



Sustainable Development Verified Impact Standard

SILVADOR CLIMATE ACTION SD VISTA VERIFICATION REPORT



Document Prepared by EPIC Sustainability Services Private Limited

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Project Title	Silvador Climate Action
Project Location	Buzau and Dambovita counties, Romania

Summary

Silvador climate action is the project implemented in the private forest properties of Buzau and Dambovita counties of Romania. The project is established as a forest carbon credit projects aiming to achieve GHG emission reduction and removals by ceasing regular timber harvesting operations in the project area. The project is a grouped project and has a single project activity instance (PAI) as of now. However minimal harvesting is carried out in the PAI to maintain ecological stability and to prevent possible risks. Subsequently, the project involved two group activities namely Sustainable Forest Management and Climate Action Initiative contributing to 3 sustainable development goals such as Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG-12), Climate Action (SDG-13) and Life on Land (SDG-15).

The purpose of verification is to independently assess the project compliance of project with the Sustainable Development Verified Impact (SD VISTa) standard requirements. This verification allows the project proponent to obtain the possible SD VISTa claims and labels in combination with the VCUs generated by the project activity that has been independently validated and verified. The verification period for the project is from 1st August 2020 to 31st December 2022.

The verification involved a combined documents review, onsite field visits and interviews with relevant stakeholders. The project complies with the verification criteria set out in the Sustainable Development Verified Impact Standard v1.0, and the SD VISTa Program Guide v1.0.

The Verification team raised 2 CLs, 2 CARs and 2 FARs as part of the validation. All the identified issues were effectively resolved through correction, clearer explanations and additional supporting documents. FARs were raised for consideration in the next verification event.

"Silvador Company SRL commissioned EPIC to verify the compliance of the project "Silvador Climate Action" in Romania, against SDVISTa standards. EPIC confirms that all verification activities, including objectives, scope, criteria, level of assurance and project documentation follow SDVISTa Standard v1.0, and are detailed in this report. EPIC concludes that the monitoring report v1.4 meets the requirements of SDVISTa Standard v1.0 and associated tools. Further, EPIC confirms that there is a reasonable level of assurance, with an acceptable degree of uncertainty, that the SDVISTa project "Silvador Climate Action" meets all relevant verification compliance requirements. The stated benefits by the project activity and validated by EPIC is achieved in the monitoring period "

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1 VERIFICATION PROCESS

1.1 Objective

The purpose of the verification is to perform independent assessment in accordance with requirements outlined in Section 5.2 of the SD VISTa standard v1.0. The Verification team from EPIC Sustainability Services Private Limited (EPIC or Verification team) held an independent assessment of the project titled “Silvador Climate Action” to evaluate the following.

- The conformance of the project with SD VISTa program rules
- The likelihood of procedures and approaches as described in project description leads to the issuance of SD VISTa claims and labels in addition to VCU that are independently validated and verified.

1.2 Scope and Criteria

The scope of this audit included verification of the project against SDVISTa requirements and review of project’s objectives, its physical structures, group activities and its associated SDGs and other project benefits. Moreover, the verification aims to verify the project benefits stated in the PD, MR and to check whether they are complete, verifiable, and in accordance with the latest applicable versions of SDVISTa standards and relevant legislation under Romania's legal framework. As defined in accordance with 5.1.6 of ISO 14064-3:2019 (E) the project includes.

- Project activities
- Baseline scenario applicable to the project
- Carbon pools and/or GHGs included in the project boundary
- Group activities (Details in Section 1.4 of this report)
- Project crediting period

In accordance with the Section 5.2.1 of the SDVISTa Standard v1.0 the criteria for verification is assessed to be in conformance with the following documents.

- SD VISTa Program Guide v1.0
- SD VISTa Standard v1.0
- SD VISTa Program Definitions v1.0

1.3 Level of Assurance

According to requirements outlined in Section 5.2.3 of SD VISTa Standard V1.0, there was reasonable level of assurance by validation and verification of the project with respect to material errors, omissions, and misinterpretations.

1.4 Summary Description of the Project

Silvador Climate Action is the forest carbon credit project implemented in the private forest properties of Buzau and Dambovita counties of Romania. Historically, Silvador has managed its forest lands with a focus on timber production. The project is expected to maintain forest management initiatives that curtail regular harvesting within the PAI of the project areas.

The project aims to achieve GHG emission reduction and removals by ceasing regular timber harvesting operations in the area^{4/5/} for a period of 30 years. The project is considered as a grouped project and has a single project activity instance (PAI) with a total of 1,538 ha of private forest area as of now. However minimal harvesting is carried out in the PAI to maintain ecological stability and to prevent possible associated risks. Despite the management activities before the project focused on regular timber harvesting^{48/}, the SD VISta program focused on implementing the following grouped activities to the curtail the baseline activities. These activities are expected to be undertaken with the primary objectives of actively managing and protecting the forest lands under their ownership to achieve climate benefits, biodiversity benefits, water benefits, and other ecosystem service benefits

- Group activity 1: Sustainable Forest Management
- Group activity 2: Climate Action Initiative

The implementation of aforementioned group activity directly contributed towards the Sustainable development goals mentioned below.

- 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production
- 13 – Climate Action
- 15 – Life on Land

1.5 Verification team Composition

Table 1. Verification team composition, their qualification and area of expertise.

Sl.no	Validation and Verification team members	Overview of relevant qualification and Area of expertise
1.	Mr. Vijayaraghavan (Lead Auditor)	R BE in Mechanical Engineering, M.Tech in Energy Conservation and Management and MBA in Technology Management. He has around eighteen years of industry experience and is qualified as a lead auditor for various GHG / Energy reduction project audits in various countries under various standards and protocols with relevant sectoral experience (AFOLU)
2.	Mr. Santhosh D T (Auditor)	Graduation and post-graduation in the field of Forestry with more than two years of experience in Forestry Research, Academics, and Carbon Accounting with relevant sectoral experience (AFOLU)

3	Mrs. Sheela H. K (Auditor)	Graduation and post-graduation in the field of Agriculture with more than 5 years of experience in Forestry Research, Academics and Carbon Accounting with relevant sectoral experience (AFOLU)
4	Mr. Dinesh C. V (Auditor)	Graduation and post-graduation in the field of Forestry with experience in Forestry Research, GIS Analysis, Academics, and Carbon Accounting with relevant sectoral experience (AFOLU)
5	Mr. Marius Turtica (Technical Expert)	Graduation in Silviculture and Forest Engineering with relevant experience in Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) audits, with relevant relevant social and cultural expertise. Currently leading a position of Project Manager and President of the Association for Forest Certification, Brasov, Romania.

1.6 Method and Criteria

The assessment team conducted a series of document reviews, relevant personal interviews as well as onsite field visits to check ground truth data. The scope and criteria of the verification were in compliance with the requirements specified in section 1.2 of this report.

The Verification team formulated a sample plan using the template crafted by EPIC. The team highlighted the “Residual risks” area that associated with potential material deviations, i.e., errors, misinterpretations and omissions. The risks associated were not collectively prevented or detected by the project controls. Sampling and data collection with testing were carried out to address these associated risks. Meanwhile, the Verification team formulated a comprehensive plan in accordance with the requirements outlined in Section 6 of ISO 14064-3:2019.

1.7 Document Review

The project proponent submitted the SD VISta Project Description and Monitoring Reports (SD VISta PD & MR v1.5, dated November 2024), which were cross-checked by the audit team for conformance with the validation criteria. Additionally, other key supporting documents were uploaded to the project proponent's server (SharePoint) to facilitate access for the audit team. These documents were reviewed by the audit team prior to the onsite visit.

During the onsite audit, the audit team, with presence of host country technical expert, reviewed supporting documents related to project design and stated requirements. This included verifying the ownership of lands, FSC certification, training records and other key project details to confirm the validity and appropriateness of the documentation.. References made to these documents are provided in the entire report and are noted through their assigned reference number. . All the documents reviewed as part of verification process are detailed in the following table.

Table 2. List of documents reviewed for verification.

Ref No	Documents Reviewed	File / Document name / Weblink
1	VCS Joint PD-MR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Silvador_2_Project_Description_Monitoring_Report v1.5
2	Non-permanence risk reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Silvador - NPV for Non-Perm Risk Report (Feb '24) Silvador-Non-Permanence-Risk-Report (Feb '24)
3	Estimated GHG emission reductions or removals (tCO ₂ e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GHG_Estimate_20240202
4	Project Area (KML)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Silvador_Project_Instance_2023
5	Analysis units (KML)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Silvador_AnalysisUnits_2022
6	Reference of all cadastral shapefiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cadastral Shapefiles.zip
7	Registration and Incorporation Certificate for the Company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporation document Forest Capital nr. 996 from 30.04.2020 - page number 2.pdf Incorporation document Silvador from 26.09.2018 - page number 2 to 10.pdf
8	Proof of Ownership (Land Deed Documents)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 03A-Ownership_20231212.zip
9	Tax invoice documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5-Tax Documents.zip
10	Purchase sales contracts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-Sales Contract.zip
11	Forest Management Companies (FMCs), their authorization and role in forest management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EVG Registration certificate and Authorization.pdf OSM Registration certificate and Authorization.pdf FMUs roles.pdf
12	Proof for project Start date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest Capital - FMC Ever Green project notification.pdf Forest Capital - FMC Muntenia project notification.pdf Forest purchasing agreement - UP I Constantinescu.pdf Silvador Company - FMC Ever Green project notification.pdf Silvador Company - FMC Muntenia project notification.pdf Project Start Date.zip

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Details) APV Registry - Silvador and Forest Capital(SVD).xlsx
13	Forest management plans (FMPs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest Management Plans.zip
14	Romanian Forest Code	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Forest Code (26_1996) revised as The Forest Code 46/2008 http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/90768
15	NATURA 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natura2000_end2021_epsg3035.kml https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/index_en.htm
16	FSC – Centralized National Risk Assessment, FSC-CNRA-RO V1-0 EN, Dated 20 September 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FSC-Centralized National Risk Assessment Romainia, 2017.pdf
17	Grievance Redress Procedure - SOP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GreenRaise SOP - Grievance Redress Procedure (EN).pdf
18	Stakeholder consultation - SOP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GreenRaise SOP-Stakeholder Consultation+Engagement (May '22).pdf
19	List of identified Stakeholders, stakeholder consultation email and other documentation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder consultation Email and Documentation.zip
20	SOP - GHG Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SOP - GreenRaise GHG Monitoring (Dec'22).pdf
21	Baseline and Project harvested wood products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Silvador - PRJ HWP_20240202.xlsx Silvador - BSL HWP_20231218.xlsx
22	Assessment of high value forest by conservation, Dated, 18 November 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addendum Report_PVRC_2021 EN
23	Forest inventory data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Silvador_Forest_Inv_GC's_Jan24'23.xlsx
24	Final VCUs calculation data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GHG Estimate_20240202.xlsx

