

Validation Statement For

GROUPED PROJECT FOR COMMERCIAL FOREST PLANTATIONS INITIATIVES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF VICHADA

ICONTEC has been commissioned by Fundación Natura to evaluate the Project Description (PDD) prepared by South Pole Carbon and Corporación Carbono & Bosques for the project titled GROUPED PROJECT FOR COMMERCIAL FOREST PLANTATIONS INITIATIVES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF VICHADA Version 02.1 (August 17, 2016), according to the criteria set forth by the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Project Design Standards – Third Edition, December 2013.

The Project Proponent is Fundación Natura. The validation process was conducted between March and July 2016.

ICONTEC conducted desk review and on-site visit activities in its evaluation of the project and uses the PDD and additional information supplied by Corporación Carbono & Bosques and South Pole Carbon as the basis for its evaluation.

The project's climate benefits are achieved through the capture and storage of 1,185,191.26 tCO₂e (around 39,506.38 tCO₂e yr⁻¹) based on changing the land use from extensive cattle ranching to sustainable forest productive systems, restoring natural forest covers, and creating a landscape of biological and productive corridors that produce financial, social and environmental services for the region.

The expected benefits on biodiversity are an increase of about 12,000 ha in forest covers and the enhancement of connectivity of forest ecosystems, as well as the conservation of the flora and fauna in the region. In addition, the properties use organic fertilizers in order to reduce the inputs of chemicals for the management of the planted area.

Locally, the benefits for the community include the direct and indirect generation of employment, and technology transfer through technical training in forestry topics, resulting in around 80 people permanently employed in technical activities. Besides, project activities generate income to improve the infrastructure for both workers and inhabitants of the region (roads, bridges, etc.), which affects the quality of life of the population.

The properties within the carbon project may receive additional income to improve the quality of workers, quality of plantations, monitoring and sustainable actions in the project area.

Based on the results of our validation activities that include: scope, criteria, cross check of references, project description and stakeholders interviews, it is our opinion that the

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project GROUPED PROJECT FOR COMMERCIAL FOREST PLANTATIONS INITIATIVES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF VICHADA is complete and meets the requirements of the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Project Design Standards – Third Edition, December, 2013.

The project PDD was posted to the CCBA website for the formal 30-day public comment period 1 March 2016 – 1 April 2016 and no significant changes have been made to the PDD since the public comment period.

Report No. CCBAVA-16-001

Project Location: The Project area for the first instance corresponds to the properties of La Pedregoza, El Toro, Canapro, El Diamante and Horizonte Verde, located at the veredas Caño Negro, Aceito, La Esmeralda and Campo Alegre, in the municipality of Puerto Carreño (Department of Vichada, Colombia).

Issued Date: August 20, 2016
Expiration Date: August 19, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mónica Vivas'.

Mónica Vivas
Conformity Assessment Director
ICONTEC