

VERIFICATION REPORT

REDUCTION OF DEFORESTATION AND DEGRADATION IN TAMBOPATA NATIONAL RESERVE AND BAHUAJA-SONENE NATIONAL PARK WITHIN THE AREA OF MADRE DE DIOS REGION –PERU



Colombian Institute for Technical Standards and Certification – ICONTEC

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Summary

ICONTEC was contracted by Asociación para la Investigación y Desarrollo Integral - AIDER to conduct the project verification. The verification process was intended to assess the conformance of the project with the VCS and CCB rules and the methodology applied to the project. According the project document and relevant information, the project purpose is to conserve forests from both NPAs against deforestation in Tambopata National Reserve and the sector of Bahuaja – Sonene National Park.

The project area is politically located in Tambopata and Inambari districts, Tambopata province, department and region of Madre de Dios, Republic of Peru. The total area of the Administration Contract (RNTAMB y PNBS-Madre de Dios) holds 573,299.97 ha, of which 541,620.14 ha have been considered as project area, because they fit, till year 2008, the forest definition in use; the project area, including streams and water bodies (not considered for carbon quantification) holds a total of 556,849.56 ha.

The project start date is July 01, 2010 and the end date is June 30, 2030. First period to quantify GHG emission reductions: 10 years (July 01, 2010 – June 30, 2020).

The Project Description was designed to conform to the VCS Standard v.3.2, specifically a REDD+ project under the AFOLU project types (AFOLU Requirements VCS v.3.6). The project applied the approved VM0007 REDD+ Methodology Framework (REDD-MF). The project has been designed in accordance with the Standard for the design of Climate, Community and Biodiversity Project – Second Edition, December 2008. In consequence, the Monitoring Report contains information about the project benefits, project description, project implementation status, legal status and property rights, monitoring GHG emission reductions and removals. In addition, the description about the community and biodiversity impacts.

The purpose and scope of verification involve documental review, on-site visit, interviews with relevant personnel, and the consultation of secondary information sources, findings statements, feedback with the project owner and elaboration of the final report. In order to carry out the verification, Verified Carbon Standard Program Guide (v3.7) dated 21 June 2017 were taken into account and following the guidance provided in the VCS Validation and Verification Manual v.3.2 (19 October 2016). The verification purpose is to ensure the opinion of a third party, independent of the proposed project, carrying out a full assessment of the evidence to ensure compliance with the criteria defined by the Alliance for Climate, Community and Biodiversity (CCBA) for the project design, in accordance to that, verification was developed also considering project operations, monitoring and reporting by reviewing the criteria that conforms the CCB Standard assessment.

During the verification, the ICONTEC auditor identified 10 findings (3 Clarification Requests, 5 Corrective Action Request and 2 Forward Action Request) that were addressed satisfactorily by the project proponent during the verification process to ensure that the Monitoring Report fulfils the VCS and CCB program requirements. No CARs that could lead to a material discrepancy between the project and the project monitoring were identified. The project complies with all of the verification criteria, and the assessment team has no restrictions or uncertainties with respect to the compliance of the project with the verification criteria.

Documentation review, interviews and on-site visit allowed ICONTEC to collect enough evidences to completely assess the verification criteria and determinate that the project is implemented according to the Project Description (Version 1.1, 24-May 2012), and the Monitoring Report (Version 2, June 29

2019) is in accordance with the Monitoring Plan. The GHG emission reductions reported for the project proponent, in the Monitoring Report were correctly calculated, based on the applied VCS Methodology VM0007, REDD Methodological Modules (REDD-MF) version 1.1.

The verification process results in a conclusion of ICONTEC International reporting if the project meets the criteria and requirements of the CCB Standard and subject to verification by the CCBA. The project implementation and the monitoring system are in place and followed appropriately. ICONTEC can confirm that the GHG emission reductions are calculated without material misstatements. Based on the information we have seen and evaluated we confirm the following statement:

Reporting period: 01-07-2017 to 31-12-2018

Verified emission reductions in the above reporting period: 1,009,486 tons CO₂e

The project is in accordance with Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance, conforming to all requirements, and having reached Climate Change Adaptation Benefits and Exceptional Biodiversity Benefits, whit Gold Level.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Objective

According to VCS rules (VCS Standard v.3.7) the verification is the periodic ex-post independent assessment by a verification body of the GHG emission reductions and removals that have occurred as a result of the project during the monitoring period, conducted in accordance with the VCS rules. In particular, the verification is an independent review of the monitored reductions that have occurred as a result of the registered VCS project activity during the verification period.

Verification is a requirement for all VCS projects and is seen as necessary as to provide assurance to stakeholders of the quality of the project and its generation of verified emission reductions. In this sense, the verification objectives include the assessment of the monitoring report in order to identify the extent to which methods and procedures, including monitoring procedures, have been implemented in accordance with the validated project description and the extent to which GHG emission reductions and removals reported in the monitoring report are materially accurate.

In this way, the purpose of the VCS verification audit activities was conduct an independent assessment of the project to determine whether the project complies with the verification criteria, as set out in the guidance documents listed in Section 1.2 of this report.

According to CCB Program Rules (CCB Standards v.3.1), the verification demonstrates that multiple benefits have been delivered. Successful validation to the CCB Standards can help project proponents to build support among stakeholders and investors. Additionally, to confirm that the project complies with the rules and guidance to encourage effective and integrated project design.

As a result of those processes, the DOE prepare a verification conclusion and a written certification of the emission reduction achieved and verified for the specified time period.

1.2 Scope and Criteria

The verification scope involves the independent and objective revision to determine that the project design and implementation meets the following criteria: VCS Program (relevance, completeness, consistency, accuracy, transparency, and conservativeness), as well as the requirements described in the selected methodology “VCS Methodology VM0007, REDD Methodological Modules (REDD-MF) version 1.1” and the Monitoring Plan.

The verification includes the assessment about the project activity implementation as per the validated PD and that all physical features of the project are in place, ensure that actual monitoring systems and procedures comply with the monitoring systems and procedures described in the monitoring plan and the approved methodology and that the data reported are complete and transparent.

Also, in accordance with Section 5.3.1 of the VCS Standard, the criterion for verification was the VCS Version 3, including the following documents:

- VCS Program Guide
- VCS Standard
- VCS AFOLU Requirements
- VCS AFOLU Non-Permanence Risk Tool

ICONTEC, based on its ethics code and internal procedures for carrying out validation, verification and certification audits of VCS project activities (which, in turn, are based on the Voluntary Carbon Standard) focused the verification process on the identification of significant risks for credits generation, and verification of the mitigation.

1.3 Level of Assurance

For this project, the assessment was conducted to provide reasonable assurance, in compliance with the VCS Program requirements (VCS Standard v3.7, Section 5).

Besides the above mentioned, during the verification ICONTEC ensured to fulfill the requirements additional to ISO 14064-3:2006 and ISO 14065:2007, set in VCS standard 2017, which are as follows:

- The level of assurance is reasonable for verification, with respect to material errors, omissions and misrepresentations;
- The criteria are VCS Version 3.2 (regardless of the VCS version or GHG program under which the project was validated); and
- The objective is in conformance with the VCS requirements and VCS program methodologies as applicable to the specific project

To ensure complete transparency, a verification protocol checklist is included in Appendix A. The verification protocol addresses all of the criteria that must be met for the project. In addition, the project is classified like a Large project (Greater than 300,000 tons of CO₂e per year): 457,750.25 tons CO₂e per year. In consequence, ICONTEC applies materiality of one per cent in accordance with the requirements in VCS version 3.7 (Section 5.3.1).

1.4 Summary Description of the Project

Project Proponent(s)	Asociación para la Investigación y Desarrollo Integral - AIDER
Contact	Jaime Nalvarte Armas / Sylvia Mayta D'Ugard
Title of project activity	Reduction of deforestation and degradation in Tambopata National Reserve and Bahuaja-Sonene National Park within the area of Madre de Dios Region –Peru
Project area	541,620.14 hectares
Baseline and monitoring methodology	VCS Methodology VM0007, REDD Methodology Modules (REDD-MF) - Version 1.4

Sectoral scope(s)	VCS Sectoral Scope 14 – Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Uses under project activities Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD)
Project location	The project area politically belongs to the Tambopata and Inambari districts, Tambopata province, Madre de Dios region, Peru. It occupies the southeast end of the region, reaching the international border with the Republic of Bolivia.
Project crediting period	20 years (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2030)
Period verified in this verification	July 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018
Verified emission reductions in the above reporting period	1,009,486 tons CO ₂ e

The REDD project is implemented in the area comprised by Tambopata National Reserve and Bahuaja-Sonene National Park sector within Madre de Dios region, corresponding to the Partial Administration Contract of TAMBNR and BSNP – Madre de Dios, signed between the Peruvian government and the Association for Research and Integrated Development - AIDER.

The activities and measures to avoid deforestation, and forest degradation, come from the components in the REDD + strategy, which have been improving and aligning with the actuality of the project area:

- i) Integral Biological Monitoring System that feeds the REDD + monitoring
- ii) Promotion of research as a strategic activity for channeling resources in favor of conservation
- iii) Agroforestry plots installed for cocoa production in sectors 3 and 4 of the buffer zone, preventing the advance of the agricultural frontier
- iv) Strengthening of organizations in the buffer zone
- v) Control and surveillance mechanisms in the RNTAMB and the PNBS expanded and strengthened
- vi) Promotion of sustainable mining in sector 2 of the buffer zone
- vii) Promotion of community rural tourism in sector 6 of the buffer zone
- viii) Environmental education and communication, and
- ix) Management.

In this way, according the information in the Monitoring Report, those activities have been developed in accordance with the type of actors and pressures. The verification period is from July 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018, and it has managed to avoid 1.009,486 tCO₂e.