25	SD VISTA - PDD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SD-VISTA-PDD-Silvador Climate Action v1.5 (Sep'24) - Confidential.pdf
26	SD VISTA - MR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SD-VISTA-MR-Silvador Climate Action v1.4 (Nov'24) - Confidential.pdf
27	Personnel worker training records regarding work security and health and emergency situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisa PSI Ghinea.pdf Fisa SSM Ghinea.pdf
28	Assessment of safety on workers and Periodic Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report regarding the assessment of safety on workers.pdf
29	Inspection by Labour Inspectorate regarding training the workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspection record of labour inspectorate.pdf
30	Worker Contracts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Services Agrmt-Implement + Sales Marketing (Silvador ForestCapital + GRC GFS) signed FINAL.pdf
31	<p>Company internal policy for protection against harassment and discrimination in workplace</p> <p>Audit Share: 20240814</p> <p>Zimmfor internal policy for protection against harassment and discrimination in the workplace,</p> <p>Workers Compensation Act, Occupational Health and Safety Section 115, 116, 117</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 5 of internal policy: Internal Regulation Book: Folder 27 - Silvador Internal Regulation full EN.pdf 0240100-Zimmfor HSE Policy.pdf Zimmfor SWP General (January'23)Final.pdf BullyingHarrasment Backgrounder.pdf BullyingHarrasmentEmployer.pdf BullyingHarrasmentInvestigationsGuide.pdf BullyingHarrasmentPolicyStatement.pdf BullyingHarrasmentReportingProcedures.pdf BullyingHarrasmentWorker.pdf
32	Silvador website job notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forestry truck driver job notification.png Forwarder operator job notification.png Revisal Workers.pdf Skidder, chainsaw and manual operator job notification.png Translatedskidder, chainsaw and manual operator job notification.pdf
33	Social dialogue and labour code of Romania specifying equal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 5, Labour Code – Law nr. 53 from 2023: Anti-Discrimination provisions

	opportunities and necessary requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Article 2, Law no. 202/2002, Law on the equality of opportunity and treatment between men and women: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/travail/docs/1532/LEGE%20%20%20Nr.%202022002%20equal%20opportunities%20betw.%20men%20and%20women.pdf ▪ Government Ordinance (GO) no. 137/2000 – preventing and sanctioning all forms of discrimination: https://migrant-integration.ec.europa.eu/library-document/romania-government-ordinance-no-1372000-preventing-and-sanctioning-all-forms_en ▪ International Labour Standards on Equality of opportunity and treatment, International Labour Organization: https://www.ilo.org/global/standards/subjects-covered-by-international-labour-standards/equality-of-opportunity-and-treatment/lang-en/index.htm ▪ Romania as part of International Labour Organization: https://www.ilo.org/budapest/countries-covered/romania/lang-en/index.htm ▪ Social Dialogue Law 367 from 2022(SVD).pdf
34	National Statistics of Forestry Workers by Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Page 39 and 40, Women and men life and work partnership, National statistics institute: Women and men - from National Statistics Institute.pdf https://insse.ro/cms/sites/default/files/field/publicatii/femeile_si_barbatii_parteneriat_de_munca_si_de_vita_5.pdf ▪ https://genderdata.worldbank.org/indicators/si-empl-zs/
35	Declaration of working period time to claim workers insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Article 1 and Article 2 of Law nr. 346 from 2002, specifying Insurance for work accidents and professional diseases. ▪ Chapter VI, Section 2, Article 30, Law nr. 319 from 2006 – Work security and health
36	Emergency response plan of Silvador and Romanian regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Folder 36 - Silvador Emergency Plan full EN .pdf, Dated: 22-07-2020. ▪ First aid personnel – Certificates.pdf
37	FSC Manual: Specifying avoiding usage of chemical substances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FSC Manual - chemical substances.pdf
38	Law for Occupational Health and Safety, (Dated 11 th October 2006)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ OHS Law 1425_2006.pdf. ▪ https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/19001_02https://www.inspectiamuncii.ro/86

	Workers Compensation Act [RSBC 1996] Chapter 492	
39	Social Dialogue law (Dated 19 th December 2022)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social Dialogue Law (SVD).pdf
40	Labour Code of Romania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Labour Code of Romania.pdf ▪ https://www.ilo.org/dyn/travail/docs/1630/
41	Procedures for designation of conservation areas (10%) and excluded from commercial purchases (5%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ P 623 v1.0 Dated, 01.07.2017: Procedure for Designating Conservation Areas (10%).pdf ▪ Records of the management plots classified as representative samples of natural ecosystems (10%).xlsx
42	Procedures for Forest Management Certification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specific procedures for implementing forestry management - FSC certification.pdf
43	General requirements for FSC accredited certification bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Requirements for FSC Accredited Certification Bodies FSC-STD-20-001-V4-0 EN 2015.pdf
44	FSC Forest Management Certification surveillance Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ OS Ever Green FSC FM Audit 21 ENG public.pdf
45	Drone Aerial Footage of Representative natural ecosystems recorded during onsite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UP I Constantinescu (110 A) - 10%FSC.MOV
46	Drone footage of project area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DJI_0215.MOV
47	Fire and Pest management of forests under project from FSC and FMP procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Section 4.6 of Forestry Management Plan, Ocolul Silvic Ever Green-Forest Management Certification.pdf ▪ Section 2 of Silvador specific documentation for emergency situations: Silvador Emergency plan - page 4.pdf ▪ Action plan in emergency situations and response capacity: Silvador Emergency Plan.pdf ▪ Pg 1-2 of "SOP_EVERGREEN EN v2 - FMC Certification".pdf ▪ Indicator 10.6. of FSC Forest Management Certification Manual, v4.0 Dated, 17th November 2021: Manual_certificare_forestiera_EG_V4 pages 72 – 73.pdf

48	Harvest information: Report from all the activities from initiation and termination of harvest activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Harvest file UP I Manesti year 2018.pdf.
49	FSC list of highly hazardous pesticides, EU, and Romanian legislation of use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Section 8.5 of FMP specifying "combating pests and diseases". ▪ FSC lists of highly hazardous pesticides, FSC-POL-30-001a EN: FSC-POL-30-001a V3-0 EN FSC Lists of Highly Hazardous Pesticides pages 5-8.pdf. ▪ Lists of Highly Hazardous Pesticides, FSC-POL-30-001a EN: https://connect.fsc.org/current-processes/fsc-pol-30-001a-v1-0-fsc-lists-highly-hazardous-pesticides ▪ EU Pesticides Database: https://food.ec.europa.eu/plants/pesticides/eu-pesticides-database_en ▪ The EU's chemicals strategy prohibiting the use of the most harmful chemicals: https://www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/78/chemicals-and-pesticides
50	Annual illegal felling inspection reports submitted to Forestry Guard (2015-2023)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Submitted Illegal Felling Report.zip
51	Prevention of Illegal felling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Article 51, Article 52 and Article 107 of Forestry Code Law nr. 46/2008 ▪ Forest Services Contract to guard against illegal felling: Service contract UP I Valea Tisei.pdf
52	FSC procedure and reports for illegal felling quantifications, procedures, and actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Page 1-3, 3-3, Specific Procedures Implementation of Certification Management Forestry, Dated 10.08.2017: SOP_EVERGREEN EN v2 - FMC Certification.pdf ▪ Criterion 1.4 of FSC-STD-ROU-01-2017 EN Romanian NFSS.pdf ▪ FSC Management plan.pdf
53	Emissions by Harvesting and transporting operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Emissions_BSL_Estimate (Feb'24).xlsx ▪ Emissions_PRJ_Estimate (Feb'24).xlsx

<p>Occupational health and safety laws regarding the registering of work accidents, insurance for work accidents and professional diseases, social dialogue law.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Article.175 (1), Article.177 (1), Article.178 (1), Article.179, Article. 180 (1) and Article.181 of Labor Code – Law 53 from 2003: Labor Code (SVD).pdf http://www.mmuncii.ro/j33/images/Documente/MMJS/english/2018_LAW53-2003_Labour-Code.pdf ▪ Occupational Safety and Health Law no. 319/2006: OHS Law 1425_2006.pdf. http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/73772 ▪ Social dialogue, Law 367/2022: <input type="checkbox"/> Social Dialogue Law 367 from 2022(SVD).pdf ▪ Law no. 319/2006, on work health and safety: http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/73772 ▪ Government Decision no. 1425/2006, modified by HG no.955/2010 and Government Decision no. 1242/2011, Standard Method for the implementation of Law no.319/2006: http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/76337 ▪ Government Decision no. 1051/2006 on minimal requirements for work health and safety during the manual handling of volumes which present risks for workers, especially back injuries: http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/74429 ▪ Government Decision no. 1146/30.08.2006 on minimal requirements for health and safety for the use of work equipment by workers: http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/75585 ▪ Government Decision no. 1091/16.08.2006 on minimal requirements for health and safety in the workplace: http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/74708 ▪ Government Decision no. 1048/09.08.2006 on minimal requirements for health and safety for the use of personal protective equipment by workers in the workplace:
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		<p>http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/74559</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government Decision no. 300 in 02/03/2006 on minimal requirements for health and safety on temporary or mobile sites: http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/69995
55	Global review of forest pest and diseases, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.fao.org/3/i0640e/i0640e.pdf
56	Romania Deforestation Rates & Statistics - Global Forest Watch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Globalforestwatch.org/
57	National Inventory Report – Romania, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Romania. 2019 National Inventory Report (NIR) UNFCCC
58	FAO - Ecological Zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FAO Ecological Zones.zip
59	Global Forest Resources Assessment, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.fao.org/3/ca9825en/CA9825EN.pdf
60	Status of Abiotic disturbance in Romania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anfodillo, et al., 2008. Turbe, et al., 2012 Anfodillo, et al., 2008 Mihai, Savulescu, & Sandric, 2007 Popa, 2008
61	Status of Geological Risks in Romania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pavel, Vacareanu, Arion, Aldea, & Scupin, 2021 Malek, Boerboom, & Glad, 2015 Roșca, S et.al, 2020 Codru, I.C. and Niacsu, L., 2022.
62	Ministerial Order Nr. 460/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/118103
63	Ministerial Order Nr. 1039/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/120652
64	Ministerial Order Nr. 1540/2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/129446
65	VERRA – Confirmation mail referring no public comments received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fwd Verra Registry Project Review Status Change SD VISta 4511 Silvador Climate Action. (Email-outlook)
66	Role of trees and forests in prevention of landslides and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.fao.org/3/ba0126e/ba0126e00.pdf

	rehabilitation of landslide affected areas in Asia, Dated 2011.	
67	FSC Forest Management Standards Certification, Dated Jan 07, 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Timestamped_FSC-C139122.pdf
68	SUMAL - Digital Wood Tracking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ https://www.forestinnovationhubs.rosewood-network.eu/en/content/digital-wood-tracking ▪ Transport Document of wood material (EN) from forest.pdf ▪ Transport Document of wood material (EN) from warehouse.pdf
69	Anticorruption Law no. 78/2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ https://www.ecba.org/extdocserv/projects/ace/2016_0114_ACE_CountryreportRomania.pdf
70	FSC- International Generic Indicators, FSC-STD-60-004 V1-1 EN, Dated 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ https://fsc.org/sites/default/files/2019-05/FSC-STD-60-004%20IGI%20with%20IFL_Indicators_Draft.pdf
71	Romanian legislations to strengthen property rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law 18/1991 (Law on Land Resources) https://www.cdep.ro/legislatie/eng/vol48eng.pdf ▪ Law 169/1997 (Amendment of Law 18/1997) ▪ Law 1/2000 (Reconstitution of the rights of owners over Agricultural and Forest lands) https://www.cdep.ro/legislatie/eng/vol48eng.pdf ▪ Law 247/2005 (Reforms in property and Justice) https://www.ccr.ro/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/studiu_en.pdf
72	Silvador worker's registry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revisal Workers.pdf

1.8 Interviews

The Verification team interviewed the project team, other entities and relevant stakeholders to gather the information regarding the follows for both the validation and verification assessments

- The conformance of the activities with the SD VISTA standard as well as other necessary requirements.
- The evidence provided to the Verification team with the PD to support verification process.

- Detailed group activity supporting the outlined SDGs.

Table. 3 Project participants interviewed during the Validation and verification.

