



South Asia

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Verification Statement

VERIFICATION OF THE REGISTERED
CCBA-PROJECT:
“THE PARAGUAY FOREST CONSERVATION PROJECT
REDUCTION OF GHG EMISSIONS FROM DEFORESTA-
TION AND FOREST DEGRADATION IN THE CHACO-
PANTANAL ECOSYSTEM”

FIRST MONITORING PERIOD: 25 FEB 2011 TO 31 AUG 2015

REPORT NO. 10352SH

6 September2016

TÜV SÜD South Asia Pvt. Ltd.
Environmental Technology, Carbon Management Service,
Solitaire, I.T.I. Road, Aundh, Pune- 411007, INDIA

FIRST PERIODIC VERIFICATION OF THE CCBA PROJECT:

The Paraguay Forest Conservation Project Reduction of GHG emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in the Chaco-Pantanal ecosystem



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Report No.	Date of first issue	Version No.:	Revision date
102352SH	06 September 2016	01	-
Subject:	First Periodic Verification		
Executing Operational Unit:			
TÜV SÜD South Asia Pvt. Ltd. Environmental Technology, Carbon Management Service, Solitaire, I.T.I. Road, Aundh, Pune- 411007, INDIA			
Project Participant:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swire Pacific Offshore Operations (Pte) Ltd. 			
Project Title: The Paraguay Forest Conservation Project Reduction of GHG emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in the Chaco-Pantanal ecosystem			
Methodology: VM0007 REDD Methodology Modules (REDD-MF) Version 1.4			
Location of the project: Bahia Negra District, Alto Paraguay, Paraguay			
Technical Area: 14.1			
Monitoring period:		25 Feb 2011 to 31 Aug 2015	
First Monitoring / Project Implementation Report (version/date)		Version 01 / 16 Sep 2015	
Final Monitoring / Project Implementation Report (version/date)		Version 02 / 25 Jul 2016	

SUMMARY OF CCB BENEFITS THAT THE PROJECT GENERATED SO FAR (SEE SUMMARY IN THE PIR):

Conservation actions implemented have generated 50,113 tCO₂-e emissions reductions in the period under review. 4,745 hectares of forest have been conserved through the project. The Yshir community have regained management control over the conserved area of forest, which is of cultural importance to them and provides ecosystem services with the landscape. The Union of the Communities of the Yshir Nation (UCINY) has received financial support through the project. Members of the Yshir community have been employed through the project and taken part in conservation activities and activities to understand the High Conservation Values of the area. As a result of conservation actions implemented in the period under review forest cover within the project area has been maintained and ecological connectivity promoted with the landscape. Retention of a significant area of natural habitat has contributed to retaining high conservation values in a landscape where those values are under threat.

FIRST PERIODIC VERIFICATION OF THE CCBA PROJECT:

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VERIFICATION STATEMENT

TÜV SÜD South Asia Pvt. Ltd. has performed the first periodic verification of the CCBA project: “The Paraguay Forest Conservation Project Reduction of GHG emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in the Chaco-Pantanal ecosystem”.

The project goal is to conserve the natural and cultural qualities, including the stored carbon, of forest lands in the Chaco-Pantanal transition zone of Alto Paraguay; areas of high conservation value but threatened with transformation to cattle ranching. Private holdings that are legally available for ranching development, particularly those that help maintain ecological connectivity in the general context of on-going fragmentation and isolation at a landscape level are purchased in partnership (co-ownership and management) with local communities and put under protection. The project area consists of 4,745 ha managed in partnership with the Union de Comunidades de la Nación Yshir (UCINY) representing the Yshir indigenous community.

The management of Swire Pacific Offshore Operations (Pte) Ltd. Respectively its consultants are responsible for the preparation of the project’s data on climate, community and biodiversity benefits on the basis of the project’s Monitoring Plan indicated in the registered CCBA PDD.

The verification was conducted based on the CCB Standards second edition and respective guidance documents. The verification was performed by means of a document review, follow-up interviews, site inspection including stakeholder interviews, and the resolution of outstanding issues.

