



Verified Carbon Standard

NON-PERMANENCE RISK REPORT YUNNAN KUNMING LIANGQU IMPROVED FOREST MANAGEMENT PROJECT



Document Prepared by Beijing Institute of Green Resources (BIGR)

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1 INTERNAL RISK

Document and substantiate the risk and/or mitigation for each risk factor applicable to the project. Include any relevant documentary evidence. Where a risk or mitigation is not relevant to the project, please write “Not applicable”.

Project Management		
Risk Factor	Risk Factor and/or Mitigation Description	Risk Rating
a)	Species planted (where applicable) associated with more than 25% of the stocks on which GHG credits have previously been issued are not native or proven to be adapted to the same or similar agro-ecological zone(s) in which the project is located.	Not Applicable
b)	Ongoing enforcement to prevent encroachment by outside actors is required to protect more than 50% of stocks on which GHG credits have previously been issued.	Not Applicable
c)	Management team does not include individuals with significant experience in all skills necessary to successfully undertake all project activities (ie, any area of required experience is not covered by at least one individual with at least 5 years experience in the area).	Not Applicable
d)	Management team does not maintain a presence in the country or is located more than a day of travel from the project site, considering all parcels or polygons in the project area.	Not Applicable
e)	Mitigation: Management team includes individuals with significant experience in AFOLU project design and implementation, carbon accounting and reporting (eg, individuals who have successfully managed projects through validation, verification and issuance of GHG credits) under the VCS Program or other approved GHG programs.	-2 ¹
f)	Mitigation: Adaptive management plan in place.	-2 ²

1 The project was registered and obtained issuance approval under the VCS program in 2016. The VCUs of the project were successfully issued for 228,669 tCO₂e in May 2018 and Mar2020. The management team of the project has taken part in the whole process through validation, verification, project review, issuance of GHG credits, credits transfer and VCU selling. The management team has accumulated significant experience in AFOLU project design and implementation, field survey, carbon accounting and reporting.

2 The project proponent has established a complete set of management regulation in the operation & maintenance, disturbance prevention and the related contingency plan.

Total Project Management (PM) [as applicable, (a + b + c + d + e + f)] Total may be less than zero.	-4
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Financial Viability		
Risk Factor	Risk Factor and/or Mitigation Description	Risk Rating
a)	Project cash flow breakeven point is greater than 10 years from the current risk assessment	3
b)	Project cash flow breakeven point is greater than 7 and up to 10 years from the current risk assessment	Not Applicable
c)	Project cash flow breakeven point greater than 4 and up to 7 years from the current risk assessment	Not Applicable
d)	Project cash flow breakeven point is 4 years or less from the current risk assessment	Not Applicable
e)	Project has secured less than 15% of funding needed to cover the total cash out before the project reaches breakeven	Not Applicable
f)	Project has secured 15% to less than 40% of funding needed to cover the total cash out required before the project reaches breakeven	Not Applicable
g)	Project has secured 40% to less than 80% of funding needed to cover the total cash out required before the project reaches breakeven	Not Applicable
h)	Project has secured 80% or more of funding needed to cover the total cash out before the project reaches breakeven	Not Applicable
i)	Mitigation: Project has available as callable financial resources at least 50% of total cash out before project reaches breakeven.	-2 ³
Total Financial Viability (FV) [as applicable, ((a, b, c or d) + (e, f, g or h) + i)] Total may not be less than zero.		1

³ In order to protect the ecosystem, the local government has stopped the annual commercial logging in the project area and set aside part of the conservation funds for the maintenance of the project. Since the implementation of the project, the annual allocation of conservation funds can meet the needs of the implementation and maintenance of the project.

