quad \quad \quad \text{(VMD0010, Equation 16)}$$

$$-2,991,626 + 841,860 + 0 = -2,149,766$$

$$C_{REDD,i} = \Delta C_{BSL} - \Delta C_P - \Delta C_{LK} = \quad \quad \quad \text{(VM0007, Equation 2)}$$

$$9,185,476 - 759,157 - (-2,149,766) = 10,576,086$$

$$VCU = \text{Adjusted } C_{REDD} - \text{Buffer}_{TOTAL} = \quad \quad \quad (\text{VM0007, Equation 13})$$

$$10,576,086 - 1,179,685 = 9,396,401 \text{ VCUs}$$

that is, if the value of $\Delta C_{LK-ASU-LB}$ keeps negative, there would be a much higher value of the VCUs, which would rise from 6,404,775 to 9,396,401. Therefore, the result in 1) (above) is considered a conservative result.

Additionally, a document with the sequence of equations and results of leakage for the 2016-2017 period is attached (Annex 3 of this document “Answers to: VCS Verification Assessment Findings Ver. 01”).

VVB Response:

The justification by the PP and evidences submitted addresses the clarification satisfactorily. However clarifications were asked whether the comparison is explained in the revised monitoring report to which the reply below by the PP provided satisfactory explanation.

PP Response:

In the document of Monitoring Report 2016-2017 there are two sections where the quantity of VCUs is mentioned:

- Section “1 PROJECT DETAILS”: at the end it is said that “*For this Monitoring Period (2016-2017) the total GHG emission reductions generated is 7,584,460 tCO₂-e, and the total of VCUs is 6,404,775*” (page 15).
- Section “4.4.4 VCUs, 2016-2017 period”, Table 30. Number of Verified Carbon Units, 2016-2017 period: it is said that for Period 2016-2017 the quantity of VCUs is 6,404,775 (page 153).

This is in Version 2 of Monitoring Report 2016-2017 (dated 10th October, 2018), which was sent to EPIC audit group in the same date, through the following link:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/77ihslocftl22l4/AADdP1Z6ndfAUVv1Zh0_XFg7a?dl=0

Anyway, neither in Version 1 of Monitoring Report 2016-2017 (dated 31st July, 2018) nor in Version 2 that value of 9,396,401 VCUs does not appear (or in any other document related to Monitoring Report); that value only appears in this document “Answers to: VCS Verification Assessment Findings” exclusively to compare how VCUs would be if the $\Delta C_{LK-ASU-LB}$ stays $-2,991,626$ (not conservative).

Finding 12 FAR 01

The response by the PP to query by VERRA, indicates that the project is willing to comply with and register under the RENARE platform when it is operational and comply with the Resolution 1447 which is applicable to the project. However a FAR is raised to be addressed by the VVB in the subsequent verification.

APPENDIX II: NON-PERMANENCE RISK ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

Risk Factor	Risk Factor and/or Mitigation Description	Risk rating as per Mediamos	VVB opinion	Method of verification
INTERNAL RISKS				
Project Management				
a)	Species planted (where applicable) associated with more than 25% of the stocks on which GHG credits have previously been issued are not native or proven to be adapted to the same or similar agro-ecological zone(s) in which the project is located.	0	It is not applicable as project is based on REDD+ mechanism and does not involve tree planting.	Not applicable.
b)	Ongoing enforcement to prevent encroachment by outside actors is required to protect more than 50% of stocks on which GHG credits have previously been issued.	0	A combination of forest patrols with participation from the Indigenous guards ensure that the carbon stock is well protected and conserved.	Onsite inspection and interviews. Review of documents submitted. The score assigned is acceptable.
c)	Management team does not include individuals with significant experience in all	0	It was verified during the on-site visit that both Mediamos and ACATISEMA team has extensive experience that	Onsite inspection and interviews. Review of documents submitted. The score assigned is