Sl. no	Name	Entity or Organization	Role of the personnel	Topic of Discussion	Date(s) of interview
A	Vlad Chitulescu	Silvador Company SRL Forest Capital SRL	Project proponent	Investment decision, legal status of forest land, conservation plan, historical scenario of the project area, Community and ecosystem benefits, Local stakeholder consultation and continuous engagement etc.	31 st October 2023 to 22 nd February 2024
B	Jason Zimmerman	GreenRaise Consulting GmbH	Director	Additionality, projections of GHG emissions and reductions from Baseline as well as project scenarios	31 st October 2023 to 22 nd February 2024
C	Zoie Richards	Zimmfor Management Services Ltd.	Specialist, Forest Carbon & Management Services	Assessment of monitoring plot, IFM project development, implementation and monitoring, GIS, remote sensing, land mapping, baseline and project maps	31 st October 2023 to 22 nd February 2024
D	Dave Brown	Zimmfor Management Services Ltd.	Specialist, Forest Carbon & Management Services	IFM project development, CBM-CFS3 modelling for baseline and project scenarios, Quantification of GHG emission reduction and removals	31 st October 2023 to 22 nd February 2024
E	Marika Forge	Zimmfor Management Services Ltd.	Specialist, Forest Carbon & Management Services	IFM project development, CBM-CFS3 modelling for baseline and project scenarios, Quantification of GHG emission reduction and removals	31 st October 2023 to 22 nd February 2024
F	Bercaru Marcel	Silvador Company SRL	Legal Counsel	Investment decision, legal status of forest land, Other Romanian legislation,	31 st October 2023 to

		Forest Capital SRL		conservation strategies, baseline scenario of the forest area, Local stakeholder consultation, and continuous engagement etc.	22 nd February 2024
G	Mihai Panutru	Silvador Company SRL	GIS analyst & Forest Engineer	Assessment of monitoring plot, IFM project development, implementation and monitoring, GIS, remote sensing, land mapping, baseline and project maps.	31 st October 2023 to 22 nd February 2024
H	Dragos Paraschiva	Silvador Company SRL	Forest Engineer	Assessment of monitoring plot, IFM project development, Historical harvest practices, management and risk mitigation strategies	31 st October 2023 to 22 nd February 2024
I	Virgil Popescu	Silvador Company SRL	Forest Acquisition	Alternative scenarios, Local stakeholder consultation and community benefits	08 th January 2024 to 13 th January 2024
J	Florea Sergiu	Forest Design	Forest Engineer	Operation of ZEB-SLAM HORIZON Lidar for DBH and Height measurement, biomass quantification, Monitoring plot inventory	10 th January 2024
K	Elena Vosciatinscaia	Silvador Company SRL	Freelancer	Silvador Climate Action website development and maintenance	08 th January 2024 to 13 th January 2024

Additionally, relevant stakeholders were interviewed during on-site visits to gather information communication of project design, risks and impacts due to implementation of the project. Details regarding the individuals interviewed, including their organization, position and interview date is provided below.

Table. 4 Stakeholder's interviewed during the Verification process

Sl. no	Name	Gender (M/F)	Entity/Organization	Role of the Personnel	Topic of Discussion	Date(s) of Interview
AA	Monac Emilian	M	Egger Romania SRL	Fibre board Producer	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation	08/01/2024
AB	Gheorghe Niculae	M	Guarda Forestiera Dambovita	Counselor	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation, Forest management, Inspection of forest areas	08/01/2024
AC	Codroiu Vasile	M	Ocolul Silvic Muntenia	Forest Ranger	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation, Forest management, Inspection of forest areas	08/01/2024
AD	Andrei Gheorghe	M	Ocolul Silvic Muntenia	Forest Ranger	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation, Forest management, Inspection of forest areas	08/01/2024
AE	Murat Hacibektanglu	M	Yildiz Entegre Romania SRL	Purchasing Manager	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation	08/01/2024
AF	Mincu Anca	F	ENA WOOD	Production responsible & Manager	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation	08/01/2024

AG	Edebak Erkan	M	ENA WOOD	Production responsible & Manager	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation	08/01/2024
AH	Danciu Damian	M	Private FMU	Tornator	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation	08/01/2024
AI	Liviu Flusca	M	Private FMU	Tornator	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation	08/01/2024
AJ	Stan Cristian	M	AJVPS Dambovita	Hunting Association Representative	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation, Hiking and Hunting permission	08/01/2024
AK	Ilina Stefanita	M	Ocolul Silvic Evergreen	Forest Engineer	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation, Forest management, Inspection of forest areas	08/01/2024
AL	Popa Alexandru	M	ROMSILVA, Pucioasa FMU	Forest Engineer	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation, Forest management, Inspection of forest areas	08/01/2024
AM	Serban Constantin	M	In Colt Supermarket SRL	Wood trader and Processor	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation	08/01/2024

AN	Stanciu Vlad	M	Meladvita SRL	Bee Keeper	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation	08/01/2024
AO	Dumitra Silviu	M	Timber Real Wood SRL	Manager	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation	08/01/2024
AP	Nicu Barbulescu	M	Ocolul Silvic Muntenia	Manager	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation	08/01/2024
AQ	Neagu Alin	M	Ocolul Silvic Muntenia	Forest Engineer	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation, Forest management, Inspection of forest areas	08/01/2024
AR	Serban Tudor	M	Preffered by Nature	Auditor	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation, FSC Inspection and Certification	08/01/2024
AS	Nanescu ION	M	Private Winery	Winery Owner	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation	10/01/2024
AT	Enescu Felix	M	Even Green	Forest Ranger	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation, Forest management, Inspection of forest areas	10/01/2024

AU	Raducanu Adrian	M	Silvador Company Firewood Warehouse	Warehouse and harvesting operations Manager	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation	12/01/2024
AV	Raducanu Valentin	M	Silvador Company Firewood Warehouse	Warehouse Manager	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation, Job security	12/01/2024
AW	Manta Vasile	M	Silvador Company Firewood Warehouse	Firewood Worker	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Stakeholder consultation, Job security	12/01/2024
AX	Dumitru Adrian	M	Silvador Company Firewood Warehouse	Skidder Operator	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation, Job security	12/01/2024
AY	Dumitru Marian	M	Silvador Company Firewood Warehouse	Chainsaw Operator	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation, Job security	12/01/2024
AZ	Brutaru Georgian	M	Firewood Buyer	Firewood Buyer	Awareness of project design, Impacts due to project implementation, Initial Stakeholder consultation	12/01/2024

1.9 Site Inspections

The on-site inspections in various counties and communes in Romania were conducted to verify the information presented in the SD VISTA monitoring report regarding the project proponent's compliance with SD VISTA requirements. A key focus was ensuring the consistency of the geographic area of the project and its accompanying KML file. To achieve this, the audit team engaged in a risk-based review of the project area^{46/}, aiming to confirm its alignment with all SD VISTA requirements.

Throughout this comprehensive process, the verification team observed and documented the Project Proponent's evidence, concurrently assessing data collection techniques against the monitoring plan and associated documentation. In addition, the verification team appropriately selected samples of data and information for verification.

An integral aspect of the risk-based review focused on determining the project's contribution to stated SDGs. This multifaceted approach provided a thorough assessment of the project's compliance with SD VISta standards and requirements during the on-site inspections.

The inspection extended to interviewing local authorities to verify the project's compliance with validated PD, as well as assessing its relationship with local factors and communities.

The Verification team conducted onsite inspections for the SD VISta project combined with the VCS project from 8th January 2024 to 13th January 2024. The onsite audit involved a reviewing of Company registration^{7/}, Forest Management Plans, FSC certification, and other supporting documents was conducted. Biomass inventory was conducted using ZEB-SLAM HORIZON Lidar technology in selected monitoring plots, calibrated with manual inventory data for quantification of GHG reduction and removals. Discussions with forest management companies (FMCs) regarding forest management, regular meeting with stakeholders, inspection of illegal felling etc. Compliance checks were carried out on marked trees and wood tracking was monitored using a digital portal (SUMAL 2.0, <https://www.mmediu.ro/categorie/sumal-2-0/321>). Visit to FSC Certified Forest areas and designated representative natural ecosystems by FSC Forest Management Standard. Visit to Sawmills and Firewood warehouse to discuss with the workers. Interviews were conducted with different stakeholders' group to gather information regarding the impacts from the project implementation.

Table 5. Locations visited by verification team in the project area and activity conducted

Sl. no	Date of Visit	Location	Activity
1	08 January 2024	Targoviste, Dambovita	Opening meeting of the verification audit, Desk review, office visit, Stakeholder interviews
2	09 January 2024	Targoviste, Dambovita	Desc review including FSC certification, Forest Management plans etc, Timber sawmill visit, Stakeholder interviews
3	10 January 2024	Buzau	Biomass inventory plot visit, Stakeholder interviews
4	11 January 2024	Buzau	Biomass inventory plot visit, FSC (10% designated) representative natural ecosystem visit, Stakeholder interviews
5	12 January 2024	Dambovita	Biomass inventory plot visit, Firewood warehouse visit, Stakeholder interviews
6	13 January 2024	Targoviste, Dambovita	Closing meeting at Salvador Office, Targoviste, Romania

1.10 Public Comments

Following the requirements outlined in the Sections 5.3.1 – 5.3.2 of the SD VISta Standard, the project was open public comments for a period of 30 days ((18th August 2023 to 17th September 2023). The

Verification team concluded by referring to the verra registry that the project didn't receive any comments during the specified period^{65/}.

1.11 Resolution of Findings

Whichever potential or actual discrepancies identified during the audit process were addressed through the issuance of findings. The type of findings typically issued by EPIC during validation engagement are describes as follows.

- **Clarifications (CL):** Additional information is required for clarification on a specific matter.
- **Corrective action requests (CAR):** Indicates a deviation from a specific requirement, and it can only be resolved upon evidence provided that the identified issue has been corrected. Corrective action of all open CAR's is necessary before validation and verification statements can be issued.
- **Forward action requests (FAR):** Matters concerning the project implementation that need examination during upcoming verification of the project activity. These concerns should not pertain to VCS and SD VISTA requirements for registration.

The verification aimed was aimed to address and resolve any outstanding clarification and corrective action requests, along with other unresolved issues, before obtaining a positive conclusion from EPIC on the project.

As part of Verification process, the Verification team raised a total of 6 findings, including 2CLs, 2 CARs, and 2FARs. All the findings were closed effectively with clearer explanations, corrections and appropriate evidence as detailed in the Appendix A of this report, following the SD VISTA Standard, v1.0.

1.12 Forward Action Requests

As part of the Verification process, the Verification team raised a total of 2FARs and the request the upcoming VVB to assess the same.

2 VALIDATION FINDINGS

The project contributed significantly to the three Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by implementation of two group activity as outlined in the section () above. The details of the aforementioned is detailed below.

Group activities involved in the project

- Group Activity 1 – Sustainable Forest Management
- Group Activity 2 – Climate Action Initiative

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) associated.

- 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production
- 13 – Climate Action
- 15 – Life on Land

2.1 Project Description Deviations

This section is not applicable as there was no project description deviation observed.

2.2 Grouped Projects

The Verification team conducted evaluations to assess a) the steps taken to evaluate the design of the grouped project, including eligibility criteria and the process for expanding grouped projects b) to conclude and justify whether the project design meets the requirements of the SD VISta.

This assessment involved a review of the Project Design, ownership documents, other supporting VCS project documents, and interviews with the project proponent.

The Verification team determined that the project titled "Silvador Climate Action" is currently a grouped project with a single project activity instance. Future activity instances may be included in compliance with the requirements outlined in Section 2.3.11 of the PD.

3 VERIFICATION FINDINGS

3.1 Summary of SDG Contributions

The project contributed to achieve 3 Sustainable Development Goals (through implementation and maintenance of two group activities and are described as follows.

Group activities involved in the project

- Group Activity 1 – Sustainable Forest Management
- Group Activity 2 – Climate Action Initiative

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) associated.

- 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production
- 13 – Climate Action
- 15 – Life on Land

3.2 Project Design

3.2.1 Project Objectives

The Verification team concludes that the project proponent detailed all the necessary information regarding primary objectives in section 2.1.1 of the SD VISta PD. The objective of the project emphasizes actively management and protecting the forest areas in their ownership aiming to achieve benefits relating to climate, biodiversity, water and other ecosystem services. The Verification team affirmed that two group activities were implemented to achieve the significant contribution to three Sustainable development Goals (SDGs).

3.2.2 Project Activities

Group Activity 1 – Sustainable Forest Management: The forest management plan (FMP)^{/13/23/} is a sustainable and close to nature initiative for managing forest lands in Romania. The implementation and maintenance of lands including certification by recognized third-party certification by FSC Forest Management Standard (Forest Management/Chain of Custody) on forest areas owned and managed by Silvador. The certification mandates implementation of mitigation measures to safeguard water quality, biodiversity, wildlife habitat, species at risk and forests with high conservation value^{/22/}. SDGs associated with group activity 1: SDG 12, SDG 13 and SDG 15

Group Activity 2 - Climate Action Initiative: “Silvador Climate Action” a VCS forest carbon credit project focuses achieve greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions and removals by transition of privately owned periodic harvest forest lands to protected forest lands. These private forests doesn’t overlap with natural protect areas^{/15/}. The carbon credit project was enforced following the applied

methodology VM0012 – Improved Forest Management in Temperate and Boreal Forests (LtPF), v1.2.
SDGs associated with group activity 2: SDG 13

The Verification team affirmed that the project reasonably attained the specified sustainable development objectives through the execution of group activities operated by the project team.