2 VERIFICATION PROCESS

The verification consisted of the following four phases: i) a desk review and investigation on secondary sources of information, ii) on-site assessment iii) the resolution of findings and iv) issuance of the final verification report with the conclusion, as follows:

Date	Time	Place	Activity
08/07/2019 to 10/07/2019	3 d	ICONTEC's Office	Desk Review Developing the Planning of the verification activities
15/07/2019	06:30 09:30	Trip from Bogotá to Lima	
	15:06 16:45	Trip from Lima to Puerto Maldonado	
16/07/2019	08:30 10:30	Puerto Maldonado AIDER office	Opening Meeting ▪ Introduction of the auditor ▪ Presentation of the verification team ▪ Presentation of the AIDER's team ▪ Audit objective ▪ Schedule discussion/remarks ▪ Review of the plan of verification activities ▪ Questions
16/07/2019	10:30 12:30	Puerto Maldonado AIDER office	Monitoring Plan and Monitoring Report – AIDER presentation
16/07/2019	14:30 17:30	Puerto Maldonado AIDER office	Interviews with: ▪ Head of the Tambopata National Reserve and specialists ▪ Chairman of the management committee of the Tambopata National Reserve
17/07/2019	07:00 13:00	Puerto Maldonado	Field visit to the Control and Surveillance Checkpoint Sandoval. To see: ▪ Monitoring of biodiversity transects ▪ Monitoring of tourism paths ▪ Monitoring of chestnut areas ▪ Monitoring of Giant Otters ▪ Interviews with rangers of the Park Checkpoint
17/07/2019	15:00 16:30	Puerto Maldonado AIDER office	Interview with the consultants (GIS specialists) who worked in the monitoring of deforestation and burning of the period to be verified.
17/07/2019	16:30 17:00	Puerto Maldonado AIDER office	Interview with the representatives of the Palma Real native community
18/07/2019	08:00 15:00	Puerto Maldonado	Field visit to cooperative COOPASER ▪ Visit the processing plant ▪ Visit to the agroforestry plots ▪ Interview with stakeholders involved in the project ▪ Interview with the chairman of the cooperative ▪ Interview with the agroforestry technical team
18/07/2019	17:00 19:00	Puerto Maldonado AIDER office	Skype or telephone interview with Percy Recavarren to see: Ex-Post Quantification of Emission Reductions – estimation of the net anthropogenic removals by sinks (methodology equations) evidence for input data and parameter to the removals calculations, leakage (Uncertainty and conservativeness)
19/07/2019	09:00 11:30	Puerto Maldonado AIDER office	Skype or telephone interview with the Head of the Bahuaja Sonene National Park and specialists
19/07/2019	13:00	Partial Closing meeting with PP	

Date	Time	Place	Activity
	15:00		
19/07/2019	17:15	Trip from Puerto Maldonado to Lima	
22/07/2019 to 23/07/2019	2 d	ICONTEC's Office	Final document review and Findings Report (CARs/CLAs/FARs)
29/07/2019	-	N/A	Project owners submit relevant documentation to address (Corrective Actions Requests (CARs)/Clarification Requests (CLs) in one submission to DOE
29/07/2019 to 30/07/2019	2 d	ICONTEC's Office	Review by the validation team of documentation submitted by the Client in order to close all CARs/ CLAs / FARs
24/07/2019 to 30/07/2019	5 d		Writing of the draft report after closure of all CARs/ CLs
01/08/2019 to 03/08/2019	3 d		Internal Technical Review (finding(s) may be raised at this stage)
04/08/2019	1 d		Adjustments to the final verification report and relative documents to submission, according to the findings spotted by the technical reviewer team
05/08/2019	1 d		Internal Technical Review
05/08/2019	1 d		Project Submission of Final Validation Report

The Monitoring Report that includes the claimed emission removals for the project (Version 2 – June 29, 2019), the net anthropogenic GHG removals, and the SOP for monitoring, the Shape files with the project boundary and the relevant documentation were assessed as part of the desk review. In addition, the following documents were checked:

- The last version of the PDD (Version 1., May 24, 2012), including the monitoring plan
- The emission reductions calculation spreadsheet
- Documentation related to the project monitoring

The whole documentation was reviewed and a verification audit plan was completely carried out during the verification activities.

Documentation review, interviews and on-site visit allowed ICONTEC to collect enough evidences to completely assess the verification criteria and determinate that the project is implemented according to the Project Description (Version 1., May 2012) and the project implementation. Removals were correctly calculated, based on the applied methodology (VM0007). The project areas and the monitoring system are in place and followed appropriately. ICONTEC can confirm that the GHG emission reductions/removals are calculated without material misstatements. The verification protocol resulting from the verification of the project is enclosed in Appendix A of this report.

In addition, documentation review, interviews and on-site visit allowed ICONTEC to collect enough evidences to completely assess the verification criteria and determinate that the MR (Version 2 – June 29, 2019) is in conformance with the rules and VCS/CCB criteria.

2.1 Audit Team Composition (*Rules 4.3.1*)

The verification team consists of the personnel described in Table 1.

Table 1: Verification Team

Role/Qualification	Last Name	First Name	Country	Type of involvement		
				Desk review	Site visit/Interviews	Reporting
Lead Auditor Sectoral Expert	Duque	Angela	Colombia	X	X	X

The lead auditor is qualified in accordance with ICONTEC qualification scheme for CCB & VCS validation and verification project. The auditor is a Colombian forestry engineer, Specialist in social project evaluation and M.Sc. Environmental Economist and account with large expertise in forestry project, and relevant experience in social, ecological and economic aspects in environmental projects.

2.2 Method and Criteria

The verification process was carried out by using the VCS validation and verification manual in order to ensure a fully completed verification process and to gather the information necessary to complete this report; and demonstrates how emissions removals have been verified and the manner in which such verifications were confirmed.

The criteria allow the verification guidance provided by VCS Standard and the rules related to VCS methodology applied. In consequence, the following documents were used to assess this project:

- VCS Standard Version 3.2 and Version 3.7
- VCS Guidance Validation and Verification Manual, 19 October 2016, v3.2
- VCS Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Requirements, 21 June 2017, v3.6
- VCS Non-Permanence Risk Report Calculation Tool, v3.1
- Approved VCS Methodology VM0007 Version 1.4, Methodology for Avoided Deforestation (9 March 2015) Sectoral Scope 14
- Module VCS VMD0015 “Methods for Greenhouse Gases emissions and removals monitoring” (M-MON); noting that the PD was validated using version 1.0 of this module and that the monitoring period 2014-2015 used version 2.1, which was approved on November 20, 2012.
- Module VCS VMD0010 “Emissions estimate for activity displacement due to avoided unplanned deforestation” (LK-ASU), version 1.0.
- Module VCS VMD0013 “Greenhouse gases emissions estimate for burning biomass” (E-BB), version 1.0.
- Climate, Community & Biodiversity Standards Second Edition (December 2008)
- Rules for the Use of the Climate, Community & Biodiversity Standards (June 2017)
- Guidance for the Use of the CCB Standards (May 2014)

The plan onsite visits and the site inspections were completed to confirm the project boundaries, verify baseline and check the REDD+ project activities. Site inspections were also conducted to

evaluate the consistency of the assessment technique and parameters related. The project site was confirmed with GPS. The inventory data (both digital and hard copy) were reviewed to check the monitored parameters.

ICONTEC verified that operational and data collection procedures were implemented in accordance with the monitoring plan of the PD and verified the information flows for generating, aggregating and reporting the monitoring parameters. Furthermore, the monitoring activity was checked in order to confirm that the monitoring practices followed the requirements of the PD and the applicable methodology and modules.

2.3 Document Review

The documentary review was performed from July 7th, 2019 to July 10th 2019, as two reviews took place in order to finally conclude that the project meets the requirements of the selected methodology. The project was first reviewed, based on the information provided by the Project Proponent before the on-site visit. All answers to findings provided by the proponent were compared with the Voluntary Carbon Standard version 3.3 and other relevant requirements defined by VCS. This information crosschecking allowed identifying findings that were declared in Appendix A – Verification Protocol. In addition, the following documents, among others were checked:

AIDER, (2018), MONITOREO DE LA EXTENSIÓN DE LAS PAMPAS DEL HEATH DEL AMBITO DEL CONTRATO DE ADMINISTRACIÓN DE RN TAMBOPATA Y PN BAHUAJASONENE, AIDER 9p.

AIDER, (10/2017), MONITOREO DE LA EXTENSIÓN DE LAS PAMPAS DEL HEATH DEL AMBITO DEL CONTRATO DE ADMINISTRACIÓN DE RN TAMBOPATA Y PN BAHUAJASONENE – Periodo 2016, AIDER, 10p.

AIDER, (2018), Anexo 6.1 Análisis Muestras Validación, AIDER, Excel file.

AIDER, (04/2019), Anexo A. EQUIPO TÉCNICO RESPONSABLE, AIDER, 7p

AIDER, (07/2018), Annex B Cashflow Updated, AIDER, Excel file.

AIDER, (06/2018) REDUCTION OF DEFORESTATION AND DEGRADATION IN TAMBOPATA NATIONAL RESERVE AND BAHUAJASONENE NATIONAL PARK WITHIN THE AREA OF MADRE DE DIOS REGION – PERU: MONITORING REPORT, AIDER, 122p.

AIDER, (07/2017), Annex D Governance Score, AIDER, Excel file.

Casanova, P, Casanova, C. 2015, Manual de prevención de quemas e incendios forestales, AIDER, Puerto Maldonado, MDD, Perú, 15p.

AIDER, (2018), Bosque 2018 Deforestación 2018, AIDER, Excel file.

AIDER, (10/2011), Reducción de la deforestación y degradación en la Reserva Nacional Tambopata y en el parque Nacional Bahuaja-Sonene del ámbito de la región Madre de Dios-Perú, Documento de diseño del Proyecto (PDD), Ministerio del Ambiente, 269p.

AIDER, (06/2019), REDUCTION OF DEFORESTATION AND DEGRADATION IN TAMBOPATA NATIONAL RESERVE AND BAHUAJA-SONENE NATIONAL PARK WITHIN THE AREA OF MADRE DE DIOS REGION –PERU: MONITORING REPORT, AIDER, 129p.

AIDER, (2019), Deforestación y quemas periodo Julio 2017- diciembre 2018, AIDER, Excel file.

AIDER, (2019), Deforestación Incremento 2018, AIDER, Excel file.

Percy Recavarren Estares; Miriam Delgado Obando; Carlos Magno Sánchez Díaz; María Azucena Angulo Lovatón , (12/2011), Estimación del Carbono Almacenado en la Biomasa de los Bosques de la Reserva Nacional Tambopata y el Parque Nacional Bahuaja-Sonene - Ámbito de la región Madre de Dios, AIDER, 64p.

AIDER, (2019), Estratos 2017-2018 Tambopata, AIDER, Excel file.

ISSG, (2000), <http://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/>, GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE, AIDER, Página web.

MINISTERIO DEL AMBIENTE, (06/2016), Peru's submission of a Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL) for reducing emissions from deforestation in the Peruvian Amazon, AIDER, 77p.

The world Bank, (2019), <https://databank.worldbank.org/source/worldwide-governance-indicators#>, Databank Worldwide Governance indicators, AIDER, Perú, Página web.

AIDER, (2019), Governance Score Review, AIDER, Excel file.

AIDER, (06/2019), Emisiones del Py REDD Jul-2017 Dic-2018, AIDER, Excel file.

AIDER, (2019), Fugas por desplazamiento de actividades, AIDER, Excel file.

AIDER, (2019), Base de datos de cálculo de carbono acumulado, AIDER, Excel file.

AIDER, (06/2019), LINEA BASE Y CASO DEL PROYECTO, AIDER, Excel file.

AIDER, (2019), Post-deforestación, AIDER, Excel file.

AIDER, (2019), Cuantificación de la deforestación en Madre de Dios - Tambopata - Periodo de junio a diciembre de 2018, AIDER, 24p.

AIDER, (2019), DETERMINACIÓN DE CICATRICES PRODUCIDAS POR QUEMAS EN MADRE DE DIOS, AIDER, 27p.

AIDER, (2018), DETERMINACIÓN DE CICATRICES PRODUCIDAS POR QUEMAS EN MADRE DE DIOS, AIDER, 34p.

