

Project Title
Vichada Climate Reforestation Project
Gold Standard ID
GS 4221
Type of Certification
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial Certification <input type="checkbox"/> New Area Certification
Dual Certification
<input type="checkbox"/> FSC - Dual certification
If the project is certified according the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), the certification status replaces the completion of this template. Please provide the 'FSC Audit Report' in the <i>supporting documents</i> of section '3. Sustainability' and provide a reference to this <i>supporting document</i> in this template:

Design of physical meeting(s)

Agenda
<p>A face to face meeting was performed by the project at a regional level to explain the project activities and receive the opinion and feedback from key stakeholders. The agenda included the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opening of the meeting: - Explanation of the project; based on the content of the 'Key Project Information' - Discussion of continuous input and grievance mechanism - Questions for clarification about the project - Blind 'SD Matrix' exercise - Discussion on monitoring the mitigation measures - Closure of the meeting <p>Luisa Azabache was the responsible contact to perform the meetings</p>

Invitation tracking table

Category code	Organisation (if relevant)	Name of invitee	Way of invitation	Date of invitation	Confirmation received? Y/N
A	neighbours	Different Members	Personal	April 2015	Y
B	Municipality	Different members	Personal	April 2015	Y
F	CO2less, FOFI Group	Different members	Email	April 2015	Y
E	GS	Technical Panel	email	April 2015	Y

Describe your selection
The project has an important international cooperation with the Forest Finance Group. Therefore

Describe your selection

international stakeholders are already aware of the project and the future plans. This is of relevance for future international and national cooperation. For example, the project is already working in cooperation with WWF for a conservation initiative. Further GS secretariat and other stakeholders were invited to participate of the online (printed in case of limited internet access) survey to evaluate the project and provide their feedback. This will be a constant method to receive feedback from the different parts.

The project has also a strong regional connection with the municipality and the neighbours. They were key stakeholders to complement the survey. Both surveys are available in

English: <https://de.surveymonkey.com/s/78GBHJ5>

and Spanish: <https://de.surveymonkey.com/s/98BD5N2>

Text of individual invitations

Forest Finest Colombia is implementing a reforestation project with the aim of contributing to the mitigation of climate change.

If you are part of an organization or a private person that cooperates with the project, we will like to invite you to participate of this survey that is part of our Project Stakeholder Consultation (PSC)

Your feedback is vital to plan future actions, improve our monitoring work and prevent and solve possible grievances.

Our team and the climate appreciate your support

Kind regards

Forest Finest Team

Description of other consultation methods used

The online survey will be available during the crediting period to obtain a constant feedback of the stakeholders. Further the Forest Finest Magazine also includes a section were questions can be answer about the project:

Link: <http://www.forestfinance.de/ueber-uns/infomaterial/magazin/>

Participants' in physical meeting(s)

Reference ID to the original participants' list

PAZ15-LSC2

Additional comments:

Participants list

Date and time	May 2015
Location	Puerto Carreño, Vichada

Category Code	Name of participant, job/ position in the community	Male/Female	Signature	Organisation (if relevant) Category Code
A	Independent agrarian professional	M	PAZ15-LSC2	Neighbour
A	CORPORINOQUIA	F	PAZ15-LSC2	Neighbour
B	Vichada Government representant	F	PAZ15-LSC2	Municipality
B	Vichada Government representant	M	PAZ15-LSC2	Municipality
A	Farmer-La Libertad	F	PAZ15-LSC2	Neighbour
F	Project cooperation	F	PAZ15-LSC2	Vichada Group
A	Independent	F	PAZ15-LSC2	Vichada Group

Evaluation forms

Reference ID to the original 'evaluation forms'

PAZ15-LSC2

Additional comments:

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

What is your impression of the meeting?