Opportunity Cost		
Risk Factor	Risk Factor and/or Mitigation Description	Risk Rating
a)	NPV from the most profitable alternative land use activity is expected to be at least 100% more than that associated with project activities; or where baseline activities are subsistence-driven, net positive community impacts are not demonstrated	8
b)	NPV from the most profitable alternative land use activity is expected to be between 50% and up to 100% more than from project activities	Not Applicable
c)	NPV from the most profitable alternative land use activity is expected to be between 20% and up to 50% more than from project activities	Not Applicable
d)	NPV from the most profitable alternative land use activity is expected to be between 20% more than and up to 20% less than from project activities; or where baseline activities are subsistence-driven, net positive community impacts are demonstrated	Not Applicable
e)	NPV from project activities is expected to be between 20% and up to 50% more profitable than the most profitable alternative land use activity	Not Applicable
f)	NPV from project activities is expected to be at least 50% more profitable than the most profitable alternative land use activity	Not Applicable
g)	Mitigation: Project proponent is a non-profit organization	0
h)	Mitigation: Project is protected by legally binding commitment (see Section 2.2.4) to continue management practices that protect the credited carbon stocks over the length of the project crediting period.	-2 ⁴
i)	Mitigation: Project is protected by legally binding commitment (see Section 2.2.4) to continue management practices that protect the credited carbon stocks over at least 100 years	Not Applicable
Total Opportunity Cost (OC) [as applicable, (a, b, c, d, e or f) + (g + h or i)]		6

4 Under the project scenario, the VCS development agreement, signed between PP and the relevant village collectives, is of legal binding commitment to continue management practices that protect the credited carbon stocks over the length of the project crediting period.

Total may be less than 0.

Project Longevity		
a)	Without legal agreement or requirement to continue the management practice	= 24 - (project longevity/5)
b)	With legal agreement or requirement to continue the management practice ⁵	= 30 - (project longevity/2) =30-30/2=15
Total Project Longevity (PL)		15
May not be less than zero		

Internal Risk	
Total Internal Risk (PM + FV + OC + PL)	-4+1+6+15=18
Total may not be less than zero.	

2 EXTERNAL RISKS

Document and substantiate the risk and/or mitigation for each risk factor applicable to the project. Include any relevant documentary evidence. Where a risk or mitigation is not relevant to the project, please write "Not applicable".

Land Tenure and Resource Access/Impacts		
Risk Factor	Risk Factor and/or Mitigation Description	Risk Rating
a)	Ownership and resource access/use rights are held by same entity(s)	0
b)	Ownership and resource access/use rights are held by different entity(s) (eg, land is government owned and the project proponent holds a lease or concession)	Not Applicable

⁵ According to clarification on the project lifetime issued by project owner and Chinese forestry industry standard LY/T 2908-2017 Age class and age group classification of major tree species, the natural maturity age of major tree species in the project area, Yunnan pine, Huashan pine and Oak, is greater than 81 years. Therefore, the project longevity or project lifetime of the project (ID 1542) is conservatively determined to be 30 years.

c)	In more than 5% of the project area, there exist disputes over land tenure or ownership	Not Applicable
d)	There exist disputes over access/use rights (or overlapping rights)	Not Applicable
e)	WRC projects unable to demonstrate that potential upstream and sea impacts that could undermine issued credits in the next 10 years are irrelevant or expected to be insignificant, or that there is a plan in place for effectively mitigating such impacts.	Not Applicable
f)	Mitigation: Project area is protected by legally binding commitment (eg, a conservation easement or protected area) to continue management practices that protect carbon stocks over the length of the project crediting period.	-2 ⁶
g)	Mitigation: Where disputes over land tenure, ownership or access/use rights exist, documented evidence is provided that projects have implemented activities to resolve the disputes or clarify overlapping claims	Not Applicable
Total Land Tenure (LT) [as applicable, ((a or b) + c + d + e + f + g)]		0
Total may not be less than zero.		

Community Engagement		
Risk Factor	Risk Factor and/or Mitigation Description	Risk Rating
a)	Less than 50 percent of households living within the project area who are reliant on the project area, have been consulted	Not Applicable
b)	Less than 20 percent of households living within 20 km of the project boundary outside the project area, and who are reliant on the project area, have been consulted	Not Applicable

6 Under the project scenario, the VCS development agreement, signed between PP and the relevant village collectives, is of legal binding commitment with over the length of the project crediting period.

c)	Mitigation: The project generates net positive impacts on the social and economic well-being of the local communities who derive livelihoods from the project area	-5 ⁷
Total Community Engagement (CE) [where applicable, (a + b + c)]		-5
Total may be less than zero.		