AIDER, (2018), ESTIMACIÓN DE DEFORESTACION EN MADRE DE DIOS, AIDER, 32p.

AIDER, (2019), ESTIMACIÓN DE DEFORESTACION EN MADRE DE DIOS, AIDER, 31p.

AIDER, (10/2017), ANÁLISIS DE PERDIDA DE BOSQUE POR MINERÍA, AÑO 2017 / EN EL ÁMBITO DEL CONTRATO DE ADMINISTRACIÓN DE RN TAMBOPATA Y PN BAHUAJASONENE, AIDER, 14p.

Donald J. Brightsmith, PhD.; Liz M. Villanueva Paipay; Gabriela Vigo Trauco; Dora Susanibar; Lauren Bazley, (12/2018), Reporte de actividades 2016 – 2018 ECOLOGÍA REPRODUCTIVA Y USO DE COLLPAS DE GUACAMAYOS EN MADRE DE DIOS, AIDER, 67p.

AIDER, (2019), Matriz MDD 2018II, AIDER, Excel file.

AIDER, (2017), DETERMINACIÓN DE LA DEGRADACION FORESTAL OCURRIDA EN EL PERIODO 2015 - 2017 EN LA RESERVA NACIONAL TAMBOPATA Y EL PARQUE NACIONAL BAHUAJA-SONENE EN EL ÁMBITO DE MADRE DE DIOS – PERÚ INFORME FINAL, AIDER, 43p.

AIDER, (04/2019), REDUCCIÓN DE LA DEFORESTACIÓN Y DEGRADACIÓN EN LA RESERVA NACIONAL TAMBOPATA Y EN EL PARQUE NACIONAL BAHUAJA SONENE DEL ÁMBITO MADRE DE DIOS – PERÚ; PROCEDIMIENTO OPERATIVO ESTANDAR; MONITOREO DE LA DEGRADACIÓN FORESTAL CAUSADA POR LA EXTRACCIÓN ILEGAL DE MADERA, AIDER, 11p.

AIDER, (04/2019), REDUCCION DE LA DEFORESTACION Y DEGRADACION EN LA RESERVA NACIONAL TAMBOPATA Y EN EL PARQUE NACIONAL BAHUAJA SONENE DEL ÁMBITO DE MADRE DE DIOS-PERU PROCEDIMIENTO OPERATIVO ESTANDAR MONITOREO DE DEGRADACION CAUSADA POR FUEGO, AIDER, 10p.

MINISTERIO DEL AMBIENTE, (2017), REPORTE DEL SISTEMA DE MONITOREO INTEGRADO DE LA RNTAMB Y EL PNBS-MDD 2017, AIDER, 133p.

AIDER, (2018), INFORME: MONITOREO DE MAMÍFEROS CON CAMARA TRAMPA EN SISTEMAS AGROFORESTALES EN LA ZONA DE AMORTIGUAMIENTO DE LA RESERVA NACIONAL TAMBOPATA, MADRE DE DIOS - PERÚ., AIDER, 37p.

AIDER, (06/2019), RESUMEN DE MONITOREO DEL PROYECTO, AIDER, 12 p.

AIDER, (04/2019), NON-PERMANENCE RISK REPORT; REDUCTION OF DEFORESTATION AND DEGRADATION IN TAMBOPATA NATIONAL RESERVE AND BAHUAJA SONENE NATIONAL PARK WITHIN THE AREA OF MADRE DE DIOS REGION – PERU, AIUDER, 8p.

AIDER, (2019), VCS Risk Report Calculation Tool Tambo 07/2017-12/2018, AIDER, Excel file.

MINISTERIO DE AMBIENTE, (10/2008), ADDENDUM AL CONTRATO DE ADMINISTRACION PARCIAL DE OPERACIONES DE LOS COMPONENTES DE MONITOREO BIOLÓGICO E INVESTIGACIÓN SOBRE EL ÁREA NATURAL PROTEGIDA RESERVA NACIONAL

TAMBOPATA Y EL ÁMBITO DEL PARQUE NACIONAL BAHUAJA SONENE EN EL DEPARTAMENTO DE MADRE DE DIOS, AIDER, 4p.

AIDER, CONTRATO DE ADMINSTRACIÓN PARCIAL DE OPERACIONES DE LOS COMPONENTES DE MONITOREO BIOLÓGICO E INVESTIGACIÓN SOBRE EL ÁREA NATURAL PROTEGIDA RESERVA NACIONAL TAMBOPATA Y EL ÁMBITO DEL PARQUE NACIONAL BAHUAJA SONENE EN EL DEPARTAMENTO DE MADRE DE DIOS, AIDER, 128p.

2.4 Interviews

Between 16/07/2019 to 19/07/2019 a site visit to the project was undertaken. Interviews were conducted with Sylvia Mayta D'Ugard (Responsible for the area of ecosystem services AIDER). Interviews were carried out to assess the understanding of the program requirements and to determine if the Monitoring Report is in accordance with the Project Description/Monitoring Plan and the applied methodology. In consequence, during the interviews with the project proponent, AIDER, it was possible to validate and verify the particular procedures that where applied to determinate the project implementation and carbon calculations.

In addition, to determine if the Monitoring Report is in accordance with the CCB Standard, in the interviews with the technical personal of the Project Proponent (AIDER), the auditor validated the procedures to determinate the relevant issues related with the compliance about impacts considered on climate, community and biodiversity. During the on-site visit, among others, the following people were interviewed (Table 2).

Table 2: Interviews

Name	Position / Entity
Rosalía Ana Castro Aponte	Responsible social area AIDER
Sandra Anccasi Lazo	Forestry Specialist AIDER
Sylvia Mayta D'ugard	Responsible for the area of ecosystem services AIDER
Betsy Melany Orihuela Lozano	Responsible for the area of ecosystem services AIDER
Yohamir Casanca León	Biological Monitoring Assistant
Juan Carlos Lara Rivas	Biological Monitoring Area Manager
Vanessa Mónica Hilaes Pimentel	Research Area Manager
Luis P. Cántaro Condor	Regional Coordinator
Vladimir Ramírez Prada	Chief National Reserve Tambopata - RNTAMB
Victor Zambrano G.	President Management Committee National Reserve Tambopata - CG-RNTAMB
Odeón Cirilo Sanchez Cruz	COOPASER President

Name	Position / Entity
Gilberto Vera Torres	Chief of Procedure -COOPASER
Noel/G. Machaca M.	Victor Raul Sector – Agroforestry system
Elver Pareja Farfan	Post-harvest assistant
Cesar Augusto Jojaje Eriney	President of Native Community “Palma Real”

The verification process included on site Interviews with the communities and the team members of the AIDER and Head of the Bahuaja Sonene National Park and biodiversity specialists. In the Appendix B of this report is included the complete list of people that intervened in those meetings.

The interviews, related with verification process, intended to assess the training and skills of the responsible in charge of the follow-up, maintenance and reporting of the data and information obtained from execution and verification project activities. Interviews also included aspects related to the knowledge about the project activities, impacts and benefits on climate, community and biodiversity.

2.5 Site Inspections

The objectives of the on-site inspections performed were to:

- Ensure that the geographic area of the project, as reported in the PD, the Monitoring Report and the accompanying Shape file, is in conformance with the VCS/CCB Program and methodology requirements;
- Perform a risk-based review of the project area to ensure that the project is in conformance the eligibility requirements of the VCS/CCB rules and the applicability conditions of the applied methodology;
- Perform a risk-based review of the project area in order to cover the project boundary;
- Visiting of randomly selected project sites and collect GPS waypoints, project boundaries and other significant features in order to verify the status of the carbon pools and other parameters included in the monitoring plan and report;
- An assessment of the implementation and operation of the proposed VCS/CCB project through visual inspection and through the interviews with AIDER staff and the community;
- Verifying that operational and data collection procedures were implemented in accordance with the monitoring plan of the PD and verified the information flows for generating, aggregating and reporting the monitoring parameters. Furthermore, the procedures were checked, in order to confirm that the monitoring practices followed the requirements of the Monitoring Plan and the applicable methodology;
- Confirmation that the quality control and quality assurance procedures were in place.

After developing the document review and the GIS analysis, the auditor programed a plan for visit the project area. According to that, the auditor and the project proponent defined a route across

the project area. In consequence, the site visits with the project team in charge of the verification activities included an observation of the route that generally use the AIDER team, in the visited sector, to verify the biodiversity condition and the measurement related to the indicators of the monitoring system. The fields visit to the control and surveillance checkpoint Sandoval comprised:

- Monitoring of biodiversity transects
- Monitoring of tourism paths
- Monitoring of chestnut areas
- Monitoring of Giant Otters
- Interviews with rangers of the Park Checkpoint

During field reconnaissance, GPS waypoints were collected at boundaries and other significant features including locations where photos were taken. The field inspection also comprised the visit to the plots in the agroforestry system, combined forestry trees and Cacao (*Theobroma cacao*) and the processing plant. The Table 3 presents the coordinates in some of the points visited, through de visit area.

Table 3. Sites visited in the Tambopata National Reserve and agroforestry plots

Site	Latitude	Longitude
Control and surveillance checkpoint Sandoval	12°36'1.49"S	69° 4'7.34"W
Observation of increasing natural regeneration	12°36'17.12"S	69° 3'33.30"W
Entrance to the Tambopata National Reserve	12°36'31.77"S	69° 3'21.07"O
Sandoval lake	12°36'36.88"S	69° 2'56.30"O
"Aguajales" area near to the Sandoval lake	12°36'8.84"S	69° 2'47.79"O
Chestnut areas	12°36'53.47"S	69° 1'42.31"O
Cirilo Sánchez, farm and agroforestry plot	12°41'22.87"S	69°19'31.53"
Benedictina Lozano, agroforestry plot	12°41'35.07"S	69°24'43.69"O
Noel Machaca, agroforestry plot	12°44'10.65"S	69°29'25.95"O
Cacao processing plant	12°43'3.90"S	69°28'51.65"O

2.6 Resolution of Findings

Findings established during the verification can be seen as a non-fulfillment of verification criteria, or an identified risk to the fulfillment of the project objectives. The findings could take the form of a Corrective Action Request (CAR), Forward action Request (FAR) or a Clarification Request (CL).

A Corrective Action Request (CAR) shall be raised if one of the following situations occurs:

- (a) Non-compliance with the monitoring plan or methodology are found in monitoring and reporting and has not been sufficiently documented by the project participants, or if the evidence provided to prove conformity is insufficient;
- (b) Modifications to the implementation, operation and monitoring of the registered project activity has not been sufficiently documented by the project participants;
- (c) Mistakes have been made in applying assumptions, data or calculations of emission reductions which will impact the quantity of emission reductions;
- (d) Issues identified in a FAR during validation/verification to be verified during verification have not been resolved by the project participants.

A Clarification Request (CL) shall be raised if information is insufficient or not clear enough to determine whether the applicable VCS/CCB requirements have been met.

A Forward Action Request (FAR) is issued for actions if the monitoring and reporting require attention and/or adjustment for the next verification period.