The table below outlines the respective SDG contributions achieved relating to both People and Their Prosperity and the Planet.

Table 6. Fulfilment of SDG targets and Verification team conclusion

Sl. No	SDG Target	Fulfilment of SDG Targets	Verification team conclusion
1.	12.0	>62% of private forest areas owned and managed by Silvador voluntarily accredited and certified to FSC Forest Management Standard.	The Verification team reviewed the FSC Forest Management Standard certification pertaining to the project area. The assessment affirmed that project implementation achieved sustainable development contribution through Group activity 1. The SDG target specifies Sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources is achieved through increase in the hectares of land certified to sustainable forest management standards ^{/67/} and follows established project level indicator “Responsible Consumption + Production” of forest. As of now >62% of forest fund properties within the project area is FSC Certified ^{/67/} .
2.	13.0	Around 62,040 tCO _{2e} sequestered by project area encompassing forests during the monitoring period.	The Verification team reviewed the VCS PD-MR and GHG Quantification workbooks to affirm that the project implementation achieved sustainable development contribution through Group activity 1 and 2. The SDG target specifies to “Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts”. This target is achieved by curtailing the timber harvest leading to enhanced carbon sequestration ^{/1/24/} in compliance established project level indicator “Tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions avoided or removed” ^{/20/21/24/} .
3.	15.2	Halted deforestation on 1,538 ha of privately owned forest lands owned by Silvador for a duration of monitoring period. Approximately	The Verification team reviewed the VCS PD-MR and GHG Quantification workbooks to affirm that the project implementation achieved the sustainable development contribution through

	<p>30,680 m³ of volumes of harvest is avoided during the monitoring period.</p>	<p>Group Activity 1. The SDG target specifies to “Promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally. This target is achieved following established SDG indicator 5.2.1 “Progress towards Sustainable Forest Management”^{21/}.</p>
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3.2.3 Implementation Schedule

Silvador Climate Action considered date of curtailing the harvest activities to be project start date (1st August 2020)^{12/} with crediting period of project lifetime of 30 years (1st August 2020 to 31st July 2050). The Verification team affirms by details in Table 3. of Section 2.1.3 of the SD VISta PD, detailed document review, interviews with project team and relevant personnels that all the information is in conformance with requirements of SD VISta.

3.2.4 Project Proponent and Other Entities Involved in the Project

Considering “Silvador Climate Action” as a project Silvador Capital SRL and Forest Capital SRL (Silvador) were identified as Project proponents as per information in section 2.1.4 of the SD VISta PD. According to section 2.1.5 of the SD VISta PD, GreenRaise Consulting GmbH considered as Authorized Representative, Implementation Partner, Project Developer for both VCS and SD VISta project (“GreenRaise”). Additionally, Global Forest Support GmbH acts as Listing Representor and Authorized Representative (“Global Forest”), Zimmfor Management Services Ltd. Serves as Implementation Partner and Project Developer (“Zimmfor”) respectively. The Verification team has determined that Silvador, GreenRaise, Global Forest Support and Zimmfor collectively assume full responsibility for project development.

3.2.5 Project Location

The Verification team concludes that the project area is non-contiguous private forest lands located in Argeş, Buzău, Dâmbovița, Prahova, and Teleorman counties of Romania. As of now single Project activity instance is in place with the area of 1538 hectares as per section 2.1.7 of the SD VISta PD.

3.2.6 Threats to the Project

The Verification team evaluated the potential risk posed by project activities to Sustainable Development Contributions throughout the entire project crediting period. The process involved detailed review of the SD VISta PD and MR, research articles, National database^{59/60/61/} along with validating and verifying the associated VCS project through relevant documentation review. The evaluation also involves stakeholder information, interviews with stakeholders and interviews with project proponent as supporting documentation. Following the information from the SD VISta PD, MR and other supporting documents the verification team opinion is that the possible risks to the

sustainable benefits have proper mitigation measures in place for low-risk classifications for all categories identified. Mitigation measures are assured by both voluntary and legally required practices and commitments (Forest Management Plans for all properties, volunteer FSC Forest Management Certification on project properties) to achieve sustainable forest management. Additionally, Upon review of Table 5. Threats and Mitigation Measures, Section 2.1.8 of the SDVISta MR v1.5 It is confirmed that the natural and human-induced threats to the sustainable development benefits during the monitoring period have minimal risks specific to project^{/2/16/47/50/52/61/56/57/}.

3.2.7 Benefit Permanence

The Verification team reviewed the project proponent's Forest Management plans^{/13/}, reviewed information regarding forest^{/66/}based sector in Romania (<https://www.forestplatform.org/forest-based-sector-in-romania>) and conducted interviews with the personnel of the FMCs hired by Silvador for forestry management plan assessments and works on their project lands (Oculul Silvic Evergreen and Oculul Silvic Muntenia)^{/AC/AD/AK/AL/AQ/AT/}. It is evident from the aforementioned that the Romanian forest management plans are created after environmental assessment and has a long tradition in the sustainable and close-to-nature-type management (natural regeneration) of its forest resources even without the project implementation.

Additionally, >62% of the project area is voluntary FSC Forest management Certified, hence under third-party audited certification principles, the PP has prevented and expected to prevent the use of chemical substances and excluded the use of FSC-forbidden substances ^{/37/49/}, prevention from fire and pest^{/47/55/}, identified and managed the natural ecosystems for conservation with no intervention^{/41/45/}.

Lastly the PP confirms that both voluntary and legal measures implemented to guarantee the perpetuated commitments and activities to achieve sustainable forest management and project activity^{/67/}.

3.3 Stakeholder Engagement

3.3.1 Stakeholder Consultation and Adaptive Management

The audit involves assessment through reviewing the SD VISta PD, examining consultation database (<https://green-raise.com/>), Grievance Redress Procedure – SOP^{/17/18/}, reviewing documents related to VCS validation and verification of the project to evaluate the effectiveness of the continuous communication with stakeholders. The verification team reviewed the national population statistics regarding the workforce in forestry sector and affirmed that major proportion of the workers in the sector is male^{/34/}. Additionally, interviews conducted with the project proponent and relevant stakeholders concluded the same.

Silvador plans to uphold ongoing and transparent communication through online feedback forms that remains accessible to the public entirely for project lifetime allowing for perpetuity of stakeholder engagement. Project proponent agrees that, if necessary, throughout the life of the project, any necessary information that is supposed to be communicated to stakeholders will follow the electronic

correspondence via email and the information will also be updated via the GreenRaise (www.green-raise.com) and Silvador websites/^{19/A-I/AA-AZ/}. Additionally, the project proponent agrees to host a periodic open house meeting in neutral locations if information is not adequately addressing stakeholders.

The Verification team verified the online feedback database and the availability of connection to communicate through the same location in the region. The Verification team concluded that the project proponent's plan for continuous stakeholder consultation and adaptive management is satisfactory.

3.3.2 Anti-Discrimination

The entities involved in the project design and the implementation of project activities are:

- Silvador Company SRL
- Forest Capital SRL
- GreenRaise Consulting GmbH
- Global Forest Support GmbH
- Zimmfor Management Services Ltd.

The verification team interviewed employees from the above regarding their roles in project implementation, design, and benefits, including anti-discrimination measures. They also reviewed national legislation, internal standards, and operating procedures for all involved parties and found the measures to be satisfactory.

Every group activity executed follows local and national requirements for the employees within project. The Verification team concluded through the cross verifying the information as per Romanian Government Ordinance no. 137/2000, and considered to be punishable under the penal code, all individuals despite of their status is safeguarded against discrimination, harassment, and victimization. Employees and contractors employed by project proponent encompassed by the safeguards of regulatory frameworks of the National Labor Code, the Law on Occupational Health and Safety and other relevant government Mandates.

Additionally, the Verification team confirmed the implementation of various measures by project proponent including Chapter 5 of the Internal policy of Silvador Company SRL ensuring protection against harassment and discrimination in workplace. Considering their gender or race.

1. Equal opportunities legislation in Romania aims to combat various forms of discrimination, including gender and race, to ensure fairness in employment/^{33/}.
2. International labor standards advocate for equal treatment and opportunities globally, addressing discrimination and promoting diversity, training access, and fair economic distribution/^{33/}.
3. Romania, a member of the International Labour Organization (ILO) since 1919, received ILO assistance from 1993 to 2008 to support labor market reforms and legislative revisions/^{33/}.

4. Post-EU accession, the ILO continued to assist Romania in labor legislation and dispute resolution, while Romania also funded social security projects in Moldova^{/33/}.

Lastly, the Verification team confirmed that several measures were incorporated by the project proponent, project developer within their Silvador's own health and safety program ensuring proper procedures and training for health and safety^{/31/33/}. Meanwhile, if any harassment or discrimination are reported, procedures are in place to inform and address issues accordingly.

3.3.3 Worker Training

Examinations completed by the Verification team including detailed review of the SD VISTA PD, relevant documentation, interviews with project proponent and stakeholders, concluded that the project proponent offers new employees with training, technical proficiency, and worker safety. All the information provided to employees is aligned to Silvador's internal Field Operating Procedures and with the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Management System prior to conducting any work tasks in the forests. When required, Silvador's training content is expected to be tailored to marginalized and/or vulnerable people through the use of visual aids, translation services or traditional translations.

The employees under Silvador ensured the workers' rights meeting all legal requirements specified under core Labor Conventions of the International Labor Organization (ILO), the ILO code on occupational health and safety for forest activities including requirements of the National Labor Code of Romania as well^{/33/39/}.

The Verification team reviewed the worker contracts^{/30/} to validate the worker rights. The rights of workers were detailed including the right for work safety, right for equal opportunities, right to pay for the work done, right to professional training and right to weekly or daily rest. The assessment team conducted interviews with employees^{/AU/AV/AW/AX/AY/} that workers' rights were supported through communication during on-going safety and work training programs^{/33/40/}.

Additionally, considering the Romanian Labour code the workers have the rights such as a) right to wage for the work carried out b) right to daily and weekly rest period; c) right to annual leave; d) right to equal opportunities and treatment; e) right to dignity at work; f) right to health and safety at work; g) right to access to vocational training etc (<https://www.ilo.org/dyn/travail/docs/1630/>).

Conclusively, the Verification team affirms that the information of worker's rights and means of communication of their rights to workers were considered satisfactory.

3.3.4 Equal Work Opportunities

It is not expected in the project condition that enormous job opportunities are generated or available. However, the usual procedures for employment under Silvador includes publicly posting the role of job as well as on newspaper sites or hiring platforms, underlining the description of position including the job requirements. The candidates are screened based on their equivalent qualification and skills, afterwards invited for in person interview to the position offered^{31/32/33/}.

The Verification team reviewed the PD, relevant documentation, conducted interviews with project proponent and stakeholders to determine that the project proponent ensures employees receive training, technical proficiency, and prioritizes worker safety. All the information communicated to employees is aligned to Field Operating Procedures and Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Management System before undertaking any tasks in the forests^{/27/28/38/54/}.

Additionally, the assessment team examined the records of inspection by labour inspectorate of the Dâmbovița County. This includes inspection of work safety and health in the companies that have the main activity of harvesting^{/29/}. The Verification team examined the Romanian legislation regarding the Declaration of working period time to obtain workers insurance. These regulations specify the insurance^{/35/} for labour accidents and professional illness, General obligation, Protective and preventive services for workers, firefighting and first aid, training of workers and health surveillance^{/35/}.

The Verification team conducted interviews with the workers during the ongoing visit that the worker training provided by the project proponent is satisfactory. Additionally, the team asserts that the implementation of measures to prevent workplace discrimination or sexual harassment are sufficient.