	skills necessary to successfully undertake all project activities (i.e., any area of required experience is not covered by at least one individual with at least 5 years experience in the area).		is atleast 5 years. Hence the experience and skills of the personnel are considered as sufficient to meet the criteria.	acceptable.
d)	Management team does not maintain a presence in the country or is located more than a day of travel from the project site, considering all parcels or polygons in the project area.	0	<p>It was verified that the project management team maintains a presence in the project area.</p> <p>The administrative and technical offices of the REDD+ project RIU-SM are located less than 3 hours traveling from the project area.</p> <p>ACATISEMA has two offices in the project zone, one in Cumaribo and other in Inírida. MEDIAMOS has its office in Cali. MEDIAMOS technical team continually travels to the Project Area.</p>	Onsite inspection and interviews. The score assigned is acceptable.
e)	Mitigation: Management team includes individuals with significant experience in AFOLU project design and implementation, carbon accounting and reporting (e.g., individuals who	0	The management team has extensive experience that exceeds 5 years in all areas. Further training programmes conducted has enhanced knowledge levels.	Onsite inspection and interviews. Review of documents submitted. The score assigned is acceptable.

	have successfully managed projects through validation, verification and issuance of GHG credits) under the VCS Program or other approved GHG programs.			
f)	Mitigation: Adaptive management plan in place.	-2	Adaptive management plan in place as verified from the MR submitted.	Onsite inspection and interviews. Review of documents submitted. The score assigned is acceptable.
Total Project Management [a + b + c + d + e + f]		-2	Risk rating perceived is appropriate in this section considering all applicable criteria	Applicable as above
Financial Viability				
a)	Project cash flow breakeven point is greater than 10 years from the current risk assessment.	0	NA	NA
b)	Project cash flow breakeven point is between 7 and up to 10 years from the current risk assessment	0	NA	NA
c)	Project cash flow breakeven point between 4 and up to 7 years from the current risk assessment.	1	The breakeven point was achieved in 5th year of Project implementation (2017).	Review of documents submitted. The score assigned is acceptable.
d)	Project cash flow breakeven point is	0	NA	NA

	less than 4 years from the current risk assessment.			
e)	Project has secured less than 15% of funding needed to cover the total cash out before the project reaches breakeven	0	NA	NA
f)	Project has secured 15% to less than 40% of funding needed to cover the total cash out required before the project reaches breakeven.	0	NA	NA
g)	Project has secured 40% to less than 80% of funding needed to cover the total cash out required before the project reaches breakeven	1	This was fulfilled as described in the PD.	Review of documents submitted. The score assigned is acceptable.
h)	Project has secured 80% or more of funding needed to cover the total cash out before the project reaches breakeven.	0	NA	NA
i)	Mitigation: Project has available as callable financial		It is verified from the project financial plan that he project had available,	Review of documents submitted. The score

	resources at least 50% of total cash out before project reaches breakeven.		as financial resources, at least 50% of the cash needed before breakeven threshold was reached.	assigned is acceptable.
	Total Financial Viability (FV) [as applicable, ((a, b, c or d) + (e, f, g or h) + i)]	2	Risk rating perceived is appropriate in this section considering all applicable criteria	Applicable as above
Opportunity Cost				
a)	NPV from the most profitable alternative land use activity is expected to be at least 100% more than that associated with project activities; or where baseline activities are subsistence-driven, net positive community impacts are not demonstrated.	0	NA	NA
b)	NPV from the most profitable alternative land use activity is expected to be between 50% and up to 100% more than from project activities.	0	NA	NA

c)	<p>NPV from the most profitable alternative land use activity is expected to be between</p> <p>20% and up to 50% more than from project activities.</p>	0	NA	NA
d)	<p>NPV from the most profitable alternative land use activity is expected to be between</p> <p>20% more than and up to 20% less than from project activities; or where baseline</p> <p>activities are subsistence-driven, net positive community impacts are demonstrated.</p>	0	<p>As verified from the site visit, majority of the baseline activity in the project areas is subsistence farming</p> <p>Assessment of the net impacts of the project on social and economic well being of the communities was positive.</p>	<p>Review of documents submitted. The score assigned is acceptable.</p>
e)	<p>NPV from project activities is expected to be between 20% and up to 50% more</p> <p>profitable than the most profitable alternative land use activity.</p>	NA	NA	NA
f)	<p>NPV from project activities is expected to be at least 50% more</p>	NA	NA	NA