The project applies the VCS-approved methodology VM0007 REDD Methodology Modules (REDD-MF) Version 1.4 to quantify GHG removals. The VCS Verification Report for the monitoring period 25 February 2012 to 24 February 2013 conducted by TÜV SÜD South Asia Pvt. Ltd. and publicly available on the VCS Project Database (<http://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org>) describes the findings of the VCS verification process and demonstrates the compliance of the same project with the VCS Methodology respectively the VCS requirements. Although the project has only verified the first two years of the project lifetime (February 2011 – February 2013) TÜV SÜD concludes that the estimated climate benefits described in the PD and MR are still valid out of the following reason:

- According to the VCS PD and the corresponding Validation and Verification Report, the project consists of a REDD activity that avoids deforestation and degradation of untouched forests in the Chaco forest of Paraguay. The land use of the project is the contrary of the general land use in the area which consists of land clearing for farming which leads to an unbraked rate of loss of virgin Chaco forest.
- In the cause of the first periodic verification of the CCBA project the audit team physically visited the project area as well as conducted an thorough overflight of the entire project area in order to ensure, that no deforestation and degradation took place within the project area.
- As no deforestation and degradation could be detected TÜV SÜD concludes that the estimated climate benefits described in the PD and MR are still valid.

The present report is intended to cover only those criteria, in which the CCBA differs and exceeds the requirements of VCS.

The project activity reaches the following gold level:

- Climate change adaptation benefits:
The project activity prevents an increase of vulnerability of the biodiversity to climate change as the project area, a significant area, is been protected and conserved and not converted to farmland. This could be sustained during the onsite visit via overflight for the background of the unbraked rate of deforestation within the Chaco.

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- Exceptional community benefits:
Paraguay can be classified as a medium development country with marked inequalities of wealth in which the Yshire is toward the bottom end of the scale. The whole communities of the Yshire are benefiting of the project due to payments made to UCINY the institution that represents the needs of the Yshir ensuring, that all communities are benefiting equally from the payments.
- Exceptional Biodiversity Benefits
Vulnerable species such as the Lowland Tapir and the Giant Armadillo, both listed as IUCN Red List species, exist within the project area.

The verifier confirms that:

- they have assessed relevant satellite images, physically visited the project area as well as conducted a detailed overflight of the entire project area in order to ensure, that no deforestation and degradation took place within the project area
- the project is implemented as planned and described in the CCBA registered project design document (PDD);
- the actual monitoring of the project's climate, community and biodiversity benefits is appropriately carried out in line with the CCBA registered monitoring plan;
- the project's climate, biodiversity and community benefits are correctly described in the PIR and climate benefit calculations in the PIR were thoroughly checked and climate benefit calculations in the PIR were thoroughly checked..

In summary, TÜV SÜD is of the opinion that the registered CCBA project "The Paraguay Forest Conservation Project Reduction of GHG emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in the Chaco-Pantanal ecosystem" fulfils all requirements of the CCB Standards.

Pune, 6 Sep 2016

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eswar Murty', written over a horizontal line.

Eswar Murty

Certification Body "Environment and Energy"
TÜV SÜD South Asia Pvt Ltd



VERIFICATION FINDINGS AND RESULTS

The following table resumes the compliance of the different sections of the CCBA standards. Detailed findings are presented in the Verification Report # 10352SH

CCBA Standards Criteria checklist	Conformance	
	Yes	No
General Section		
G1. Original Conditions in the Project Area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
G2. Baseline Projections	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
G3. Project Design and Goals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
G4. Management Capacity and Best Practices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
G5. Legal Status and Property Rights	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Climate Section		
CL1. Net Positive Climate Impacts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
CL2. Offsite Climate Impacts ("Leakage")	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
CL3. Climate Impact Monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Community Section		
CM1. Net Positive Community Impacts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
CM2. Offsite Community Impacts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
CM3. Community Impact Monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Biodiversity Section		
B1. Net Positive Biodiversity Impacts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
B2. Offsite Biodiversity Impacts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
B3. Biodiversity Impact Monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Gold Level Section		
GL1. Climate Change Adaptation Benefits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
GL2. Exceptional Community Benefits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
GL3. Exceptional Biodiversity Benefits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Approved Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Gold Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	