As a result of this assessment there were found 10 findings (3 Clarification Requests, 5 Corrective Action Request and 2 Forward Action Request) in the verification process. CAR and CLs were closed based upon adequate responses from the project proponent which meet the applicable requirements; findings were reassessed before their formal acceptance and closure. All findings, included the issues raised, the responses provided by the project proponent and the final conclusions are contained in the Appendix A. All required changes are observable on Monitoring Report Version 2 (29/07/2019) and the relevant annexes.

Subsequent to the resolution of findings, the auditor concluded that the Monitoring Report is accurate, complete, and provides an understanding of the nature of the project and the project proponent demonstrates how emission removals have been reached, monitored and reported.

2.6.1 Forward Action Requests

Considering the following (VCS Standard):

3.16 MONITORING

3.16.2 Quality management procedures to manage data and information shall be applied and established. Where applicable, procedures to account for uncertainty in data and parameters shall be applied in accordance with the requirements set out in the methodology.

4.1.7. Where methodologies use default factors and standards to ascertain GHG emission data and any supporting data for establishing baseline scenarios and demonstrating additionality, the following applies:

1) Where the methodology uses third party default factors and/or standards, such default factors and standards shall meet with the requirements for data set out in Section 4.5.6, *mutatis mutandis*.

4.5.6. Appropriate data sources for developing performance methods include economic and engineering analyses and models, peer-reviewed scientific literature, case studies, empirical data, and common practice data. The data and dataset derived from such data sources shall meet the requirements below. The CDM *Guidelines for quality assurance and quality control of data used in the establishment of standardized baselines* also provides useful related guidance.

3) Data shall be from a time period that accurately reflects available technologies and/or current practice, and trends, within the sector. Selection of the appropriate temporal range shall be determined based on the guidance provided in the *GHG Protocol for Project Accounting*, Chapter 7 (WRI-WBCSD).

So, the Project proponent must to have a procedure of quality assurance of information/data, including the verification of the pertinence of the data and the temporality.

Moreover, in accordance with the methodology applied by the project proponent, the baseline must be revised every 10 years from the project start date. So, the data applied should be adjusted in year 2020. In consequence, two (2) FAR were issued.

Table 4. Forward Action Requests

Forward Action Request	Reference
Forward Action Request FAR1 The parameter CF in the section 3.1.1 Data and parameters available at validation, the data is 0.50 tC⁻¹ t d.m.. However, the Carbon Fraction has been updated by IPCC to 0,47 tC-1 t d.m. Reviewing the calculation files, is not clear the use of this data. If it was applied, it is necessary an adjustment of the calculation with this data updated.	Climate, Community and Biodiversity Project Design Standards SECOND EDITION VCS Standard VCS Version 3 Requirements Document 21 June 2017, v3.7
<u>Forward Action Request FAR2</u> The data applied for Root to Shoot ratio is 0,37 (2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories - Volume 4, Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use); however, IPCC published in May 2019, the 2019 Refinement to the 2006 Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, adopted on 12 May 2019 at the 49th session of the IPCC (Decision - IPCC-XLIX-9). In the new version, the Table. 4.4. Ratio of below-ground biomass to above-ground biomass (r) [tonne root d.m. (tonne shoot d.m.)⁻¹] was updated. The new data for the parameter is 0,221.	IPCC, 2019 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories Volume 4, Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2019rf/index.html?fbclid=IwAR02Xud6bw1lu8ZodG4XM00li_vKubuRwnEfi_vfiK7RkV3YaIKHWY4Tfb9A

2.7 Eligibility for Validation Activities

Not applicable.

3 VALIDATION FINDINGS

Not applicable.

No gap validation is required; no methodology deviations were needed in the verification; and this is not a grouped project.

3.1 Participation under Other GHG Programs

Not applicable.

The project was not validated under another GHG Program.

3.2 Methodology Deviations

Not applicable.

No methodology deviations were made during this monitoring period.

3.3 Project Description Deviations (*Rules 3.5.7 – 3.5.10*)

Not applicable.

No Project Description deviations were made during this monitoring period.

3.4 Minor Changes to Project Description (*Rules 3.5.6*)

Not applicable.

No minor changes applied to the community and biodiversity elements of the project design.

3.5 Monitoring Plans (CL3.2, CM3.3, B3.3)

Not applicable.

This is the fifth verification.

4 VERIFICATION FINDINGS

4.1 Public Comments (*Rules 4.6*)

The project PDD was posted to the CCBA website for the formal 30-day public comment period from 11 June - 10 July 2019. No comments were received.

4.2 Summary of Project Benefits

The Summary of Project Benefits was completed appropriately. The section 3 (Climate) in the Monitoring Report is adequate and describe the GHG emission reductions associated with the avoided deforestation and degradation estimated, and it is presented with the required relevant

explanation. The Section 4 (Community), including the Matrix for monitoring social impacts in the REDD+ Project area of the RNTAMB and the PNBS-MDD, in Monitoring Report, contains the community impacts, showing the component, indicator, entity in charge, frequency and methodology. Additionally, the biodiversity impacts (Section 5) describes the biodiversity changes and the monitored data is included.

ICONTEC confirmed that all claims made are supported with adequate evidence. In this sense, the project benefits are credible, according the documents and additional information provided by the project proponent and the evidence received during the onsite visit from stakeholders interviewed, data checked and field records. In conclusion, the auditor agrees that the continuation of the project activities is in way to ensure the maintenance benefits.

4.3 General

1.1.1 Implementation Status (G3.4, CL1.5)

Section 2.2 of the Monitoring Report provides adequately the understanding of the implementation status of the project, including the milestones in the projects development and implementation. In general, the project activity has been implemented as according to the description presented in the registered PD. The project activity is completely operational and the same has been confirmed on-site.

ICONTEC auditor reviewed the monitoring report and confirms, by means of comparison with the information given in the registered PD, that the project information gathered during the site visit and the description of the implementation status of the project activity is in line with the applicable provisions of the standard. According to this, as required by the monitoring plan, the applied methodology and VCS/CCB requirements, the project proponent successfully monitors the parameters to determine the emissions reduction and parameters for community and biodiversity monitoring, therefore, ICONTEC considers monitoring plan is whole and appropriate.

Also, the auditor confirms, through the visual inspection that all physical features of the proposed VCS/CCB project activity including data collecting, analyzing and storage systems have been implemented in accordance with the registered PD and the monitoring plan validated.

ICONTEC confirmed, to the best of his understanding that the GHG emission reductions generated by the project have not become included in an emissions trading program or any other mechanism that includes GHG allowance trading.

There are no material discrepancies between the actual monitoring system, and the monitoring plan set out in the project description and the applied methodology. Furthermore, the project has not received or sought any other form of environmental credit, and has not become eligible to do so since validation or verification, in addition, the project has not participated or been rejected by any other GHG program.

4.3.1 Risks to the Project (G3.5)

The assess to the accuracy of the likely natural and human-induced risks to the expected climate, community, and biodiversity benefits, during the project lifetime, identified by the project, include

the assessment of information that support the possible risk identified by project proponent. The project proponent considered five risk categories. Section 2.2.5 in the monitoring report addresses the mitigation measures taken in this verification period.

The document signals the possible risks that may affect the benefits of the project and identify the measures needed to mitigate these risks. The following risk are identified:

Climate: Alteration of agroforestry production cycles; decreased productivity of agroforestry and chestnut systems; alteration of reproduction patterns of fish and game fauna; decrease in food available for wildlife; all this, as a consequence of climate change.

Lands and resources: Invasion of lands by migrants and superposition of concessions or rights of different land uses and possible disputes for this cause and for doubtful possession of the land in the buffer zone.

Considering this information, was evaluated the risk management proposal and the mitigation measures, together with the capacity of AIDER in sense with the compliance on prevention, checking, perform actions, monitoring and evaluation of actions related to the project benefits and risks.

During the onsite visit, the auditor was able to check the mitigation activities. In this way, the onsite visit included the visit of the cocoa agroforestry systems and interviews whit some community members. In addition, the visit combines the visit to the farming with the cocoa processing and preparation facilities for export (see section 2.5 in this report).

ICONTEC evaluated the risk assessment undertaken by the project proponent and assessed all assumptions, justifications and documentation provided by the project proponent to support the risk to the project. The information included in the MR was confirmed and is consistent with the risk assessment. In consequence, the auditor concludes that the project proponent identified adequately the risk to the project benefits and implement the measures created to mitigate those risks.

4.3.2 Enhancement of High Conservation Values (G3.6)

By reviewing the information and the interviews with the project proponent, the auditor confirmed that the evaluation about the actions needed or implemented to ensure the maintenance or enhancement of the high conservation value attributes identified in the project description was assessed and is complete.

The project give technical and operational support to the staff and members of the management committees of the Tambopata National Reserve and the Bahuaja-Sonene National Park (chiefs, specialists, park rangers, presidents and committee members), regarding the research priorities for the management (promotion of research oriented to the management of the NPA, granting facilities in terms of procedures for authorizations of research and logistic support), and monitoring of biological diversity and human activities, for the adequate management of resources under management such as tourism, chestnut harvesting, hunting fauna, fishing and gathering other non-timber products such as "misa" (*Couratari sp.*) or lianas such as "tamishi" (*Thoracocarpus sp* and *Heteropsis sp*).

All those aspects described were confirmed, through interviews with those in charge of the project area and in the field visit. In consequence, the auditor deems that the project proponent has been implemented enough measures to maintain the HCVs in the project area and the results of the project activities developed confirm the success of the proposed measures in this sense. The actions to ensure the maintenance or enhancement of the high conservation value attributes are consistent with the precautionary principle.

4.3.3 Benefit Permanence (G3.7)

By reviewing, the measures needed and included in the monitoring report and interviews with the project proponent, the assessment of the actions needed or implemented to maintain and enhance the climate, community and biodiversity benefits beyond the project lifetime was carried out.

The information about the work of communication and awareness of the project, the role of the PNA properly understood by the population, conceptualizing them as a reserve of resources; in the same way, they have an adequate knowledge of the property of the State over the NPA. Consequently, at the end of the life cycle of the project, the surface of the NPA (RNTAMB and PNBS - Madre de Dios area) will be duly physically and legally sanitized, which will facilitate its management as well as the resolution of possible possession conflicts.

Through the improved control and surveillance system, and the biological monitoring system already implemented improve the management of the PNA.

The project, through the Management Committee, will participate in the Territorial Organization of Madre de Dios, which serve as an instrument for an adequate management of the territory inside and outside the project area and will transcend its life cycle. The auditor spoke with the chairman of the Committee and understood the mission and developments of the committee.

All those activities are included in the monitoring report involving the objectives and information related. The confirmation of those affirmations consisted in documentary review and interviews with the project proponent, checking the associated evidence and by means of discussions with the community members.

4.3.4 Stakeholder Engagement (G3.8 – G3.9)

Section 2.3 of the MR adequately addresses how the project information is made available. Work continues with the Management Committee of the Tambopata National Reserve as a space for consultation and presentation of the project. The document of internal communication strategies for the communities of Palma Real, Sonene and Infierno, prepared and previously reported, continues to be a consultation document to support the management of communities for community decision making, under agreed agreements.