3.3.5 Workers' Rights

The employees under Silvador ensured the workers' rights meeting all legal requirements specified under core Labor Conventions of the International Labor Organization (ILO), the ILO code on occupational health and safety for forest activities including requirements of the National Labor Code of Romania as well. The Verification team conducted comprehensive document review, information from relevant depositories, interviews with project proponent and employees^{/AX/AY/AZ/} that workers' rights were upheld through communication during on-going safety and work training programs, the Evergreen FMC Certification Specific Forest Management Certification Procedures, and the Silvador FSC Policy^{/33/40/}.

Additionally, considering the Romanian Labour code the workers have the rights such as a) right to wage for the work carried out b) right to daily and weekly rest period; c) right to annual leave; d) right to equal opportunities and treatment; e) right to dignity at work; f) right to health and safety at work; g) right to access to vocational training etc (<https://www.ilo.org/dyn/travail/docs/1630/>) .

The Verification team asserts that the information of worker's rights and means of communication of their rights to workers was satisfactory.

3.3.6 Occupational Safety Assessment

The Verification team conducted several examinations to assess a) the occupational safety assessment performed by the project and the measures planned to mitigate the risks identified in the assessment b) details of the steps taken to determine whether the project adequately informed stakeholders about risks and how to minimize such risks c) to conclude and justify whether the project's occupational safety assessment was comprehensive, and the measures will minimize risk to workers. The examination included a comprehensive review, review of documents, review the

information in the SD VISta PD, supporting documentation review of VCS project, conducted interviews with stakeholders and relevant stakeholders respectively.

The Verification team provided affirmation that associated risks due to project implementation are equivalent to the risks associated with regular forest activities within Romania. The project proponent must implement workplace safety measures that identify, mitigate, and prevent potential risks through legal obligations^{/54/}. The Verification team conducted interviews with relevant stakeholders^{/BP/BQ/BR/} and project team ^{/G/H/} to discuss the measures implemented to enhance occupational safety. The team confirms through the above-mentioned steps that several programs and actions were implemented related to workplace Standard Operating Procedures and Health and Safety procedures.

The Verification team reviewed the Law for Occupational Health and Safety^{/38/}, (Dated 11th October 2006). This legislation focuses on occupational health and safety. It outlines strategies for enhancing workplace safety, including prevention of risks, safeguarding workers' health, and accident elimination. The law applies to both public and private sectors, encompassing employers, workers, and their representatives. It defines terms like worker, employer, and occupational accident, emphasizing the importance of prevention and personal protective equipment. It aims to ensure a safe and healthy workplace for all individuals involved in the workforce^{/36/}. Additionally, Procedures for Forest Management Certification^{/42/} and other Romanian legislations^{/54/} pertaining to occupational safety reviewed to infer that procedure for registering and resolving complaints, registration and settlement of complaints local communities' access to non-timber forest products and management system for occupational health and safety etc.

3.3.7 Feedback and Grievance Redress Procedure

The Verification team conducted comprehensive review of the SD VISta PD, review of supporting documents related to VCS project, interviews with project proponent and local stakeholders to assess or evaluate the feedback and grievance redress procedure employed during the project^{/17/}.

The project proponent has organized a SOP to address feedback and grievance redress information directly accessible to public through GreenRaise website (www.green-raise.com). The Verification team asserts that satisfactory actions have been initiated by a project proponent to admit for a transparent and solution-based approach.

3.3.8 Stakeholder Access to Project Documentation

The Verification team conducted several assessments to evaluate a) the steps taken to assess the project's plan for making full project documentation accessible to all stakeholders as it becomes available through the project lifetime b) justify and conclude whether the project has and continue to make project documentation accessible to all stakeholders. The aforementioned were evaluated by comprehensive review of the SD VISta PD, other supporting documents of VCS project, interviews with project proponent and relevant stakeholders^{/AA-AZ/} to provide with conclusion.

The Verification team verified whether the project proponent granted the access to the SD VISta PD for stakeholders through GreenRaise website (www.green-raise.com). Additionally, the Verification team crosschecked with Verra Registry as well as outlined in section 2.2.12 of the SD VISta PD. The

Verification team conducted interviews with the relevant stakeholders and affirm that they have access to the same.

3.3.9 Information to Stakeholders on Verification Process

The Verification team conducted several assessments to evaluate a) the steps taken to assess the measures implemented and communication methods used by the project to inform stakeholders of the validation and verification process b) details of documentation assessed and observations made during the site visit c) conclude and justify whether stakeholders had knowledge of the validation audit and are likely to know of future assessments. The aforementioned were evaluated by comprehensive review of the SD VISta PD, other supporting documents of VCS project, interviews with project proponent and relevant stakeholders to provide with conclusion.

The Verification team affirms that the information of SD VISta project and its assessment has been provided to all relevant stakeholders^{/AA-AZ/} through GreenRaise website as per section 2.2.13 of the SD VISta PD. The information is said to be available for public on the GreenRaise website during entire project lifetime.

3.4 Project Management

3.4.1 Avoidance of Corruption

The Verification team conducted several assessments to evaluate a) the steps taken to assess whether the project proponent or any other entities involved with project design or implementation are involved in any form of corruption, such as bribery, embezzlement, fraud, favouritism, cronyism, nepotism, extortion or collusion b) conclude and justify whether the project is involved or complicit in any form of corruption. The Verification team conducts comprehensive review of PD, review of supporting documents related to VCS project, interviews with project proponent and local stakeholders to assess the aforementioned.

The Verification team affirms that the project proponent, is one of the legally incorporated business owners supported by property ownership documented^{/8/9/10/} under the National Agency for Cadastre and Real Estate Advertising as required by Law no. 7/1996. The affirmation was also provided for established Forest Management Plans (FMPs) are in compliance with legal requirements for timber harvesting activities necessitates approval from forest official. Electronic timber tracking system is also executed by the Romanian government^{/68/} to track harvested logs from harvest site and transport of wood in entire Romania.

The Verification team reviewed the Anticorruption Law no. 78/2000^{/69/} and anti-corruption procedure developed by project proponent describing the company commitment to prevent corruption and the document is made publicly available. Additionally, the private forest areas owned by Silvador also underwent Forest Management and Chain of Custody third party auditing by Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

The Verification team affirms that the project proponent is not involved in or complicit in any form of corruption.

3.4.2 Recognition of Property Rights

The Verification team conducted several assessments to evaluate a) the steps taken to assess whether all property rights are recognized, respected and supported b) to Identify any documentation assessed, and observations made during the site visit c) conclude and justify whether all property rights are recognized, respected and supported and whether the project is helping secure statutory rights. The aforementioned were evaluated by comprehensive review of the SD VISta PD, other supporting documents of VCS project, interviews with project proponent and relevant stakeholders to provide with conclusion.

The Verification team conducted comprehensive evaluation regarding tenure practice, admission to land, management rights to land and resources through land title extracts (Land deed documents) from Office of Cadastres and Real Estate Publications as well as from FMPs of respective forest authorized by National Forest Administration. The Romanian government acknowledges and upholds these documents with relevant legislations⁷¹.

Overall, the Verification team concluded the project proponent, Silvador, admits, recognizes and supports all the property rights and the project contributes to securing statutory rights.

3.4.3 Free, Prior and Informed Consent

The Verification team conducted several assessments to evaluate a) the steps taken to assess the process by which free, prior and informed consent will be or has been obtained from those whose property rights will be or are affected by the project b) to Identify any documentation assessed, and observations made during the site visit c) conclude and justify to whether the project has respected property rights and obtained free, prior and informed consent of those whose property will be or have been affected by the project. The preceding information were estimated by thorough review of the SD VISta PD, other supporting documents of VCS project, interviews with project proponent and relevant stakeholders to provide with conclusion.

The Verification team conducted the interviews with the relevant stakeholders ^{/AA-AZ/} to affirm no inhabitants in the project area and consequently no property rights affected by the two group activities. Thereafter, it is affirmed that there are no individuals whose rights were affected and will not be affected in future.

3.4.4 Restitution and Compensation for Affected Resources.

The Verification team concluded through above mentioned assessments as well as from information in monitoring report that project activities do not result in any net adverse effects and therefore do not need to provide restitution or compensation.

3.4.5 Property Rights Removal/Relocation of Property Rights Holders

The Verification team conducted several assessments to evaluate a) steps taken to assess whether project activities lead to involuntary removal or relocation of property rights holders from their lands or territories, or force rights holders to relocate activities important to their culture or livelihood b) to confirm that where any relocation of habitation or important activity occurs, it will be done so within the terms of an agreement which includes provisions for just and fair compensation and that the agreement was made with the free, prior and informed consent of those concerned c) conclude and justify to whether the project is removing property rights holders from their lands or territories. The aforementioned were evaluated by comprehensive review of the SD VISta PD, other supporting documents of VCS project, interviews with project proponent and relevant stakeholders^{/AA-BS/} to provide with conclusion.

The Verification team affirmed that this section is not applicable as there are no foreseen net negative effects due to implementation of project activities, and no removal or relocation occurred because of this project.

3.4.6 Mitigation of Illegal Activities

The Verification team conducted several assessments to evaluate a) the steps taken to assess any illegal activities identified by the project that could affect the project's impacts and the measures planned to reduce such activities b) conclude and justify to whether the project has identified all illegal activities and taken measures to ensure that project benefits do not result from illegal activities.

The Verification team verifies that major reporting of illegal harvests has arisen in the Făgăraș Mountains and in some designated Natura 2000 sites, however project site not intersected with any of those designated sites. Despite that the Verification team also concludes that the illegal harvesting is not a serious concern for the project as combating illegal harvesting with revised policies, procedures, newer technologies for timber tracking like SUMAL 2.0 is in place by authorised Government entities. Additionally, surveillance report by FMCs and annual audits by third party certification from FSC also determined minimal illegal harvesting in the area^{/50/51/52/68/}.

In summary, the Verification team concluded that the project proponent has implemented adequate measures to prevent illegal activities throughout the project lifetime.

3.4.7 Ongoing Conflicts or Disputes

The Verification team conducted several assessments to evaluate a) the steps taken to assess whether any activities performed by the project could prejudice the outcome of an unresolved dispute relevant to the project b) conclude and justify regarding any ongoing or unresolved conflicts or disputes over rights to lands, territories and resources and any disputes that were resolved during the last twenty years c) to identify, discuss and justify conclusions regarding measures needed and designed to resolve conflicts or disputes. The preceding information was evaluated by comprehensive review of the SD VISta PD, review of related research articles, other supporting documents of VCS project, interviews with project proponent and relevant stakeholders^{/AA-AZ/} to provide with conclusion.

The Verification team reviewed the information of Land reform in Romania ([Land reform in Romania - Wikipedia](#)). During the communist regime in Romania from 1947 to 1989, extensive land reforms were implemented, including the acquisition of private lands to increase agricultural output and manpower. This involved the transfer of many lands to the state or their unjust expropriation from private landowners. Subsequently, these lands were redistributed to peasants for a nominal fee.

The Verification team reviewed the information regarding Land related disputes and conflicts in Romania ([PDF Land Related Disputes and Conflicts in Romania \(researchgate.net\)](#)). Following the collapse of communism in 1989, Romania experienced numerous land disputes related to the original ownership and title. The government responded by enacting legislation and regulations aimed at land restitution and compensation. These efforts included laws such as Law 18/1991 and Law 107/1996, which allowed citizens to request restitution of agricultural and forest lands. Subsequent laws, such as Law 169/1997 and Law 1/2000, dealt with unsolved legal disputes and introduced compensation measures. Law 247/2005 enforced reforms in field ownership and justice regarding disputes.

The Verification team affirms by the information outlined in 2.3.8 of the SD VISta PD about multiple historical land reforms took place in Romania that no current conflicts or disputes lasting from previous twenty years that will impact the consequence of the project. Additionally, the team also discussed with a host country expert who is part of the Verification team regarding ongoing conflicts or disputes and concluded that no measures were required due to absence of ongoing conflicts or disputes.