Helps to understand better the objectives and goals from the project and how the project is aligned with mitigation to climate change strategies

What do you like about the project?	<p>The project is positive for the region. It provides directly employment in this marginal area to regional people.</p> <p>It was important to understand that the project is not only planting different trees, but also doing something for climate change.</p> <p>The project is protecting the last patches of forest that are left. This will help to protect flora and fauna (biodiversity) on the coming years.</p> <p>The school “Nueva el Carajo” with more than 30 students receives the economic support of the project, to educate the children, future of the country.</p> <p>We understand that the employees receive a fair salary in accordance to law and social security affiliation is a guaranty of this.</p>
What do you not like about the project?	<p>Something to improve-recommendation-The project should begin campaigns to increase the awareness for doing something against climate change</p>

Pictures from physical meeting(s)
PAZ15-LSC2

Outcome of consultation process

Minutes of physical meeting(s)
<p>Forest Finest Colombia is implementing a reforestation project with the aim of contributing to the mitigation of climate change. The project is located in the Orinoquia region, Colombia. In the project framework mixed tree species in marginal, non-forest areas are planted. Reforestation will increase biomass of the planting areas and sequesterate carbon dioxide (CO₂), which is one of the main Greenhouse Gases (GHG); and according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), one of the responsible gases causing global warming.</p> <p>Stakeholders are aware of the project objective sand think is positive to work with the 3 pillars of sustainability. They like that the project protects also the native areas. They believe that is important to collaborate with the municipality and enhance strategies for conservation.</p> <p>Employment is a common topic and they think is positive that the project hires regional people for the work. Technology transfer is of great importance. The area is isolated from the main cities</p>

Assessment of all comments

Stakeholder comment	Was comment taken into account (Y/N)	Explanation (Why? How?)
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Improve conservation strategies	YES	The project is working in cooperation with the WWF (PAZ15, page 14)
Increase regional work	YES	The project provides work to regional people (PAZ15-DNH5)
Technology know how transfer	YES	The project is working with international stakeholders to increase know how transfer. Part of the FOFI Group.

Summary of alterations based on comments

The main aspects mentioned by the stakeholders were already taken into consideration (improve conservation strategies, increase regional work, technology transfer)

Sustainable Development Assessment

Sustainable Development Assessment of the project owner:

Indicator	Description and Score	Mitigation measure
Environment	Category score: 0/+1/-1	
1. Air quality	Indicator score:+1	As baseline scenario, savannah was identify. In this scenario it was also possible to detect the presence of cattle which are emitters of methane. Climate Project-GS certification: The project is a climate project, sequestering carbon dioxide. Indirectly contributes to the improvement of air quality worldwide. Also avoids the emissions generated by methane.
2. Water quality and quantity	Indicator score: +1	Forestry and Water-Conservation areas: The project protects all areas close to rivers and lakes as conservation areas. This enhances the conservation of aquifers ecosystems.
3. Soil condition	Indicator score: +1	Soil baseline was classified as degraded soils. With a Sustainable Management, the project pretend to improve soil conditions, increase nutrients and long term soil conservation
4. Other pollutants	Indicator score: 0	Baseline: it is common that in the region due to lack of professional knowledge different types of fertilizers are sold and buy. Within this list, different substances which are toxic can be used without regulation. Fertilizers and Pesticides- As mitigation action, to avoid the use of strong pollutants and fertilizers, the company follows the FSC List of allowed pesticides. This helps the company to avoiding strong and dangerous pesticides and fertilizers; existing in the market
5. Biodiversity	Indicator score: +1	Protection of Flora and Fauna: as mitigation measure the company buys also areas to protect them as "Conservation areas" and protect biodiversity. The goal is to enhance the creation of corridors between other natural regions. This mitigation measure