During the on-site visit, the auditor was able to confirm the stakeholder's involvement, through the interviews and meetings conducted with the members of management committee, the chief of the PNA and other community members. In this way, based on on-site interviews, the auditor confirmed that these communication and consultation activities are carried out in accordance with the stakeholder's consultation plan and project implementation.

ICONTEC confirmed that the results of the project have been available to the actors interested in different meetings maintained with them, the SERNANP know this information as we prepare quarterly reports with the advances of the activities in the project. The project proponent provides the linked information with the distribution of project information (See folder Appendix1_ActivityReport2017-2018).

4.3.5 Stakeholder Grievance Redress Procedure (G3.10)

According the information, in order to continue supporting the management and resolution of conflicts in communities and/or surrounding populations, were trained in the subject of "Biological monitoring, human activities and management of socio - environmental conflicts for good management of the protected natural area", those activities account with the participation of park rangers from the Tambopata National Reserve and specialists from AIDER.

During the onsite visit, the auditor confirmed that the project proponent maintains a direct relationship with the communities, located in the project area, and has created mechanisms for handling any potential conflicts and grievances.

ICONTEC concludes that the grievance resolution process complies with each requirement of G3.10. The process is defined in a manner consistent with G3.10, and reasonable time limits have been specified for each stage.

4.3.6 Worker Relations (G4.3 – G4.6)

According the information presented by the project proponent, and evidenced in onsite visit, by mean of discussions with the community members, training activities were carried out, as presented in section 2.4.2 of the monitoring report.

The permanent team of the project will perform technical and administrative management tasks; however, activities to reduce deforestation emissions will be directly executed by the local population. From their participation as community park rangers, in the implementation of conservation agreements and sustainable economic activities, men and women will obtain significant economic, social and environmental benefits, including indigenous peoples.

During the verification period, 9 relevant modifications have been made regarding the labor legislation in Peru. The auditor reviewed also some documentation about this legislation. In summary, the assessment allowed conclude that the project is in compliance with all relevant laws and regulations regarding worker's rights and workers are informed of their rights (See section 2.4. MR and documentation related to).

4.3.7 Technical and Management Capacity (G4.2, G4.7)

The auditor has been able to confirm that exist enough evidence related to technical and management capacity and best practices by the project participants. Is relevant the experience of AIDER and people in charge of the PNA, in order to carry out the project activities and the monitoring. The auditor assessed, during the onsite visit, the skills of the personal involved in the project activities, evaluating that they have the suitable and appropriate technical and management capacity to execute and monitoring the project activities. The project team is

maintaining the key technical and management skills required to implement the project successfully.

In line with the financial health of AIDER and partners, for project implementation, is clear and evidenced that with their management capacity and the support of the project's base team, AIDER is able to reach different organizations and execute agreements with the park government. Those agreements allowed the project to achieve its goals and objectives, in addition to contributing to the development of activities in the project area. In this way, AIDER has strengthened its capacity to manage resources and has a good alliance with the park government, so the project has adequate financial resources to continue with its implementation.

4.3.8 Legal Status (G5.1)

The legal aspects of the project and all relevant laws are listed, analyzed and described adequately in Project Description. Additionally, in the Monitoring Report there is a complete explanation about the changes to all the pre-existed laws. Several of the laws and regulations remain in force since the preparation of the PDD. Further; the amendments, updates and new laws that have been enacted since the beginning of the Project Verifications have been incorporated into the Project Implementation Reports – PIR.

In this verification period (07-2017 to 12-2018), the following law was approved under the environmental theme: Law N° 30884 "Law that regulates the plastic of a single use and the containers or disposable containers". Promulgated on December 8, 2018.

Compliance with the regulatory framework was assessed, and no incompliance was detected during the verification process.

4.3.9 Rights Protection and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (G5.3-G5.5)

This indicator was discussed in the PDD and has not changed since the former verification. This is the sixth verification for VCS and the fifth verification for CCB. The project area is a national reserve and a national park, property of the Peruvian government. However, AIDER has a Participatory Consultation Plan to continue reinforcing the process with the native communities and other stakeholders involved in the project.

Because the project activity is located in the PNA, the project activities do not lead to the involuntary removal or relocation or property rights holders from their lands or territories, and does not force them to relocate activities important to their culture or livelihood.

According to information provided by the project proponent and confirmed during the onsite visit, the project protects the rights of Indigenous Peoples, communities and other stakeholders in accordance to the Climate, Community & Biodiversity Standards and the validated project design.

4.3.10 Identification of Illegal Activities (G5.5)

The illegal activities that could affect the project's climate, community or biodiversity benefits were correctly described in the monitoring report. Illegal activities in the project area may include illegal

gold mining, illegal extraction of wood, burns, expansion of the agricultural frontier and agricultural invasion of areas with another type of land use.

As explained in the MR, the project team actively works in the promotion of productive alternatives to these activities, which help to generate equal or higher income to producers, through innovations that minimize environmental impact as well as through the promotion of new environmentally friendly activities. In addition, the project increased control and surveillance actions, not only by increasing the human, technical and financial resources available to the RNTAMB, but also by supporting the implementation of the Community Monitoring Plan. In this regard, special emphasis was placed on the areas identified as critical because of the high threat of illegal activities.

By crosschecking and the interviews during the onsite visit, the auditor confirmed the actions taken and measures implemented by the project proponent to reduce illegal activities that could affect the project's impacts.

4.4 Climate

4.4.1 Accuracy of GHG Emission Reduction and Removal Calculations

ICONTEC was able to confirm that the equations, sources, assumptions, parameters and statistical procedures, meet the methodological and standard requirements. Procedures for quantifying the baseline emissions, the project emissions, leakage and emissions reductions were carried out in accordance with the applied methodology.

Also, ICONTEC assessed the total calculations for evaluate accuracy of the results for baseline emissions, project emissions, leakage and emission removals. In this sense, all data, conversion factors, formulas and calculations were provided by the project proponent, in spread sheet format, to guarantee all calculations were accessible for review.

All data, parameters and calculations were assessed by the ICONTEC auditor, including interviews with the person in charge of processing the data, in order to identify possible human errors.

The auditor checked whether the monitoring parameters related to the GHG emission reduction in the project has been used in accordance with the monitoring plan contained in the project description (PROJ_DESC_1067_24MAY2012). The PD and MR have been checked for consistency. Also, the auditor conducted a full assessment of data collection and storage procedures to ensure all opportunities for error in transposition of data between data were minimized. Uncertainty was assessed as required. Moreover, the auditor reviewed the statistics parameters and the sampling plan to confirm the accuracy of the precision reported by the project proponent.

The data and parameters monitored are presented in the Table 4. The auditor, by crosschecking, verified the accuracy of GHG emission reductions and removals, including accuracy of spreadsheet formulae, conversions and aggregations, and consistent use of the data and parameters. In addition, the auditor confirmed the appropriateness of any default values used in

the monitoring report. In conclusion, the spreadsheet formulae, conversions and aggregations are accurate and provide reliable results.

Table 5: Data and parameter monitored

Data/parameter	Data unit	Value	File
Forest cover monitoring map for the project area	ha	541,463.86	Spreadsheet – Emisiones del Py REDD-Jul2017_dic2018_29072019
Forest cover monitoring map for the leakage belt	ha	189,948.23	Spreadsheet - Emisiones del Py REDD-Jul2017_dic2018_29072019
Area of recorded deforestation in the project area in stratum i converted to land use u at time t ($A_{DefPA,i,u,t}$)	ha	144.54	Spreadsheet - Emisiones del Py REDD-Jul2017_dic2018_29072019
Area of recorded deforestation in the leakage belt in stratum i converted to land use u at time t ($A_{DefLB,i,u,t}$)	ha	2212.71	Spreadsheet - Emisiones del Py REDD-Jul2017_dic2018_29072019
Area potentially impacted by degradation processes in stratum i ($A_{DegW,i}$)	ha	15,072.36	Spreadsheet - Emisiones del Py REDD-Jul2017_dic2018_29072019
Area impacted by natural disturbance in the project stratum i converted to natural disturbance stratum q at time t ; ha ($A_{DistPA,q,i,t}$)	ha	0	Spreadsheet - Emisiones del Py REDD-Jul2017_dic2018_29072019
Total of burnt areas within the project area for the monitoring period ($A_{burn,i,t}$)	ha	18.49	Spreadsheet - Emisiones del Py REDD-Jul2017_dic2018_29072019
Total available national forest area (TOTFOR)	ha	1,799,515	PDD
Total area of fully protected forests nationally (PROTFOR)	ha	138,532	PDD

Data/parameter	Data unit	Value	File
Total area of forests under active management nationally (MANFOR)	ha	1,043,273	PDD
Estimated proportion of baseline deforestation caused by population that has been resident for ≥5 years (PROPRES)	Proportion	0.813	PDD

By the other hand, in order to confirm whether the methods and formulae set out in the project description for calculating baseline emissions, project emissions and leakage have been followed, the auditor carried out a review of the data and parameter available at validation (Table 5).

Table 6: Data and parameters available at validation

Data /Parameter	Data unit	Value																								
Forest / Non Forest Cover Regional Map	-	-																								
Net greenhouse gas emissions in the baseline from unplanned deforestation ($\Delta CBS_{L,unplanned}$)	t CO ₂ e	482,322.1																								
Area of stratum (i A _i)	Ha	Table 25 (PD pg. 65) <table><tr><td>Stratum</td><td>Area (ha)</td></tr><tr><td>Mixed aguajal</td><td>29,405.04</td></tr><tr><td>Floodable alluvial</td><td>150.428,17</td></tr><tr><td>Strong steep-high hill</td><td>24.792,88</td></tr><tr><td>Soft steep-high hill</td><td>17.164,44</td></tr><tr><td>Strong steep-low hill</td><td>7.302,52</td></tr><tr><td>Soft steep-low hill</td><td>6.707,01</td></tr><tr><td>High terrace</td><td>45.126,19</td></tr><tr><td>Low terrace</td><td>124,892.37</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly dissected terrace</td><td>24,123.65</td></tr><tr><td>Softly dissected terrace</td><td>111,695.87</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>541,620.14</td></tr></table>	Stratum	Area (ha)	Mixed aguajal	29,405.04	Floodable alluvial	150.428,17	Strong steep-high hill	24.792,88	Soft steep-high hill	17.164,44	Strong steep-low hill	7.302,52	Soft steep-low hill	6.707,01	High terrace	45.126,19	Low terrace	124,892.37	Strongly dissected terrace	24,123.65	Softly dissected terrace	111,695.87	Total	541,620.14
Stratum	Area (ha)																									
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Softly dissected terrace	111,695.87																									
Total	541,620.14																									
Total area deforested during the historical reference period in the RRD. ($ARRD_{L,unplanned,hrg}$)	Ha	The value applied is shown in Annex 23 "Estimation of unplanned deforestation in the baseline scenario" and Baseline and case of the project.xls "Table15" worksheet																								
Carbon fraction of dry matter (CF)	t C ⁻¹ t d.m.	0.5																								
Allometric equation for species j linking measured tree variable(s) to aboveground biomass of living trees (fj (x,y))	t d.m. tree ⁻¹	Allometric equation to estimate above-ground tree biomass $Y = \exp[-2.289 + 2.649 * \ln(DAP) - 0.021 * (\ln(DAP))^2]$ Species "cetico" (<i>Cecropia</i> sp.) $Y = 12.764 + 0.2588 * (DAP)^{2.0515}$ Species "ungurahul" (<i>Oenocarpus batua</i>) $Y = 23.487 + 41.851 * (\ln(Ht))^2$ Species "huasal" (<i>Euterpe precatoria</i>) $Y = 6.666 + 12.826 * H^{0.5} * \ln(Ht)$ Above-ground palm tree biomass $Y = 10.0 + 6.4 * Ht$ Above-ground vines biomass Biomass = $\exp(0.12 + 0.91 * \log(BA \text{ at dbh}))$																								