3.4.8 National and Local Laws and Regulations

The Verification team conducted several assessments to evaluate a) the steps taken to assess whether the project complies with all and any relevant local, regional and national laws, statutes and regulatory frameworks b) details of information sources assessed, and observations made during the site visit c) conclude and justify an overall conclusion as to whether the project complies with relevant laws. The preceding information was evaluated by comprehensive review of PD, review of related research articles, other supporting documents of VCS project, interviews with project proponent and relevant stakeholders to provide with conclusion. (Also refer to Table 7. Of the VCS Validation and Verification report)

Table 7. Relevant legislation and Verification team conclusion

Sl.no	Legislation	Specifics of the Legislation	Verification team conclusion
1	Law 46/2008 (Forestry Code)	Legislation governing all forest properties in Romania covers ownership rights, management processes, and harvest stipulations necessary for sustainable forest management and environmental practices. This includes the requirement for Forest Management Plans for forested areas larger than 10 hectares, detailing plan development	The Verification team reviewed the legislation and confirmed the compliance of the project with legislation. The assessment determined that the project's activities align with the requirements outlined in the legislation/ ^{14/} .

		specifications and ownership obligations.	
2	Law No. 18 on Land Fund	This law establishes the land tenure system in Romania, classifying lands into categories and outlining ownership rights registration requirements. Relevant provisions include procedural aspects related to land use for agricultural and silvicultural production.	<p>The Verification team reviewed the legislation and confirmed the compliance of the project with legislation. The assessment determined that the project's activities align with the requirements outlined in the legislation.</p> <p>https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/1459</p>
3	Ministerial Order Nr. 23/2009	This regulation outlines the security structures, organizations, and legal obligations of forestry personnel within forest management frameworks and service contracts to protect forest resources from illegal activities.	<p>The Verification team reviewed the legislation and confirmed the compliance of the project with legislation. The assessment determined that the project's activities align with the requirements outlined in the legislation.</p> <p>https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/114795</p>
4	Ministerial Order Nr. 460/2010	This order establishes certification methodologies for developing forest management plans and outlines requirements for legal entities seeking certification for management activities.	<p>The Verification team reviewed the legislation and confirmed the compliance of the project with legislation. The assessment determined that the project's activities align with the requirements outlined in the legislation^{/62/}.</p>
5	Ministerial Order Nr. 1039/2010	This order defines approved methodologies for technical experts responsible for approving and reviewing the quality of forest management planning activities. It also sets conditions for certification of individuals creating management plans.	<p>The Verification team reviewed the legislation and confirmed the compliance of the project with legislation. The assessment determined that the project's activities align with the requirements outlined in the legislation^{/63/}.</p>
6	Ministerial Order Nr. 1540/2011	This order specifies the terms, approvals, documents, permits, and	<p>The Verification team reviewed the legislation and confirmed the compliance of the project with</p>

		collection methods for timber harvesting and transportation.	legislation. The assessment determined that the project's activities align with the requirements outlined in the legislation ^{64/} .
7	Water Law No. 107/1996	Legislation regarding water resource use, water management, and associated activities, including penalties. Forestry aspects cover water conservation, soil protection, pollution control, and protected zones around natural water bodies.	The Verification team verified the legislation and adherence of the project to the requirements. The assessment concluded that the legislation aligns with the project activity. https://leap.unep.org/en/countries/ro
8	Environmental Protection Law No. 137/1995	Legal framework for the protection and regulation of activities impacting natural resources (water and land environments), enforced by the Ministry of Waters, Forests, and Environmental Protection.	The Verification team verified the legislation and adherence of the project to the requirements. The assessment concluded that the legislation aligns with the project activity. https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/rom13258E.pdf
9	Law no. 319/2006, on Work Health and Safety	Legislation requiring monitoring of forest activities related to health and safety by Labor Inspectorates, ensuring safe work environments and outlining challenge procedures for safety requirement violations.	The Verification team verified the legislation and adherence of the project to the requirements. The assessment concluded that the legislation aligns with the project activity ^{54/} .

The Verification team concluded that all the collective efforts will adhere to applicable local, state and national laws as described in the section 2.3.9 of the SD VISta PD. Finally, the Verification team determined that the project proponent has provided enough evidence to support compliance with national and local laws and regulations.

4 BENEFITS FOR PEOPLE AND THEIR PROSPERITY

4.1.1 Stakeholder Impacts

The impacts on stakeholders due to implementation of the project activity are outlined in section 3.2 of the SD VISTA PD/^{25/26/} and listed in the section 4.1.3 below.

The Verification team implemented a process of assessing impacts on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by reviewing the SD VISTA PD, supporting documents related to VCS project, review of research articles and conducting interviews with project proponent.

Altogether, the Verification team determined that the projected impacts on stakeholders, as outlined by the project proponent, are probable to happen for every stakeholder category.

4.1.2 Mitigation of Negative Impacts on Stakeholders

Measure to address adverse effects on stakeholders concerning their economic opportunities resulting from the implementation of the project is detailed in the section 3.2 of the SD VISTA PD under Impact#8.

The Verification team involved in process of assessing a) the steps taken to assess the measures needed and designed to mitigate any negative impacts on stakeholder groups b) to include information with respect to how such measures are consistent with the precautionary principle c) whether the project will mitigate negative impacts on stakeholders.

The assessment team interviewed relevant stakeholders/^{AX/AY/AZ/} and determined that the identified measures to prevent negative impacts by offering alternative employment opportunities in the remainder of the forest's lands owned by project proponent is actively performed.

4.1.3 Stakeholder Impact Monitoring

Table 8. Stakeholders and their condition at the project start

#	Objectives or indicators	Monitoring mechanisms
2	FSC Indicator #4.5.1 – Local Community Relations	<p>The verification team reviewed the SD VISTA PD and conducted interviews with FMC personnels as well as relevant stakeholders to affirm that the Silvador engages in identification of regions with special cultural, ecological, economic or spiritual significance to communities through frequent participation with local communities.</p> <p>Target 1: The verification team discussed with personnel from FMC/^{AK/} and relevant stakeholders/^{AA-AZ/} to affirm that</p>

		<p>Annual meetings between Evergreen Forestry Association Board of Directors and public is conducted regularly^{/11/}.</p> <p>Target 2: The verification team discussed with the relevant stakeholders to confirm that annual community meeting between local stakeholders is conducted^{/AA-AZ/}.</p> <p>Additionally, during stakeholder's interview with a Hunting association representative^{/AJ/}, It is confirmed that forest conservation has improved the movement of wild animals, providing benefits for nature enthusiasts, including the opportunity to engage in recreational hunting activities.</p>
4	FSC Objective #5.1.2 – Benefits from the Forest	<p>The verification team reviewed SD VISta PD and conducted interviews with FMC personnels as well as relevant stakeholders to affirm that the Silvador promises to sustain prolonged assistance and diversification of local economies by leveraging recognized benefits and other services from ecosystem within supervised forest lands.</p> <p>Target: More than 7 m³ of firewood were collected from local people for the purpose of house heating^{/AX/AY/AZ/}.</p> <p>The verification team conducted stakeholder interviews with the personnel of private winery^{/AS/} to confirm that the lack of cold winds prevents grapes from freezing, thereby improving the quality of wine products.</p> <p>Additionally, during stakeholder's interview with a beekeeper^{/AN/}, it is confirmed that the production of honey is enhanced because of more foraging since forest conservation.</p>
5	FSC Objective #5.1.1 – Benefits from the Forest	<p>The verification team reviewed the SD VISta PD and conducted interviews with employees^{/AU/AV/AW/AX/AY/} and stakeholders^{/AA-AZ/} to affirm that Silvador assures to strengthen and diversify the local economy through sustainable and efficient management of forest areas to retain or enhance long-lasting economic sustainability as well as several social and environment related benefits including diversification of opportunities for other forest land owners to provide timber resources to local industry and long term employment opportunities on other forest lands.</p>

		The verification team reviewed worker registry of Silvador to affirm that project proponent employed more than 20 employees to achieve the objective/ ⁷² /.
8	SD VISta – Impact #8: Economic Impact (potential job loss)	The verification team conducted interviews with the employees/ ^{AU/AV/AW/AX/AY} /of Silvador to affirm that no potential job loss has occurred, and project proponent commits to re-allocate forestry contractors to other forest areas.

The Verification team conducted several assessments to evaluate the steps taken to assess the community monitoring plan used to track the project’s objectives, including the types of measurements, the sampling methods and the frequency of monitoring and reporting. The relevant information was examined by a comprehensive review of the SD VISta PD, review of ownership documents, other supporting documents of VCS project, interviews with project proponent. Additionally, the Verification team also reviewed FSC - International Generic Indicators/⁷⁰/ to ensure that outlined objectives and indicators in the SD VISta PD aligns with FSC requirements. This also includes verifying that the selected monitoring indicators or objectives are relevant to the SD VISta project.

The Verification team established that the indicators and objectives chosen by the project proponent directly corresponds to the project objectives and impacts outlined in the project’s causal chain related to stakeholder wellbeing (section 4.1.1 above). Furthermore, the Verification team verified the impacts listed associated with each stakeholder group identified with each stakeholder group identified (Section 3.1 of SD VISta PD).

The Verification team concluded that the monitoring plan outlined in the SD VISta PD is appropriate, accurate and was effective in monitoring the impacts on stakeholders.

4.1.4 Net Positive Stakeholder Well-being Impacts

In section 3.4 of the SD VISta PD, no negative changes regarding stakeholder well-being are observed.

The Verification team conducted several assessments to evaluate a) the steps taken to assess the anticipated changes to the stakeholder's wellbeing due to projects b) conclude whether the anticipated net impacts of the project activities are likely to be positive for each stakeholder group. The relevant information was evaluated by a comprehensive review of the SD VISta PD, review of ownership documents, other supporting documents of the VCS project, and interviews with project proponent and other relevant stakeholders/^{AA-AZ}/.

Finally, the Verification team concluded that the project offers net positive well-being impacts on stakeholders as only one possible negative impact is observed due to implementation of project activity.

5 BENEFITS FOR THE PLANET

5.1.1 Impacts on Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services

The Verification team conducted multiple assessments to evaluate a) the steps taken to assess the expected impacts on natural capital and ecosystem services resulting from project activities b) conclude and justify whether the expected impacts identified in the project description are likely to occur. The aforementioned information was evaluated by comprehensive review of the SD VISta PD, review of FMP documents, relevant literature studies, other supporting documents of VCS project and interviews with project proponent.

Table 9. Impacts on Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services and Verification team conclusion.

Impact	Verification conclusion on Resulting Change in Condition
Impact #1: Responsible Consumption of Resources	The Verification team examined the FMPs, SD VISta PD and VCS PD-MR to assess the project activity and assert that the activity provided benefits to forest ecosystems. The assessment team verifies that implementing the project activities resulted in the sustainable management of forest resources and ecosystems, leading to various benefits. The protection of natural communities, a decrease in forest conversion, and a decrease in forest biomass due to the delay in harvesting operations. Additionally, >62% of forest areas are certified by FSC Forest Management Standard ^{67/} .
Impact #3: Protection of Native Ecosystems and Critical Habitats	The Verification team examined the FMPs, SD VISta PD, VCS PD-MR, and FSC Forest management Standard Certification for the Impact#3. The assessment reveals that the activity led to contribution of positive benefits to Native Ecosystems and Critical Habitats. The Verification team asserts that the designation of a representative natural ecosystem (10% of the Certified area) ^{41/} as no intervention zones for biodiversity conservation (minimum 10% of certification area) as those with high biodiversity conservation values. They also define areas excluded from productive logging (minimum 5% of certification area) as those where no production activities are planned, with exceptional logging allowed for hygiene purposes up to a maximum volume of 10m ³ /ha/decade. Criteria for designation include the recognition of forest ecosystem diversity and distinct identification on maps. Specific interventions are allowed in excluded areas, based on forest management plans and identification of rare or threatened ecosystems.