	profitable than the most profitable alternative land use activity.			
g)	Mitigation: Project proponent is a non-profit organization.	0	<p>ACATISEMA is a non-profit based traditional association of town councils and indigenous authorities, non-profit;</p> <p>MEDIAMOS is a profit based simplified joint stock company.</p>	Review of documents submitted. The score assigned is acceptable
h)	Mitigation: Project is protected by legally binding commitment (see Section 2.2.4) to continue management practices that protect the credited carbon stocks over the length of the project crediting period.	-2.0	The project is protected by a legally binding commitment which is an Agreement between ACATISEMA and MEDIAMOS which was ratified by Sentence of Tribunal of Villavicencio (Meta) and by Decision of the Supreme Court of Justice, ensuring the continuity of management practices that protect carbon stocks credited to the entire length of the crediting period of the project (30 years).	Review of documents submitted. The score assigned is acceptable
i)	Mitigation: Project is protected by legally binding commitment (see Section 2.2.4) to continue management practices that	0	NA	NA

	protect the credited carbon stocks over at least 100 years.			
	Total Opportunity Cost (OC) [as applicable, (a, b, c, d, e or f) + (g or h)]	-2.0	Risk rating perceived is appropriate in this section considering all applicable criteria	Applicable as above
Project Longevity				
a)	Without legal agreement or requirement to continue the management practice.	0	NA	NA During the first verification a score of 18 was assigned as there was no legal agreement to continue the practice.
b)	With legal agreement or requirement to continue the management practice.	15	As verified, there is a legal contractual agreement to maintain the management practice. According the Strategic Alliance Agreement ACATISEMA-MEDIAMOS, Clause 12, Paragraph 2, ACATISEMA decides to continue with the implementation of REDD+ Project RIU-SM activities for another cycle (30 additional years), after the end of the first project accreditation cycle (according to meeting of Board of Councils, Coordinator Committee and Zonal Coordinators on November 8-9, 2017 -	Review of documents submitted. The score assigned is acceptable. During this verification, the evidence related to the continuation of the management practice in future resulted in the score for the indicator to be revised. The current verification period is up to December 2017, whereas the agreement was in place from November 2017.

			Annex 2.9 of Monitoring Report 2016-2017), to keep with the protection and maintenance of carbon deposits, based on which credits for reduction of GHG emissions are issued. However, the application of this decision will be made as from the year 2018 as it is not applied for the current monitoring period.	
c)	Total Project Longevity (PL)	15	Risk rating perceived is appropriate in this section considering all applicable criteria	Applicable as above
d)	Total Internal Risk (PM + FV + OC + PL)	13	Risk rating perceived is appropriate in this section considering all applicable criteria	Applicable as above
EXTERNAL RISKS				
Land Tenure and Resource Access/Impacts				
a)	Ownership and resource access/use rights are held by same entity(s).	0	NA	NA
b)	Ownership and resource access/use rights are held by different entity(s) (e.g., land is government owned and the project proponent holds a lease or concession).	2	As verified, ownership of the land (RIU-SM's territory) and resources access/use rights is of Ethnic Groups of RIU-SM associated in ACATISEMA. There was no change in the status of the land ownership during the current verification.	Site visit , interviews and land ownership records. The score assigned is acceptable.

c)	In more than 5% of the project area, there exist disputes over land tenure or ownership.	0	NA	NA
d)	There exist disputes over access/use rights (or overlapping rights).	0	NA	NA
e)	WRC projects unable to demonstrate that potential upstream and sea impacts that could undermine issued credits in the next 10 years are irrelevant or expected to be insignificant, or that there is a plan in place for effectively mitigating such impacts.	0	NA	NA
f)	Mitigation: Project area is protected by legally binding commitment (e.g., a conservation easement or protected area) to continue management practices that protect carbon stocks over the length of the project crediting	-2.0	As verified, the Project Area is legally protected by the Constitution of Colombia (1991), ACATISEMA Statutes (because it is an Indigenous Reservation) . Also the Strategic Alliance Agreement between ACATISEMA-MEDIAMOS to continue management practices that protect carbon stocks over the length of the project	Site visit , interviews and review of documents. The score assigned is acceptable.