Sustainable Development Assessment of the <u>project owner</u> :		
Indicator	Description and Score	Mitigation measure
		creates interconnectivity between endemic natural areas. It is not allowed to hunt or cut trees or vegetation inside these areas. (PAZ15-LSC1, page14)
Social Development		
6. Quality of employment	Indicator score: +1	Baseline: little was done before the company arrive to the region and create new fix employment. The creation of new positions was not only the main purpose, but instead to select a team of people that can stay there on a long term. Sustainable environment: The company provides every year different capacity buildings in diverse technical topics related with sustainable management
7. Livelihood of the poor	Indicator score: +1	Baseline: little was done before the company arrive to the region and create new fix employment. The creation of new positions was not only the main purpose, but instead to select a team of people that can stay there on a long term was conformed. Creation of employment: The company not only provides direct employment but also cooperates with the municipality, contributing with initiatives to cover basic needs.
8. Access to affordable and clean energy services	Indicator score: 0	Baseline: some parts of the areas were the project was/ is implemented didn't have access to energy. There was no road, or the road didn't have a proper maintenance. There was no grid to provide electricity or if there was problem with the grid, the company was not coming due to road conditions Improvement of Infrastructure: The company provides all basic services to all the offices and camps part of the project. Further, the maintenance of roads allows the authorities to also give a faster maintenance to the basic needs installations: water pipelines, energy grids, etc.
9. Human and institutional capacity	Indicator score: +1	Baseline: most of the regions have education to achieve basic education. In some cases families don't have enough money to educate their children. Not even basic education is achieved. Part of the Millennium development goals is to achieve basic education http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/ Capacity Building: Employees are encouraged to be part of technical and management capacity building programs to improve their working skills.
Economic & Technical Development		
10. Quantitative employment and income generation	Indicator score: +1	Baseline: low salaries, under the law, without contact and any health or accident insurance for the employees Diversification of work positions: as mitigation to this scenario, the company has policies and also clear statutes aligned with fair conditions .The company has a sustainable growth and new work positions are available. Salary and health insurance are in accordance with the law from the country
11. Access to investment	Indicator score: 0	Baseline: no alternatives to invest in land use / forestry projects. The project provides loans to the employees working at project level so it can be invested in different purposes: education, house

Sustainable Development Assessment of the <u>project owner</u> :		
Indicator	Description and Score	Mitigation measure
		building, etc. There's also a fund in case of prolonged injuries or a family member is sick and requires special equipment, which I not cover by the insurance.
12. Technology transfer and technological self-reliance	Indicator score: +1	Baseline: lack of know how in forestry in new and innovative forestry concepts. Use of mix species, recognize certification schemes (GS), or implement a bee project in plantations International stakeholders participation: International cooperation between Germany and Colombia allows to transfer technology and the know how between professionals from both sides http://www.forestfinance.de/en/our-forests/research/

Justification choices, data source and provision of references	
Environment	
1. Air quality	Aligned with mitigation to climate change strategies: CO2OL and CO2less contributes with strategies to reduce carbon footprint from relevant companies that trust the compensation measurements taken in the project http://co2less.org/ http://co2less.org/
2. Water quality and quantity	Forests act like sponges preventing of flooding during rainy periods and providing water through percolation in dry seasons See conservation areas location in PAZ15-MAP1
3. Soil condition	The baseline soil conditions present low fertility and high acidity. (PAZ15-SFM1, page26). The Sustainable Management Plan will improve the long term conditions. Impact is expected during the first years due to implementation, but an improvement during the life cycle of the project (PAZ15-SFM1, page 7, 129),
4. Other pollutants	Follow the WHO and FSC-policy to avoid the use of Highly Hazardous Pesticides (PAZ15-SFMI, page 145)
5. Biodiversity	Work with international initiatives to protect areas of biological importance (PAZ15-LSC1,page14)
Social Development	
6. Quality of employment	Goal: provide a safe working conditions, pay salaries following national laws and provide capacity building (PAZ15-SFM1, page 139)
7. Livelihood of the poor	Goal: Generate a communication system with the communities and avoid and solve possible conflicts.(PAZ15-SFM1,page 193), generate regional employment and provide capacity building (PAZ15-SFM1, page 139)
8. Access to affordable and clean energy services	The company provides all basic services to all the offices and camps part of the project. Further, the maintenance of roads allows the authorities to also give a faster maintenance to the basic needs installations: water pipelines, energy grids, etc (PAZ15-SFM1, page 175).
9. Human and institutional capacity	Employees are encouraged to be part of technical and management capacity building programs to improve their working skills (PAZ15-SFM1, page 193).
Economic &	