	<p>Additionally, mitigation of possible risks by disease and pests is performed by employing the procedures outlined in FSC Forest management Standard procedure.</p>
<p>Impact #6: Decreased CO₂ Emissions</p>	<p>The Verification team examined the SD VISTA PD, GHG quantification workbook and VCS PD-MR to understand the project activity to evaluate the Impact#6. The assessment reveals that the activity led to a reduction in CO₂ emissions due to reduced CO₂ emissions^{/24/}.</p> <p>The Verification team states that the project intended to reduce CO₂ emissions from harvesting, emissions from equipment and transportation, as the project is transitioning from logged to protected forest initiative^{/53/58/}.</p>
<p>Impact #7: Increase in CO₂ Sequestration</p>	<p>The Verification team examined the SD VISTA PD, GHG quantification workbook and VCS PD-MR to determine the impact #7. The assessment indicates that the activity contributed to the benefit of Climate by increasing CO₂ sequestration^{/24/}.</p>

Ultimately, the project team concluded that the impacts identified and described in the project description have occurred and are reported appropriately.

5.1.2 Mitigation of Negative Impacts on Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services

The Verification team involved in process of assessing a) the steps taken to assess the measures needed and designed to mitigate any negative impacts on natural capital and ecosystem services b) to information with respect to how such measures are consistent with the precautionary principle c) justify and conclude whether the project will mitigate negative impacts on natural capital and ecosystem services.

The Verification team reviewed FMP, FSC Certificate, FSC certification procedures^{/43/}, GHG quantification workbook, VCS PD-MR and SD VISTA PD regarding the information on Impact#1, Impact#3, Impact#6 and Impact#7. All these impacts are positive, current, direct, and intended to enhance natural ecosystems and climate benefits.

The assessment team asserts that this section is not applicable, as no negative impacts on natural capital and ecosystem services is observed due to project implementation (also refer to Section 4.1.2 of this report).

5.1.3 Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services Impact Monitoring

Table 10. Indicators and their monitoring mechanisms

#	Objectives or indicators	Monitoring parameters
1	FSC Indicator #5.2.3 - Benefits from the Forests	<p>The Verification team reviewed the FMP, Harvest quota and affirms that the Silvador’s Actual annual harvest (AAC) levels are recorded and do not exceed the allowable level of harvest established by the forest management plans for its validity period of 10 years^{/11/13/}. https://www.forestplatform.org/</p> <p>Target 1: The Verification team reviewed the FSC Forest Management Standard Certification and affirms that >62% of project areas were certified by FSC (Forest Management/Chain of Custody)^{/44/67/}.</p> <p>The Verification team examined FMP, Harvest quotas, conducted interviews with project proponent and personnel of FMC to ensure that 100% of project lands are within the permissible forest management quotas; none of them have exceeded the limits.</p>
3	FSC Indicator #6.5.1 – Environmental Values and Impacts	<p>The Verification team examined the FSC Forest Management Standard Certification and asserts that the Silvador identified native ecosystems, including primary forests, marginal habitats, and self-regenerating forests for protection^{/22/41/}.</p> <p>The Verification team examined the FSC Certification for mapping and maintenance of more than 10% of representative natural ecosystems in project areas as no intervention area for biodiversity conservation (minimum 10% of certification area)^{/41/} as those with high biodiversity conservation values. They also define areas that are excluded from productive logging (minimum 5% of the certification area) as those where no production activities are planned, with exceptional logging allowed for hygiene purposes up to a maximum volume of 10m³/ha/decade. Criteria for designation include representation of forest ecosystem diversity and distinct identification on maps. Depending on forest management plans and the identification of rare or threatened ecosystems, specific interventions are allowed in excluded areas. Furthermore, the implementation of the procedures outlined in FSC</p>

		Forest management Standard procedures results in a reduction in potential hazards by disease and pests.
6	VCS – Implementation of Improved Forest Management (IFM) project.	The Verification team reviewed the FMP, VCS PD-MR, SD VISTA PD and GHG Quantification workbook to confirm that Silvador intended for the periodic generation of verified carbon units (VCUs) through verification audits by decreased CO2 Emissions /1/3/24/.
7	VCS – Implementation of Improved Forest Management (IFM) project.	The Verification team reviewed the FMP, VCS PD-MR, SD VISTA PD and GHG Quantification workbook to confirm that Silvador intended for the periodic generation of verified carbon units (VCUs) through verification audits by decreased CO2 Emissions /1/6/24/.

The evaluation of the monitoring plan for natural capital and ecosystem services involved reviewing the SD VISTA PD, literature reviews, other documentation related to VCS project activity and conducted interviews with project proponent and other relevant personnels.

The Verification team examined the FSC - International Generic Indicators to confirm alignment with the stated objectives in the PD and FSC requirements, ensuring that selected monitoring parameters are applicable to the SD VISTA project.

The Verification team concluded that the chosen monitoring parameters by the project proponent are directly influenced by the project objectives and predicted outcomes identified in the casual chain related to natural capital and ecosystem services. The Verification team concluded that the natural capital and ecosystem services monitoring plan has been implemented according to the project description and supports the project’s state impacts on natural capital and ecosystem services.

5.1.4 Net Positive Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services Impacts

The changes to natural capital and ecosystem services impacted by the project are contained in section 5.1.2 of this report. Processes to evaluate the potential impacts of natural capital and ecosystem services on the project design, FMPs, FSC Forest Management Standard Certification, and associated VCS project documentation. Interviews were conducted with the project proponent as well.

In summary, the Verification team determined that the proposed project activities yielded net positive outcomes for natural capital and ecosystem services and delivered substantial environmental benefits such as Responsible Consumption of Resources, Protection of Native Ecosystems and Critical Habitats, Decreased CO2 Emissions and Increase in CO2 Sequestration respectively.

6 VERIFICATION CONCLUSION

Following the assessment of the Verification team, by reviewing VCS PD-MR, SD VISTA PD, FSC Forest Management Standard Certification, Relevant Romanian legislation, GHG Quantification workbooks it is affirmed that the project proponent possesses the necessary operational capabilities to effectively implement, manage, and monitor the SD VISTA project. This includes the integration of the SD VISTA project with a separately validated and verified VCS project. The Verification team has provided a sufficient level of assurance that the objectives outlined in Section 1.1 of the validation have been achieved successfully. It is affirmed that the project is eligible to acquire SD VISTA claims and labels for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) contained in section 1 of the report.

The data and data utilized to support the project's compliance with SD VISTA regulations were a combination of assumed, projected, and historical data. Despite the nature of these data sources, the Verification team has concluded that the project proponent has demonstrated the project's adherence to the validation criteria outlined in the Sustainable Development Verified Impact Standard, Version 1.0, and the SD VISTA Program Guide, Version 1.0. This conclusion encompasses consideration of any qualifications or limitations encountered during the validation process.


Overall, the Verification team affirms that the project is in alignment with the requirements and standards set forth by SD VISTA, indicating a positive stance for its potential impact on sustainable development goals and its eligibility for SD VISTA claims and labels.

APPENDIX A: FINDINGS

Table 1. CL from the Validation and Verification for project titled “SILVADOR CLIMATE ACTION”

CL ID	01	Section no.	4.3 of SD VISTA PD, v1.1	Date:	30 th January 2024
Description of CL					
<p>Upon reviewing the information outlined in Section 4.3 of SD VISTA PD, v1.1, Dated 18th August 2023, regarding identification, mapping and maintenance of 10% of representative natural ecosystems.</p> <p>As per the requirement section 3.2.4 of SD VISTA Standard v1.0 to identify the Impacts on Planet due to implementation of the project activity, Project proponent is required to clarify whether representative natural ecosystems identified fall within the Scope of Romanian Forestry regulations or comply with the FSC Forest Management Standard (as per Indicator 6.5.5 of FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Romania).</p>					
Project participant response					Date: Feb 1 st 2024
<p>Project Proponent confirms information regarding identification, mapping and maintenance of 10% of the representative natural ecosystems is dictated by Indicator 6.5.5. of the FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Romania (FSC-STD-ROU-01-2017 EN The FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Romania - Version 1- 0).</p> <p>The standard can be source via the following link https://fsc.org/en/document-centre/documents/resource/275</p> <p>The project proponent follows Procedure 623 for designating conservation areas (see document Translated Procedure for Designating Conservation Areas (10%).pdf in Audit Support folder 37-FSC Evidence and below).</p> <p>Evidence of use is indicated with the FSC Performance Report (referenced below and note Auditor Share).</p>					
Documentation provided by project participant					

Procedure for Designating Conservation Areas

	Procedură pentru desemnarea zonelor de conservare (10%) și excluse de la tăieri comerciale (5%)	P 623 Ver 1/ 01.07.2017
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Responsabil	Termen	Documente specifice	Revizuirea procedurii
Fond forestier	Unic / la modificare	F623, F641, F611, F531, F532, R811	la schimbarea prevederilor standardului / legislației

Asociația Ocolul Silvic Evergreen definește ca suprafețe de pădure desemnate pentru conservarea biodiversității (minim 10% din suprafața destinată certificării) acele suprafețe care au atribuite valori ridicate de conservare biodiversității.

Asociația Ocolul Silvic Evergreen definește ca suprafață exclusă de la tăieri cu scop productiv (minim 5% din suprafața destinată certificării) toate acele suprafețe în care nu se planifică activități de producție, extragerea materialului lemnos având caracter excepțional.

Desemnarea acestor două zone ține cont de următoarele criterii generale:

- Suprafețele desemnate să fie reprezentative pentru diversitatea ecosistemelor forestiere existente la nivelul grupului de certificare (*landscape level requirements*);
- Suprafețele reprezentative să fie analizate la nivelul întregii suprafețe incluse în certificare.
- Suprafețele 5% (excluse de la tăieri) și 10% (destinate conservării biodiversității) sunt identificabile pe teren și marcate pe hărți în mod distinct.

Auditor Copy of FSC Performance Report for Group NC_FM_COC_028522.xlsx

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Display	Index	18.01 Standard Requirement	18.02 Num CARs	18.03 Summary Assessment
		species beyond the boundary of the Management Unit, when determining the measures to be taken inside the Management Unit.		
	C6.05	The Organization shall identify and protect representative sample areas of native ecosystems and/or restore them to more natural conditions. Where representative sample areas do not exist or are insufficient, The Organization shall restore a proportion of the Management Unit to more natural conditions. The size of the areas and the measures taken for their protection or restoration, including within plantations, shall be proportionate to the conservation status and value of the ecosystems at the landscape level, and the scale, intensity and risk of management activities.	0	The FME has identified and mapped more than 10% of the area as representative ecosystems, based on procedure P65. They have included areas of strict protection, primary forest, HCVMs and other areas of natural forest, designed to cover all groups of forest types existent.

WB assessment
Date: 13th February 2024

The Verification team reviewed the indicators 6.5.5 of FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Romania (FSC-STD-ROU-01-2017 EN The FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Romania - Version 1- 0) and FSC certificate (NC-FM/COC-028522, Validity: 08/01/2018 to 07/01/2023) to confirm that representative natural ecosystems identified fall within the Scope of FSC Forest Management Standard.

The Verification team affirms that the provided information is sufficient and therefore **CL 01** is closed effectively.

CL ID	02	Section no.	4.3 of SD VISTA PD, v1.1	Date: 30 th January 2024
Description of CL				
<p>Upon reviewing the information outlined in Section 4.3 of SD VISTA PD, v1.1, Dated 18th August 2023, regarding identification, mapping and maintenance of 10% of representative natural ecosystems.</p> <p>As per the requirement section 3.2.4 of SD VISTA Standard v1.0 to identify the Impacts on Planet due to implementation of the project activity, Project proponent is required to clarify whether 10% representative natural ecosystems represent 10% of FSC Forest Management Standard certified areas or 10% of total project area.</p>				
Project participant response				Date: February 1 st 2024
<p>The Project Proponent confirms that 10% of the representative natural ecosystems described in section 4.3 of the SD VISTA PD, v1.1 represents FSC Forest Management certified areas, not 10% of the entire project area.</p>				
Documentation provided by project participant				
None required.				
VVB assessment				Date: 13 th February 2024
<p>The Verification team reviewed the FSC certificate (NC-FM/COC-028522, Validity: 08/01/2018 to 07/01/2023) provided by the project proponent and affirmed that the 10% of the representative natural ecosystems identified represents FSC Forest Management certified areas, not 10% of the entire project area.</p> <p>The Verification team affirm that the provided information is sufficient and therefore the CL 02 is closed effectively.</p>				

Table 2. CAR from the Validation and Verification for project titled “SILVADOR CLIMATE ACTION”

CAR ID	01	Section no.	1.0 and 4.3 of SD VISTA PD, v1.1	Date: 13 th February 2024
Description of CAR				

The Validation and Verification team reviewed the information outlined in section 1.17.2 of PD-MR, v1.2, dated 26th October 2023, which has summarized as follows: Project proponent claims to attain SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Target 12.2 (By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources) according to Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The current project contributions claims that 62% of the project areas owned by Silvador Company SRL are certified to the FSC Forest Management Standard.