		Allometric equation to estimate above-ground in "aguaje" (<i>Mauritia flexuosa</i>) $Y = 0.00006 * (Ht)^3 + 0.0046 * (Ht)^2 - 0.043 * (Ht) + 0.1259$
Root to shoot ratio appropriate to species or forest type / biome.(R)	t root d.m. t ⁻¹ shoot d.m.	0.37
Combustion factor for stratum i (vegetation type)	Dimension less	0.5
Combustion emissions factor for i stratum and g gas - source of data (G gi)	Dimension less	6.80 for CH ₄ and 0,20 for N ₂ O in tropical forest
Carbon stock in aboveground biomass in trees in the project case in stratum i $C_{AB,tree,i}$	t CO ₂ -e ha ⁻¹	195,297,615.1
Carbon stock in belowground biomass in trees in the project case in stratum i $C_{BB,tree,i}$	t CO ₂ -e ha ⁻¹	52,361,481.32

Finally, all fixed parameters are in compliance with the applied methodology, PD and MR. The GHG monitoring system is included and integrated in the management system of the project and it could be evidenced and confirmed during site visit that GHG management system is completely implemented. All procedures are implemented and consider the GHG monitoring. During interview with the project proponent expert team, procedures were provided and assessed.

On the other hand, ICONTEC has been confirmed that field data collection applied the adequate methods and principles of forestry data collection. Collected data was handled appropriately, including a structured process for quality check. Analysis of collected data used appropriate formulas and parameters. The monitored data for required parameters have been verified by ICONTEC and have been found complete, reliable and consistent by checking the whole procedure for data aggregation.

In consequence, ICONTEC considers that the process of data collection, management, transfer, storage and reporting was carried out in compliance with the monitoring plan, the PD and the applied methodology, and it was reliable and transparent. In addition, the auditor considers that the default values used in the monitoring report are appropriately applied.

4.4.2 Quality of Evidence to Determine GHG Emission Reductions and Removals

The auditor checked relevant assumptions by reviewing regional and international documents in order to confirm the applicability of the parameters and estimations. The documents were completely reviewed, and the auditor concludes that the source and accuracy of the parameters was good enough to be included as part of the project calculations. In this sense, the assessment allowed to confirm the sufficiency of quantity, and appropriateness of quality, of the evidence.

Procedure undertaken to estimate the Net GHG removals is clear and the explanation of the procedure carried out for estimation has been provided in the Monitoring Report. The auditor considers that the project proponent correctly identified and applied the methodology and relevant tools to calculate the net GHG emissions reduction from the project. In addition, concluded that the assumptions and sources of data were conservative and well selected after reviewing the supporting documents provided by the project proponent. All risks were assessed according to the development of other projects in Perú and by reviewing all legal documents provided by AIDER.

In regard to procedures in the correspondent requirement of VCS/CCB Standard and applied methodology, ICONTEC confirms the following statements:

- a) All relevant assumptions and data are listed in the project description and monitoring report, including their references and sources.
- b) All data and parameter values used in the monitoring report are considered reasonable in the context of the project.
- c) All estimates of the baseline emissions can be replicated using the data and parameter values provided in the monitoring report.

Based on the information detailed in MR and the estimations tools and files, ICONTEC could confirm that the sources used are quoted correctly and interpreted adequately. All assumptions, sources and data are indicated and, all relevant information about the project, was confirmed and checked completely. In consequence, we can conclude that the methodology was applied following all the requirements, equations and methodological procedures.

Finally, the methodology and any referenced tools have been applied correctly to calculate baseline emissions, project emissions, leakage and net GHG emission reductions. Agreeing to that, ICONTEC confirms that the GHG removals have been quantified correctly, in accordance with the Project Description version 1.1, the Monitoring Report v.2 and the applied methodology.

4.4.3 Non-Permanence Risk Analysis

The project proponent determined the risk factors through a qualitative analysis, following the guidance of the VCS AFOLU Non Permanence Risk Tool and providing enough evidence and documentation. ICONTEC evaluated the risk assessment undertaken by the project proponent and assessed all data, rationales, assumptions, justifications and documentation provided by the project proponent to support the non-permanence risk rating.

Below, it is explained the assessment of the non-permanence risk rating determined by the project participant and issues raised to them in this regard.

Table 7: Assessment of non-permanence risk rating

Risk factor	Risk	Risk rating	Risk factor and/or mitigation description	Corrective Actions/Clarifications
Internal Risks				
Emission Reductions	(e) Mitigation: Management team	-2	The project proponent has a multidisciplinary team with	No Corrective Actions Requests or

Risk factor	Risk	Risk rating	Risk factor and/or mitigation description	Corrective Actions/Clarifications
	includes individuals with significant experience Management team includes individuals with significant experience in AFOLU project design and implementation, carbon accounting and reporting (e.g., individuals who have successfully managed projects through validation, verification and issuance of GHG credits) under the VCS Program or other approved GHG programs.		significant experience in the implementation and development of REDD projects. The auditor reviewed the C.V. of the technical team of AIDER. The risk rating is justified	Clarifications
Financial Viability	g) Project has secured 40% to less than 80% of funding needed to cover the total cash out required before the project reaches breakeven	1	According the analysis and evidence presented by the project proponent, the project has secured 40% to less than 80% of funding needed to cover the total cash out required before the project reaches breakeven point. The risk rating is justified.	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications
	i) Mitigation: Project has available as callable financial resources at least 50% of total cash out before project reaches breakeven	-2	The information given by the project proponent and reviewed by the ICONTEC auditor, support adequately the score. The risk rating is justified.	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications
Opportunity Cost	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	The baseline activities are agriculture, livestock and mining. It is not possible to calculate the NPV of baseline activities. Considering that, this factor is assigned a score of eight (8), for being the most conservative value. In consequence, this risk rating is justified.	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications
	g) Mitigation: Project proponent is a non-profit organization	-2	AIDER is a non-profit organization The risk rating is justified	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications
	h) Mitigation: Project is protected by legally binding commitment to continue management practices that protect the credited carbon stocks over the length of the project crediting period (see project	-2	According the information and evidence, the project is included in contract for administration of Tambopata National Reserve. ICONTEC auditor checked the documents and has been confirmed through onsite interviews. The risk rating is justified.	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications

Risk factor	Risk	Risk rating	Risk factor and/or mitigation description	Corrective Actions/Clarifications
	longevity)			
Project Longevity	(a) With legal agreement or requirement to continue the management practice	30 – 40/2 = 10	The project has a life cycle of 40 years, with a legal agreement. The risk rating is justified.	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications
External Risks				
Land and resource tenure	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	The project area is a NPA and they are declared, in perpetually, according to Law No. 26834. The risk rating is justified.	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications
	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	0	The data qualified as “-2” was indicated in the table as an error. The qualification in the table was changed to “0”.	CAR 3 In section 2 of the Word document "Risk Report", in the table entitled "Land Tenure and Resource Access/Impact", row "g)" indicates that this section is not applicable, however, in the Excel table corresponding to this information, it appears qualified as -2. CAR 3 is closed
	CAR 5 In section 2 of the "Risk Report" Word document, in the table entitled "Land Tenure and Resource Access/Impact", the sum of the classifications is not correct, which influences the total result of the risk analysis. The qualification in the table was changed, as was indicated in CAR3, it is so that the calculation has not changed, and it continue being “0”. CAR 5 is closed			
Community Engagement	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	5	The project proponent applied consultations in 9 of 53 identified populations outside the project boundaries. The risk rating is justified.	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications
	c) Mitigation: The project generates net positive impacts on the social and economic well- being of the local communities who derive livelihoods from	-5	Indeed, the project generates total positive impacts on social and economic aspects of the communities; by productive activities in communities located in the buffer zone, which generate economic and social	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications

Risk factor	Risk	Risk rating	Risk factor and/or mitigation description	Corrective Actions/Clarifications
	the project area		benefits to the surrounding population. The socio-economic potential impacts are documented and it was verified. The risk rating is justified.	
Political Risk	c) Governance score of -0.32 to less than 0.19	2	From the governance indicators scoring, Perú has an average score of -0.16. Political risk was evaluated through the review of sources such as Governance score estimated for Colombia is -0.16 – worldwide governance indicators issued by the World Bank. https://databank.worldbank.org/source/worldwide-governance-indicators# The risk rating is justified.	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications
	f) Mitigation: Country implementing REDD+ Readiness or other activities such as: a) The country is receiving REDD+ Readiness funding from the FCPF, UN-REDD or other bilateral or multilateral donors b) The country is participating in the CCBA/CARE REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards Initiative c) The jurisdiction in which the project is located is participating in the Governors' Climate and Forest Taskforce d) The country has an established national FSC or PEFC standards body e) The country has an established DNA under the CDM and has at least one registered CDM A/R project	-2	Peru is part of the REDD+ Readiness process financed by the World Bank. The risk rating is justified.	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications
Natural risk				
(a) Fire (F)		0	No Loss. AIDER developed the communal plan of burning.	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications
(b) Pest and Disease Outbreaks (PD)		1	According to National Agrarian Health Service, the project zone is an endemic area of some fungi, bacteria and insect species.	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications

Risk factor	Risk	Risk rating	Risk factor and/or mitigation description	Corrective Actions/Clarifications
(c) Extreme Weather (W)		0	No Loss	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications
(d) Geological Risk (G)		0	No Loss	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications
(e) Other natural risk (ON1)		0	Not Applicable	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications
(f) Other natural risk (ON2)		0	Not Applicable	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications
(g) Other natural risk (ON3)		0	Not Applicable	No Corrective Actions Requests or Clarifications

The document and support for each risk factor applicable to the project were verified, including any relevant evidence. By reviewing, an assessment of the quality of documentation and data provided to support the risk score was realized, in terms of the auditing process.

The Risk rating resulting is the following: (a) Internal Risk 16; (b) External Risk 0 and Natural Risk 0 for a total of 13%. ICONTEC confirmed the adequate use of the documentation and support for the calculation, in consequence, the appropriateness of the risk rating. Considering this risk of 13%, the total buffer credits estimated for the total project to be put in the buffer account correspond to 131,233 tCO₂e.