Justification choices, data source and provision of references	
Technical Development	
10. Quantitative employment and income generation	The company has a sustainable growth and new work positions are available. Salary and health insurance are in accordance with the law from the country https://www.forestfinance.de/en/about-us/social-aspects/working-conditions/
11. Access to investment	Special Fund for employees. Information confidential and available upon auditor site visit request.
12. Technology transfer and technological self-reliance	International cooperation between Germany and Colombia allows to transfer technology and the know how between professionals from both sides http://www.forestfinance.de/en/our-forests/research/

Summary of Sustainable Development Assessment of the stakeholders - BLIND exercise:		
Indicator	Description and Score	Mitigation measure
Environment	Category score: 0 (neutral)/+1 (positive)/-1 (negative)	
13. Air quality	Climate Project Indicator score: +1	"Clean Air" air quality improvement worldwide with the absorption of CO2
14. Water quality and quantity	Forestry and Water Indicator score: 0	Forests absorb water preventing from landslides and floodings
15. Soil condition	Soil restoration and protection Indicator score: 0	Creation of an organic layer from the falling of leaves preventing rain drop erosion
16. Other pollutants	Fertilizers and Pesticides Indicator score: 0	"Provide protection to employees and also reduce the amount needed. Avoid dangerous substances"
17. Biodiversity	Flora and Fauna Indicator score: +1	The project protects areas with native vegetation and endemic species, giving shelter to native flora and fauna "
Social Development		
18. Quality of employment	Sustainable environment Indicator score: +1	All employees receive a salary in accordance to the laws from the country. They have a health insurance affiliation. No children work in the plantations
19. Livelihood of the poor	Creation of employment Indicator score: +1	Regional employment, maintenance of roads, support to regional institutions and communitarian events
20. Access to	Improvement of Infrastructure	Indirect impact: maintenance of roads

Summary of Sustainable Development Assessment of the stakeholders - BLIND exercise:		
Indicator	Description and Score	Mitigation measure
affordable and clean energy services	Indicator score: 0	for easy access to installations (energy grid, potable water, etc.)
21. Human and institutional capacity	Capacity Building Indicator score: +1	For employees and also private voluntary persons from the region: teaching them new methodologies and tools to improve their knowledge and work experience
Economic & Technical Development		
22. Quantitative employment and income generation	Diversification of work positions Indicator score: +1	The company is growing and new work positions are available.
23. Access to investment	Investment and supporting Fund Indicator score: 0	Product investment and also fund for special employee circumstances (confidential).
24. Technology transfer and technological self-reliance	International stakeholders participation Indicator score: +1	The company had send expertise from all around the world (specially Germany) to transmit technology know how and also learn regional technics

Comments accompanying the BLIND exercise
The stakeholders will like that project work in close cooperation with the regional governmental institution to increase the importance of conservation. The project is already doing this.

Main differences
<p>A ponderation of the values was done to obtain a final result that is illustrated below in the consolidated matrix (PAZ15-LSC2)</p> <p>Some stakeholders used the digital document. All documents, printed and digital versions were added at the end for the analysis.</p> <p>A ponderation was always done. The value with the highest percentage was taken:</p> <p>BLIND MATRIX</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Improve air quality (+1) with 87,50%Template B. Water (neutral) with 62.50% C. Improve soil (neutral) 62.50% D. Pesticides (neutral) 87,50% E. Biodiversity (+1) with 62.50% <p>See page 8 (PAZ15-LSC2)</p> <p>Following the GS Guideliness a ponderation was done to obtain the final score.</p> <p>Answer of the project owner and stakeholders were combined and the highest percentage was used. For topics A, D, E opinion is the same opinion. For topic B, C the project change to (+1) with the highest</p>

Main differences

percentage. None (-1) were score in average; neither LSC nor project owner.