Upon reviewing the FSC certificates (NC-FM/COC-028522, Validity: 08/01/2018 to 07/01/2023), initially recognized to have FSC Forest Management Standard certification for >62% of the project areas, the VVB noted that 0% of area owned by the Silvador Company SRL are certified to the FSC Forest Management Standard.

As per the requirement section 3.2.4 of SD VISta Standard v1.0 to identify the Impacts on Planet due to implementation of the project activity, PP is required to verify all the FSC certified project areas and provide valid justification along with supporting evidence to address the concern.

Project participant response

Date: February 1st 2024

The properties [owners] within the project activity instance that have achieved FSC certification are noted in the official FSC certification confirmation online portal ([FSC Search](#)) and noted within the publicly available FSC Audit Report (2022 FSC Forest Management Certification, 4th Surveillance Report for: Asociatia Ocolul Silvic Evergreen in Prahova, Romania; dated Feb 23, 2022). Refer to Audit Share, folder name “37-FSC Evidence”.

The sources confirm the following Silvador owned properties as FSC certified:

- UP Barbu
- UP Constinescu
- UP Hodoba
- UP Popescu

Inclusion of the above listed properties correctly claims 62% of the project areas owned by Silvador are FSC certified.

For context, during EPICs review of the recently released 2023 FSC report noted a type-o/error that omitted Silvador entities from the report. During on-site validation/verification EPIC interviewed with FSC Auditor (contract auditor to FSC certification body Preferred by Nature) who confirmed the omission was an error (and attributable to the Romanian practice of changing FMP properties names with when FMPs are approved).

Silvador has requested that FSC Certification Body correct the 2023 FSC Audit Report (note the FSC Certification Confirmation online portal continues to be accurate).

Documentation provided by project participant

Group OS Ever Green FM_COC-028522 4th Surveillance Audit (dated Feb 23, 2022 - Section 3.3.1 Certificate Scope, pg. 13

3.3 Certificate Scope

3.3.1 Scope Details¹

Forest Management Unit (FMU) and group members included in scope of certificate:

Owner (Group member) – Forest Capital with FMU - UP I Constantinescu, UP V Barbu, UP VII Popescu

Owner (Group member) – Silvador Company with FMU – I Hodoba

The following table shows the updated group certificate membership information:

FMU	Owner (Group member)	Type of ownership	Area (ha)
I Batraneni	OMSB	Private	3,543.139
	SC Domeniile Girbea SRL	Private	189.361
	Sandulescu Constantin	Private	17.4
	Duna Mihail-Iulian	Private	9.9995
	Oprea Viorel	Private	17.9995
IV Starchiojd	OMSB	Private	1,237.62
UP I Obstea Chiojdenilor	Obstea Chiojdenilor	Private	2,436.20
UP I Constantinescu	Forest Capital	Private	151.9
UP V Barbu	Forest Capital	Private	426.02
UP VII Popescu	Forest Capital	Private	198
UP I Hodoba	Silvador Company	Private	178.6675
TOTAL			8,406.307


¹ Data presented in the reports shall be in metric system units

Group Members / Sites			
ORGANIZATION	ROLE	THE CODE OF THE SITE	STATUS
Domeniile Girbea SRL	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-B	Valid
Forest Capital SRL	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-G	Valid
Mihail-Iulian Duna	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-D	Valid
Obstea Mosnenilor Chiojdeni	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-F	Valid

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FSC CERTIFICATION RECORD



ORGANIZATION	ROLE	THE CODE OF THE SITE	STATUS
Obstea Mosnenilor Starchiojdeni si Batraneni	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-A	Valid
Sandulescu Constantin	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-C	Valid
SILVADOR COMPANY SRL	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-H	Valid
Viorel Oprea	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-E	Valid

VVB assessment
Date: 13th February 2024

The Validation and Verification team reviewed the FSC Certification documentation (NC-FM/COC-028522-H and NC-FM/COC-028522-G) and conducted interviews with the FSC Auditor during the onsite visit regarding the Corrective Action Request (CAR) raised.

Additionally, during the onsite validation/verification process, EPIC interviewed the FSC Auditor (contract auditor to FSC certification body Preferred by Nature), who confirmed that the omission was due to an error, attributed to the Romanian practice of changing FMP properties names when FMPs are approved. The VVB reviewed the FM_COC-028522 4th Surveillance Audit (dated Feb 23, 2022 - Section 3.3.1 Certificate Scope, pg. 13 to affirm that the information provided is adequate.

Subsequently, a confirmation notification provided by Ever Green Forestry Association on 21st February 2024, referring to the correction on the FSC certified areas was forwarded to the VVB as well.

Based on the information gathered, the Validation and Verification team concludes that the provided evidence is adequate, and therefore, the raised **CAR 01** has been effectively resolved.

CAR ID	02	Section no.	4.3 of SD VISTA PD, v1.1	Date: 30th January 2024
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Description of CAR

The Validation and Verification team reviewed the information outlined in section 1.17.2 of PD-MR, v1.2, dated 26th October 2023, which has summarized as follows: The project claims to attain SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Target 12.2 (By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources) according to Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The current project contributions claims that 62% of the project areas owned by Silvador Company SRL are certified to the FSC Forest Management Standard. Additionally, the no intervention areas designated as representative natural ecosystems were detailed in the certificate.

Following the review of FSC certificates (NC-FM/COC-028522, Validity: 08/01/2018 to 07/01/2023) pertaining to the project activity instance, the VVB noted that 10% of FSC Forest Management certified areas are designated as representative natural ecosystem. Despite this designation, A forest compartment (Forest compartment - 110 D) includes secondary cuttings (Progressive cutting) as one of the harvesting activities and this activity do not meet the requirements of FSC Forest Management Standards for representative natural ecosystems.

As per the requirement section 3.2.4 of SD VISTA Standard v1.0 to identify the Impacts on Planet due to implementation of the project activity, PP is required to verify all the FSC certified project areas, designated representative natural ecosystems and relevant certificates to provide valid justification along with supporting evidence to address the concern.

Project participant response
Date: February 1st 2024

As illustrated in CAR 01, the Project Proponent has verified the FSC certified project areas (indicated as UP Barbu, UP Constinescu, UP Hodoba and UP Popescu). Evidence is provided below and included in the Auditor Share.

The project proponent highlights the project activity is the cessation of harvesting within the designated project activity instance – there is no threat of impact to the natural ecosystems due to the implementation of the project activity. The forest management activities (i.e., harvesting) in question will not be occurring.

Documentation provided by project participant

3.3 Certificate Scope

3.3.1 Scope Details¹

Forest Management Unit (FMU) and group members included in scope of certificate:

Owner (Group member) – Forest Capital with FMU - UP I Constantinescu, UP V Barbu, UP VII Popescu

Owner (Group member) – Silvador Company with FMU – I Hodoba

The following table shows the updated group certificate membership information:

FMU	Owner (Group member)	Type of ownership	Area (ha)
I Batraneni	OMSB	Private	3,543.139
	SC Domeniile Girbea SRL	Private	189.361
	Sandulescu Constantin	Private	17.4
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	Oprea Viorel	Private	17.9995
IV Starchiojd	OMSB	Private	1,237.62
UP I Obstea Chiojdenilor	Obstea Chiojdenilor	Private	2,436.20
UP I Constantinescu	Forest Capital	Private	151.9
UP V Barbu	Forest Capital	Private	426.02
UP VII Popescu	Forest Capital	Private	198
UP I Hodoba	Silvador Company	Private	178.6675
TOTAL			8,406.307


¹ Data presented in the reports shall be in metric system units

Group Members / Sites			
ORGANIZATION	ROLE	THE CODE OF THE SITE	STATUS
Domeniile Girbea SRL	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-B	Valid
Forest Capital SRL	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-G	Valid
Mihail-Julian Duna	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-D	Valid
Obstea Mosnenilor Chiojdeni	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-F	Valid

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FSC CERTIFICATION RECORD



ORGANIZATION	ROLE	THE CODE OF THE SITE	STATUS
Obstea Mosnenilor Starchiojdeni si Batraneni	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-A	Valid
Sandulescu Constantin	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-C	Valid
SILVADOR COMPANY SRL	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-H	Valid
Viorel Oprea	FM - Group Member	NC-FM/COC-028522-E	Valid

VB assessment
Date: 13th February 2024

The Validation and Verification team reviewed the FSC Certification documentation (NC-FM/COC-028522-H and NC-FM/COC-028522-G) and conducted interviews with the FSC Auditor during the onsite visit regarding the Corrective Action Request (CAR) raised.

Additionally, during the onsite validation/verification process, EPIC interviewed the FSC Auditor (contract auditor to FSC certification body Preferred by Nature), regarding this concern.

The project proponent emphasizes the process of harvesting within the designated project activity instance, there is no risk of harm to the natural ecosystems due to the implementation of the project activity. The forest management activities, particularly Harvesting, will not be occurring.

Based on the information gathered, the Validation and Verification team concludes that the provided evidence is adequate, and therefore, the raised **CAR 02** has been effectively resolved.

Table 3. FAR from the Validation and Verification for project titled “SILVADOR CLIMATE ACTION”

FAR ID	01	Section no.	1.0 of SD VISta PD, v1.1	Date: 30 th January 2024
Description of FAR				

The Validation and Verification team reviewed the information outlined in section 1.17.2 of PD-MR, v1.2, dated 26th October 2023, which has summarized as follows: Project proponent claims to attain SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Target 12.2 (By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources) according to Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The current project contributions claim that 62% of the projects owned by Silvador Company SRL are certified to the FSC Forest Management Standard. The project proponent assures that 100% of the forest lands owned by Silvador will be certified to a recognized third-party sustainable management standard over the lifetime of the project.

The Validation and Verification team requests the upcoming VVB to verify the regions that were previously certified and those intended for certification in the upcoming verification process.

Project participant response

Date: February 1st 2024

Forward Action Request Noted.

Documentation provided by project participant

VVB assessment

Date: 13th February 2024

FAR ID

02

Section no.

1.0 of SD VISta PD, v1.1

Date: 30th January 2024

Description of FAR

As per description of section 1.0 of SD VISTA PD, v1.1, dated 18th August 2023, the project claims to The Validation and Verification team reviewed the information outlined in section 1.17.2 of PD-MR, v1.2, dated 26th October 2023, which has summarized as follows: Project proponent claims to attain SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Target 12.2 (By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources) according to Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The current project contributions claim that 62% of the projects owned by Silvador Company SRL are certified to the FSC Forest Management Standard. The project proponent assures that 100% of the forest lands owned by Silvador will be certified to a recognized third-party sustainable management standard over the lifetime of the project. According to FSC Forest Management Standard procedures the certified areas should allocate 10% of the certified areas as representative natural ecosystems and these designated areas must refrain from any harvest related activities.

The Validation and Verification team requests the upcoming VVB to verify the representative natural ecosystems that were previously certified and those intended for certification in the upcoming verification process.

Project participant response

Date: February 1st 2024

Forward Action Request Noted.

Documentation provided by project participant

VVB assessment

Date: 13th February 2024

- 1) **Clarifications (CL):** Additional information is required for clarification on a specific matter.
- 2) **Corrective action requests (CAR):** Indicates a deviation from a specific requirement, and it can only be resolved upon evidence provided that the identified issue has been corrected. Corrective action of all open CAR's is necessary before validation and verification statements can be issued.
- 3) **Forward action requests (FAR):** Matters concerning the project implementation that need examination during upcoming verification of the project activity. These concerns should not pertain to VCS requirements for registration.