4.4.4 Dissemination of Climate Monitoring Plan and Results (CL3.2)

Through interviews with the relevant project team, the auditor confirms that the project proponent account with a complete framework for dissemination of the project to communities and other stakeholders. Monitoring Plans and all documents and information about the results of the monitoring and verification of this project were published in the platforms of VERRA, as usual. Additionally, the project owners prepare summaries of the monitoring plan and results to be communicated to the communities and other stakeholders.

4.4.5 Optional Gold Level: Climate Change Adaptation Benefits (GL1.4)

Agreeing the PD and the MR, the project proponent, to reduce the vulnerability of crop yields, agroforestry systems have been developed with a predominance of polycultures, decreasing the susceptibility to pests and diseases to which they could be prone if they were monocultures, chords to the reality of the region, considering the following:

- Sowing in soils with good drainage and adequate topography to avoid puddles
- Location of the plots in areas with little risk of fires, free of weeds or far from pastures to avoid the aggressive continuity of the fire

- Non-use of agrochemicals, such as pesticides, herbicides and chemical fertilizers prohibited by organic agriculture
- An adequate distribution of shade and forest trees during the establishment of the agroforestry system to protect against variations in extreme temperatures and strong winds.
- In this way, we seek to establish agroforestry systems adapted to the effects of climate change and that generate positive impacts on the quality of life of the population involved, and be biological micro-corridors in the buffer zone and the NPA.
- In addition, a monitoring system with trap cameras was implemented in the cocoa plots.

In addition, there is a procedure established for the incorporation of beneficiaries in the project activities, particularly in the agroforestry component, which consists of an admissibility format, which specifies the criteria considered.

During this vintage, the implementation of agroforestry systems continues to be one of the alternatives promoted as a mechanism to adapt to climate change. Thus, as part of the implementation of sustainable productive activities for producers and / or native communities that settle in the buffer zone of the RNTAMB. Work continued on the implementation of agroforestry plots based on the cultivation of organic chuncho cocoa for export, as well as the strengthening of the Cooperativa Agraria de Servicios Múltiples Tambopata Candamo.

ICONTEC, during the onsite, the auditor visited the agroforestry plots. It was confirmed that AIDER gives continuous technical support for success results to assist communities to adapt to the probable impacts on climate change. The visit was accompanied by Gilberto Vera and Cirilo Sanchez (COOPASER President), who completely explained the developed activities in this aspect. In conclusion, the implemented activities support the achievement of the objectives proposed in respect with Climate Change Adaptation.

4.5 Community

4.5.1 Community Impacts (CM1.1)

According the information described and verified in on-site visit, the activities implemented for the period 2017 - 2018 are: association of agricultural producers, Chestnut producing families, strengthening of community surveillance with native communities and monitoring of tourist trails in the Tambopata Park. The onsite visit included a route among the Tambopata National Reserve with the AIDER team (biological and forestry specialists) to verify the biodiversity condition and look at the Castañas trees (*Bertholletia excelsa*) as a part of the sustainable REDD+ Program with smaller producers from communities. The auditor confirmed that the descriptions contained in the MR are accurate. In this sense, interviews were also held with project proponent who entirely described the circumstances described.

ICONTEC could confirm the well-being information about descriptions of the communities at the start of the project and any significant community changes in the past. In conclusion, the explanation responds sufficiently to the requirement.

4.5.2 Net Positive Community Well-being (CM1.1)

According to the explanation in the monitoring report, the impacts of the activities carried out during the verification period have been in favor of the populations and communities that benefit from the project, as long as they meet the objectives of the standard.

The net effects expected due to project activities include strengthening of the governance of resources, the organizational strengthening, the development of sustainable productive activities and the increase of control and surveillance will generate positive impacts on the actors inside and outside the project site

By reviewing the related documentation, and the description in the MR, the auditor confirmed that the anticipated net well-being impacts of the project are predicted to be positive for all identified community groups in the project area. Though on-site visit, the auditor interviewed local community members who confirmed these statements.

The impacts assessment was realized with an appropriate methodology. The MR includes the impacts from the project on the community. The explanation responds adequately to the requirement, and the assessment of impacts is accurate. ICONTEC concludes that the project's anticipated net well-being impacts are expected to be positive, compared with their anticipated well-being conditions under the without-project land use scenario.

4.5.3 Protection of High Conservation Values (CM1.2)

No negative effects have been evidenced as a result of project activities in any of the high conservation values, on the contrary, the activities have had a positive impact. The project has never restricted the pre-existing use rights within the project area, such as its right to hunting, fishing and chestnut extraction, but rather, it is favoring economic development and the promotion of culture. This is adequately explained in section 4.1.3 (MR) Protection of High Conservation Values. The auditor evaluated the accuracy of the information and considers that this is valid and adequate. In order to that, the assessment allowed conclude that all activities that reinforce cultural identity and the importance of natural resources have led to the generation of positive impacts as a result of the implementation of the project.

4.5.4 Other Stakeholder Impacts (CM2.2-CM2.3)

No negative impact on stakeholders expected. However, the project proponent proposes the mitigation of negative impacts on off-site actors, based on strengthening the governance of resources, organizational strengthening and the implementation of sustainable productive activities. During this monitoring period, no negative impacts were anticipated or identified on the communities neighboring the project.

4.5.5 Community Monitoring Plan (CM3.1, CM3.2, GL2.5)

The project proponent explains the results of monitoring to the communities and other stakeholders. The Matrix for monitoring social impacts in the REDD + project area of the RNTAMB and the PNBS - MDD comprises 3 mains components: Governance (15 indicators), economic (11 indicators), environmental (5 indicators), gender (6 indicators) and social (7

indicators). The auditor has been able to confirm that the community impact monitoring has been carried out in accordance with the project's validated design and the monitoring plan. The community monitoring was carried out during the whole period, in accordance with the plan.

The monitoring seeks to measure direct impacts on the communities through indicators based on products, results or impacts established in the project's theory of change. The ICONTEC auditor evaluated the analysis undertaken by the project proponent and assessed all community variables monitored, the dates, frequency and if methods used are in accordance with the validated project design. Moreover, the results of monitoring, including data, assumptions, justifications and documentation provided by the project proponent to support the valuation of community monitoring.

4.5.6 Community Monitoring Plan Dissemination (CM3.3)

The auditor confirms that AIDER has a complete framework for dissemination of the project to communities. This ensures direct communication with the community including a feedback tool that generates improvements for the project and the community.

Through interviews with the relevant project team, the auditor confirms that the project proponent account with a complete framework for dissemination of the project to communities and other stakeholders. Monitoring Plans and all documents and information about the results of the monitoring and verification of this project were published in the platforms of VERRA, as usual. Additionally, the project owners prepare summaries of the monitoring plan and results to be communicated to the communities and other stakeholders.

4.5.7 Optional Gold Level: Barriers to Benefits (GL2.3)

Not applicable.

The project does not seek to be validated at the Gold Level for exceptional benefits of the community.

4.5.8 Optional Gold Level: Protections for Poorer and the more Vulnerable (GL2.4)

Not applicable.

The project does not seek to be validated at the Gold Level for exceptional benefits of the community.

4.6 Biodiversity

4.6.1 Biodiversity Changes (B1.1)

Project proponent describe the biodiversity changes and the Integrated Monitoring System, which includes the monitoring of the conservation objects of both natural protected areas and provides important information for making decisions and therefore ensuring the permanence of diversity and continuity of ecological processes within the NPA.

The results of the monitoring impacts on biodiversity are adequately explained in the monitoring report and documentation annexed (Appendix 7 and Appendix 8). According to that, the project proponent describes the potential changes in biodiversity, including assessment of direct and indirect impacts, resulting from project activities in the project area and over the project lifetime, using appropriate methodologies to recognize the expected impacts for each biodiversity element identified in the project description and monitoring plan.

The information, supported by site inspections, according the field visit of some project sites, in the area included in the project boundary, confirmed the affirmations regarding the conditions in the biodiversity changes. In addition, the interviews with the AIDER team has been conducted observing the information and descriptions. The auditor concludes the adequate response to the requirement, including the accuracy and appropriateness of monitored data.

4.6.2 High Conservation Values Protected (B1.2)

No negative effects have been evidenced as a result of project activities in any of the high conservation values, this is effectively clarified in the monitoring report. Conversely, the project activities comprise 4 project strategies to maintain the High Conservation Values in the project area, so that the creation objectives of the NPA are met: (a) Conservation agreements; (b) Promotion of productive activities; (c) Surveillance and control, and, (d) Forest governance. Also, the project includes activities in which the management of HCVs is involved: tourism, use of Brazil nuts and management in “Pampas del Heath”.

The auditor evaluated the accuracy of the information and considers that this is valid and adequate. In order to that, during onsite visit the results of the biodiversity monitoring was discussed in depth. The monitoring procedures were reviewed. The onsite visit did not give cause of serious concern to negative biodiversity impacts of the project activity.

4.6.3 Invasive Species (B1.3)

The non-native species used by the project activities (in the agroforestry plots) are: *Pueraria phaseoloides*, *Stizolobium deeringianum* and some fruit species (*Ananas comosus* and *Citrus* sp.). In the on-site visit, the auditor could observe the agroforestry systems and the species used. None of used species is classified as an invasive species according to the categorization suggested by the official documentation in the GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE (ISSG: <http://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/>).

In conclusion, by reviewing the pertinent documentation and the observation during the on-site visit, the auditor considers the use of the species by the project consistent with the CCB requirement.

4.6.4 Impacts of Non-native Species (B1.4)

According the information given by the project proponent, the non-native species used in the agroforestry plots does not affect the native flora of the NPA or the buffer zone. There is no negative record of these species in the agroforestry plots and, on the contrary, it should be noted that these species provide both ecological and economic benefits to farmers. In addition, potential

adverse effect there is no known the species. The auditor agrees the use of the species in the project activities.

4.6.5 GMO Exclusion (B1.5)

Giving the information reported by the project proponent, and the auditor assessment, no GMOs are used in the project activities, therefore, the project has not used GMOs to generate emission reductions.

4.6.6 Negative Offsite Biodiversity Impacts and Mitigation (B2.2)

According the information validated and assessed, by crosschecking and interviews in onsite visit, the description in the monitoring report, that explain no negative impacts on the biodiversity of surrounding areas have been evidenced by the implementation of project activities, is accurate and valid.

In consequence, the auditor considers that the project does not generate negative offsite biodiversity impacts and is not necessary to take actions to mitigate the impacts.

4.6.7 Net Biodiversity Benefits (B2.3)

The ICONTEC auditor has able to confirm how AIDER, through the implementation of project activities, has generated positive net impacts in the entire Project Zone, such as sustainable economic activities and the strengthening of the control and surveillance system, executed both inside the NPA and outside it (part of the buffer zone) help to maintain habitats that harbor biodiversity. Outside of the project area, conservation strategies are scarce, allowing deforestation, fragmentation, hunting, mining and other activities to affect natural habitats and in turn the biodiversity they contain.