	period.		crediting period is in place.	
g)	Mitigation: Where disputes over land tenure, ownership or access/use rights exist, documented evidence is provided that projects have implemented activities to resolve the disputes or clarify overlapping claims.	0	NA	NA
	Total Land Tenure (LT) [as applicable, ((a or b) + c + d + e+ f + g)]	0	Risk rating perceived is appropriate in this section considering all applicable criteria	Applicable as above
Community Engagement				
a)	Less than 50 percent of households living within the project area, who are reliant on the project area, have been consulted.	0	It was verified that >98 % of the households within the project area have been consulted. The latest meeting was held in 2017 ratifying the community participation.	Site visit , interviews and review of documents. The score assigned is acceptable.
b)	Less than 20 percent of households living within 20 km of the project boundary outside the project area, and who are reliant on the project area, have been consulted.	0	It was verified that 50% of the households living within 20 km of the project boundary outside the Project Area were consulted.	Site visit , interviews and review of documents. The score assigned is acceptable.
c)	Mitigation: The project generates	-5	It was verified that the project generates total	Site visit , interviews and review of documents.

	net positive impacts on the social and economic well being of the local communities who derive livelihoods from the project area		positive impacts on social and economic aspects of the communities which is also ratified by meeting in 2017.	The score assigned is acceptable.
d)	Total Community Engagement (CE) [where applicable, (a+b+c)]	-5	Risk rating perceived is appropriate in this section considering all applicable criteria	Applicable as above
Political risk				
a)	Governance score of less than -0.79.	NA	NA	NA
b)	Governance score of -0.79 to less than -0.32.	NA	NA	NA
c)	Governance score of -0.32 to less than 0.19.	NA	For Columbia, average score of all six indicators for the five most recent years (20012-2016) is -0.24.	From the review of documents. The score assigned is acceptable.
d)	Governance score of 0.19 to less than 0.82.	NA	NA	NA
e)	Governance score of 0.82 or higher.	NA	NA	NA
f)	Mitigation: Country is implementing REDD+ Readiness or other activities, as set out in this Section 2.3.3.	-2	The Colombian government is an active member of the UNFCCC REDD+ and within the framework of the same has established a National REDD Strategy ENREDD+. Further there	From the review of documents. The score assigned is acceptable.

			is a Designated National Authority under which there are various projects under REDD+ mechanism.	
g)	Total Political (PC) [as applicable ((a, b, c, d or e) + f)]	0	Risk rating perceived is appropriate in this section considering all applicable criteria	Applicable as above
	Total External Risk (LT + CE + PC)	0	Risk rating perceived is appropriate in this section considering all applicable criteria	Applicable as above
NATURAL RISKS				
F	Fire	1	The fire risk significance is rated as "insignificant (less than 5% loss of carbon stocks). For this verification no losses above this threshold were reported. However the risk for some years reflected and increase.	Site visit inspection and from the review of documents. The score assigned is acceptable.
PD	Pest and Disease Outbreaks	0	The fire risk significance is rated as "insignificant (less than 5% loss of carbon stocks). During this verification, no significant loss has occurred due to any pests.	The score assigned is acceptable.
W	Extreme Weather	0	The extreme weather risk significance is rated as "insignificant (less than 5% loss of carbon stocks)." There were no losses due to cyclones	The score assigned is acceptable.

			<p>this monitoring period.</p> <p>For this verification no losses were reported.</p>	
G	Geological Risk	0	<p>Because none of these risks have been identified to impact any discrete project area, significance is considered "no loss."</p> <p>For this verification no losses were reported.</p>	Web Data links as per Appendix 09
ON	Other Natural risk	NA	NA	NA
	Total Natural Risk (as applicable, F + PD + W + G + ON)	0	<p>Risk rating perceived is appropriate in this section considering all applicable criteria. The applied mitigation scores of 0.5 to each of fire, pest, extreme weather and geological risk is acceptable.</p>	Applicable as above

Summary of assessment:

Risk Category	Risk rating	Requirements for risk rating
a) Internal risk	13	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall risk rating shall be rounded up to the nearest whole percentage. The minimum risk rating shall be 10, regardless of the risk rating calculated. If the overall risk rating is over 60 then the project fails the entire risk analysis.
b) External risk	0	
c) Natural risk	1	
Overall Risk rating a) + b) + c)	14	
Total risk assessment buffer applicable	14%	<p>VVB Assessment:</p> <p>The buffer applied reflects the risk rating as applicable to the project activity and meets the requirements of AFOLU Non-Permanence Risk Tool.</p>
Net Change in carbon stocks (not adjusted for uncertainty)	8,426,320	
Emission reductions buffer	1,179,685	