Political Risk		
Risk Factor	Risk Factor and/or Mitigation Description	Risk Rating
a)	Governance score of less than -0.79	Not Applicable
b)	Governance score of -0.79 to less than -0.32	4 ⁸
c)	Governance score of -0.32 to less than 0.19	Not Applicable
d)	Governance score of 0.19 to less than 0.82	Not Applicable
e)	Governance score of 0.82 or higher	Not Applicable
f)	Mitigation: Country is implementing REDD+ Readiness or other activities, as set out in this Section 2.3.3.	-2 ⁹
Total Political (PC) [as applicable ((a, b, c, d or e) + f)]		2
Total may not be less than zero.		

External Risk	
Total External Risk (LT + CE + PC)	0
Total may not be less than zero.	

7 Based on the on-site inspection and the stakeholder comments, the stakeholders have positive attitude towards the implementation of the project, they agree that the project generates net positive impacts on the social and economic well-being of the local communities.

8 <http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/index.aspx#home>

9 China has an established Designed National Authority under the CDM and has 5 registered CDM Afforestation/Reforestation projects. Thus, the mitigation discount can be applied.

3 NATURAL RISKS

Explain the significance and likelihood of the natural risk and any mitigation activities implemented, (copy table for each natural risk).

Natural Risk (e.g., Fire, Pest and Disease outbreaks, Extreme Weather)					
	Likelihood				
Significance	Less than every 10 years	Every 10 to less than 25 years	Every 25 to less than 50 years	Every 50 to less than 100 years	Once every 100 years or more, or risk is not applicable to the project area
Catastrophic(70% or more loss of carbon stocks)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	0
Devastating (50% to less than 70% loss of carbon stocks)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	0
Major(25% to less than 50% loss of carbon stocks)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	0
Minor (5% to less than 25% loss of carbon stocks)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	0
Insignificant(less than 5% loss of carbon stocks) or transient (full recovery of lost carbon stocks expected within	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	0

10 years of any event)					
No Loss	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	0
LS Score	0				
Mitigation					
Prevention measures applicable to the risk factor are implemented					0.5
Project proponent has proven history of effectively containing natural risk					0.5
Both of the above					0.25
None of the above					Not applicable

**Score for each natural risk applicable to the project
(Determined by $LS \times M$)**

Fire (F)	0
Pest and Disease Outbreaks (PD)	0
Extreme Weather (W)	0
Geological Risk (G)	0
Other natural risk (ON)	0
Total Natural Risk (as applicable, $F + PD + W + G + ON$)	0

4 OVERALL NON-PERMANENCE RISK RATING AND BUFFER DETERMINATION

4.1 Overall Risk Rating

Risk Category	Rating
Internal Risk	18

External Risk	0
Natural Risk	0
Overall Risk Rating (a + b + c)	18

According to section 2.5.2 of the AFOLU Non-Permanence Risk Tool (V4.0), the minimum risk rating shall be 10, regardless of the risk rating calculated, therefore, Overall Risk Rating is 18.

4.2 Calculation of Total VCUs

Year	Monitoring period	Baseline emissions or removals (tCO ₂ e)	Project emissions or removals (tCO ₂ e)	Leakage emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Net GHG emission reductions or removals (tCO ₂ e)	Buffer pool allocation (tCO ₂ e)	VCUs eligible for issuance (tCO ₂ e)
2016	01/04/2016-31/12/2016	1,567	-49,530	0	51,097	9,197	41,900
2017	01/01/2017-31/12/2017	1,563	-65,920	0	67,482	12,147	55,335
2018	01/01/2018-31/12/2018	866	-65,920	0	66,786	12,021	54,765
2019	01/01/2019-31/12/2019	170	-65,920	0	66,090	11,896	54,194
2020	01/01/2020-31/12/2020	-527	-65,920	0	65,393	11,771	53,622
2021	01/01/2021-31/03/2021	-174	-16,390	0	16,216	2,919	13,297
	Total	3,466	-329,598	0	333,064	59,951	273,112
	Average				66,613		54,622