- A. Improve air quality (+1) with 93,75%
- B. Water (+1) with 65,25%
- C. Improve soil (+1) 68.75%
- D. Pesticides (neutral) 93,75%
- E. Biodiversity (+1) with 81.25%

See page 12 (PAZ15-LSC2)

Consolidated Sustainable Development Assessment - with final scores

Indicator	Description and Score	Mitigation measure
Environment	Category score: 0/+1/-1	
25. Air quality	Climate Project Indicator score: +1	PAZ15-SFM1, page13: Decreto 02 de 1982. Calidad del aire y emisiones contaminantes a la atmosfera.
26. Water quality and quantity	Forestry and Water Indicator score: +1	PAZ15-SFM1, page13: Ley 373 de 1997. Ahorro y Uso Eficiente de Agua.
27. Soil condition	Soil management Indicator score: +1	PAZ15-SFM1, page13: Decreto 1753 de 1994. Licencias Ambientales.
28. Other pollutants	Fertilizers and Pesticides Indicator score: 0	WHO and GS-FSC policy http://pesticides.fsc.org/about
29. Biodiversity	Flora and Fauna Indicator score: +1	PAZ15-SFM1, page13: Decreto 1753 de 1994. Licencias Ambientales. PAZ15-LSC1,page 14
Social Development		
30. Quality of employment	Sustainable environment Indicator score: +1	Aligned with ILO strategic objectives http://climatefinanceoptions.org/cfo/node/50
31. Livelihood of the poor	Creation of employment	Following the MDG http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/get_involved/Action2015/

Consolidated Sustainable Development Assessment - with final scores		
Indicator	Description and Score	Mitigation measure
	Indicator score: +1	
32. Access to affordable and clean energy services	Improvement of Infrastructure Indicator score: 0	PAZ15-SFM1, page13: Ley 373 de 1997. Ahorro y Uso Eficiente de Agua..
33. Human and institutional capacity	Capacity Building Indicator score: +1	PAZ15-SFM1, page 193
Economic & Technical Development		
34. Quantitative employment and income generation	Diversification of work positions Indicator score: +1	https://www.forestfinance.de/en/about-us/social-aspects/working-conditions/
35. Access to investment	Investment and Special Fund Indicator score: 0	
36. Technology transfer and technological self-reliance	International stakeholders participation Indicator score: +1	http://www.forestfinance.de/en/our-forests/research/

Sustainability Monitoring Plan

Discussion on Sustainability Monitoring Plan

Different stakeholders are part of different meetings, workshops and events that are organized by the company during the year. During these meetings different topics are treated and in case of that grievances are found, the company will solve the inconvenience in the most optimal way that is possible.

The Blind Matrix gave some ideas for a Sustainable Monitoring Plan, however it was complemented also with other previous meetings and comments of other local and national stakeholders, with specific expertise to be able to work on a Sustainable Monitoring System. Different stakeholders are already collaborating directly with the project as employees, during meetings in the Vichada Cooperation, as independent consultants providing smart solutions, etc.

Discussion on Sustainability Monitoring Plan

The main topics collected are Summarized and discussed below:

1. Local Participation: local population will like to be part of the monitoring (SMP). The project is giving already regional employment; therefore the employees are working directly in project implementation and solutions regarding SMP.
2. Consider laws and regulations: The project has all the necessary documentation for operation. As an example: all information from the Environmental Plan that is compulsory for all projects, was also combined with Social aspects to obtain a Sustainable Monitoring Plan (PAZ15-SFM1). This document will be review every 2 years and include respective updates.
3. Cooperation with specialists: stakeholders believe that the project should make alliances with specialists for monitoring biodiversity. Take into account that the project is already part of an important national initiative and is cooperating with and important biodiversity initiative

Discussion on continuous Input and Grievance Mechanism

Discussion on Sustainability Monitoring Plan

	Method chosen (include all known details e.g. location of book, phone, number, identity of mediator)	Justification
Continuous Input and Grievance Expression Process Book	See email and telephone below	Possible grievances can be receipt from all the country
Telephone access	(+507) 317-1251	Fast to get in contact on a national scale
Internet/email access	<fcordoba@co2less.org>	Best way to get in contact on an international scale
Nominated Independent Mediator (optional)	Federico Cordova	Project Manager

Stakeholder feedback round

Description of the design of the stakeholder feedback round

Online survey is available
English: <https://de.surveymonkey.com/s/78GBHJ5>
and Spanish: <https://de.surveymonkey.com/s/98BD5N2>

Considering the limitation to access internet, part of the LSC was also done with the printed version document. The information was at the end added and ponderated with the digital documentation

Printed surveys