During the onsite visit, the auditor participated in activities related to monitoring in the project area and the visit to the agroforestry systems in the project zone. The explanation in the documents and the documentary evidence about the biodiversity monitoring is adequate and appropriate. The assessment permits conclude that the net biodiversity impacts of the project are positive.

4.6.8 Biodiversity Monitoring Results (B3.1, B3.2)

The project proponent explains the results of monitoring to the biodiversity in section 5.3.2 of the monitoring report. The auditor has been able to confirm that the biodiversity impact monitoring has been made in accordance with the project's validated design and the monitoring plan.

In this sense, the biodiversity monitoring was carried out during the monitoring period, in accordance with the plan. The results presented in the monitoring report correspond to the comprehensive monitoring system of the RNTAMB and the PNBS in the verification period, that includes the information referred to in the monitoring plan and additional information which is considered important for long-term biodiversity monitoring. The section in the MR, above mentioned, and the complete report titled SMI-2017 report (Appendix 7), demonstrates the accuracy of the dates, frequency, biodiversity variables and sampling methods used, the results

of monitoring and the effectiveness of measures taken to maintain or enhance all identified high conservation values.

The ICONTEC auditor evaluated the analysis undertaken by the project proponent and assessed all biodiversity variables monitored, the dates, frequency and if methods used are in accordance with the validated project design. Moreover, the results of monitoring, including data, assumptions, justifications and documentation provided by the project proponent to support the valuation of biodiversity monitoring. In addition, the auditor confirmed that the plan has used biodiversity indicators that are directly linked to the project's biodiversity objectives.

The project meets the Gold Level for exceptional biodiversity benefits (Vulnerability: Critically endangered and endangered species – presence of at least one individual). Agreeing to criterion GL.3 of the CCB standards v3.1, the project should be demonstrating that the project zone includes a site of high biodiversity conservation priority by meeting either the vulnerability (Critically Endangered (CR) and Endangered (EN) species - presence of at least a single individual; or ii) Vulnerable species (VU) - presence of at least 30 individuals or 10 pairs. In this sense, the project demonstrates that the following focal species are in critical danger of extinction for Perú: *Panthera onca*, *Pteronura brasiliensis* and *Ateles chamek*.

Particularly, in Table 34 (Conservation objects and indicators during the period 2017 and 2018), the project proponent presents the object of conservation, the methodology of monitoring, the indicators and the results of the assessment, e.g. number of individuals sighted and signs found per year, abundancy, density, distribution area. The evaluation includes: *Panthera onca*, *Pteronura brasiliensis* and *Ateles chamek*, among other species. In order to that, the criteria and parameters to monitor is considered, by the auditor, as adequate.

Finally, with the purpose to verify the total compliance with the CCB criteria, the auditor reviewed the IUCN Red List of threatened species (available in <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>). The references to the species, reviewed by the auditor, in the IUCN Red List of threatened species, are the following:

Quigley, H., Foster, R., Petracca, L., Payan, E., Salom, R. & Harmsen, B. 2017. *Panthera onca* (errata version published in 2018). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2017: e.T15953A123791436. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2017-3.RLTS.T15953A50658693.en>. Downloaded on 29 July 2019.

Groenendijk, J., Duplaix, N., Marmontel, M., Van Damme, P. & Schenck, C. 2015. *Pteronura brasiliensis*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2015: e.T18711A21938411. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2015-2.RLTS.T18711A21938411.en>. Downloaded on 29 July 2019.

Wallace, R.B., Mittermeier, R.A., Cornejo, F. & Boubli, J.-P. 2008. *Ateles chamek*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2008: e.T41547A10497375. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2008.RLTS.T41547A10497375.en>. Downloaded on 29 July 2019.

In summary, ICONTEC concludes that the biodiversity monitoring plan meets the requirements of the relevant CCB Standard indicators, including the confirmation of the compliance of the criteria for qualification for the Exceptional Biodiversity Benefits Gold Level.

4.6.9 Biodiversity Monitoring Plan Dissemination (B3.3)

The auditor confirms that AIDER has a complete outline for the dissemination of the project and any results of the monitoring undertaken in accordance with the monitoring plan. The Monitoring Report and all documents and information about the results of the monitoring were published in the platforms of VERRA as usual. See section 5.3.3 in the monitoring report to get more details of project documents dissemination.

4.7 Additional Project Implementation Information

There is no more additional information.

4.8 Additional Project Impact Information

In this section of MR, the project proponent includes the information for the Gold criterion for biodiversity (See section 4.6.8 above).

5 VERIFICATION CONCLUSION

ICONTEC performed the verification of the project “Reduction of Deforestation and Degradation in Tambopata National Reserve and Bahuaja - Sonene National Park within the Area of Madre de Dios Region –Peru”. The verification was performed on the basis of the VCS Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Requirements, 21 March 2018, v3.6 and VCS Standard, Version 3.7. Moreover, based on the Climate, Community & Biodiversity Standards Second Edition (December 2008) and Rules for the Use of the Climate, Community & Biodiversity Standards (December 2013).

The review of the Project Description, the Monitoring Report and the subsequent follow up interviews has provided ICONTEC with sufficient evidence to determine the fulfillment of the stated criteria. The project correctly applies the following methodology: VM0007 REDD+ Methodology Framework (REDD-MF).

The REDD project is implemented in the area comprised by Tambopata National Reserve and Bahuaja-Sonene National Park sector within Madre de Dios region, corresponding to the Partial Administration Contract of TAMBNR and BSNP – Madre de Dios, signed between the Peruvian government and the Association for Research and Integrated Development - AIDER.

The project starting date is July 1, 2010. The average of emission reductions from the project are estimated in 457,750.25 tCO₂e per year over the first ten years of the crediting period. The total estimated net GHG emission reductions (tCO₂e) are 4,577,502.5 (2010 – 2020). The emission reduction forecast has been checked and it is deemed likely that the stated amount is achieved because the underlying assumptions do not change.

In summary, it is ICONTEC’s opinion that the project “Reduction of Deforestation and Degradation in Tambopata National Reserve and Bahuaja - Sonene National Park within the Area

of Madre de Dios Region –Peru”, as described in the Project Description (version 1.1), and the Monitoring Report (v2 – 29/07/2019) meets all relevant AFOLU VCS and CCB requirements. ICONTEC confirms that the project is implemented as described in the validated and registered PD. The project activities, essentials for generating emission reductions are established and managed appropriately. The monitoring system is in place and the project is generating GHG emission reductions as an AFOLU project. The verification was performed based on the requirements set by the VCS Program and relevant guidance provided by VCS and CCB Standard. ICONTEC considers that the project's GHG emissions reductions reported in the Monitoring Report, are fairly stated.

ICONTEC received the information and asked for explanations we deemed necessary to provide enough evidence that the amount of GHG emission and the calculation of the Net GHG emission reductions, based on the Monitoring Report, are fairly stated for the reporting period.

ICONTEC's examination process includes test-based assessments of all evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures of a project's GHG emissions reductions and the calculations of such emissions reductions for the reporting period. After review of all project information, procedures, calculations, supporting documentation and site visits, ICONTEC confirms that the monitoring are accurate and consistent with all aforementioned VCS criteria, the validated PD, and the applied methodology.

In addition, ICONTEC confirms all project activities, including goals, scope and criteria, level of assurance and the MR compliance to the CCB Project Design Standards, Second Edition, as documented in this report are complete. The project is in accordance with Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance, conforming to all requirements, and having reached Climate Change Adaptation Benefits and Exceptional Biodiversity Benefits, whit Gold Level.

ICONTEC concludes without any qualifications or limiting conditions that the GHG emissions removals are calculated without material misstatements. Our opinion applies to the project's GHG emissions and the resulting GHG emissions reductions reported and related to the validated and registered baseline, as well as the monitoring plan and its associated documents.

Verification/monitoring period: From 01-July-2017 to 31-December-2018

Table 8. Verified GHG emission reductions and removals in the above verification period

Year	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)
July – December 2017	334,650.8	34,621	-	300,030
January – June 2018	334,650.8	34,621	-	300,030
July – December 2018	418,538.4	9,113	-	409,425
Total		78,354	-	1,009,486

Considering the risk of 13%, the total buffer credits estimated for the total project to be subtracted to the total net emissions reductions generated, which is the credits reservation for non-permanence risk correspond to 131,233 tCO₂e. In consequence, the data resulting for the sixth verification period is equivalent to 878,253 tCO₂e.

APPENDIX A: VERIFICATION PROTOCOL

Clarifications and corrective action requests	Reference	Summary of project proponent response	Verification conclusion	Auditor
Clarification Request CL1 In the Table included in the section 1.2 (Standardized Benefit Metrics) there are cells with “No data available”. It is not clear. The data is applicable but is not available?	Monitoring Report Template CCB_VCS_Monitoring_Report_Template_CCBv 2.0_VCSv3.4 Monitoring Report CCB_VCS_Monitoring_Report_AIDER REDD+ TambopataBahuaja Jul2017-Dec2018-08.06.19	25/07/2019 The phrase used in the cells was not correct, was made the change for “Not applicable”	29/07/2019 Proponent has properly addressed the Clarification Request. CLOSED	
Clarification Request CL2 The requirement in CCB Standard related to Gold Level in adaptation benefits oblige the project proponent to describe activities and/or processes implemented to assist communities and/or biodiversity to adapt to the probable impacts of climate change. Also, demonstrate that the project activities assisted communities and/or biodiversity to adapt to the probable impacts of climate change. The section is not in accordance with the requirement.	Climate, Community and Biodiversity Project Design Standards SECOND EDITION GL1. Climate Change Adaptation Benefits Monitoring Report Template CCB_VCS_Monitoring_Report_Template_CCBv 2.0_VCSv3.4 Monitoring Report CCB_VCS_Monitoring_Report_AIDER REDD+ TambopataBahuaja Jul2017-Dec2018-08.06.19	28/07/2019 The implemented activities were indicated in the section, also the results of these activities. Some documents that support the activities were attach.	29/07/2019 Proponent has properly addressed the Clarification Request. CLOSED	
Clarification Request CL3 According CCB requirement “All projects conforming to the Standards must demonstrate net positive impacts on biodiversity within their project zone”. In this sense, the project proponent must demonstrate the compliance of meeting either the vulnerability or irreplaceability criteria. The monitoring report template does not include the section related to, however, the project proponent explains the compliance with those criterions in section 7 (Additional project impact information). The section title could be changed like Exceptional Biodiversity Benefits.	Climate, Community and Biodiversity Project Design Standards SECOND EDITION GL3. Exceptional Biodiversity Benefits Monitoring Report Template CCB_VCS_Monitoring_Report_Template_CCBv 2.0_VCSv3.4 Monitoring Report CCB_VCS_Monitoring_Report_AIDER REDD+ TambopataBahuaja Jul2017-Dec2018-08.06.19	25/07/2019 The title for the section has being change with the recommended title	29/07/2019 Proponent has properly addressed the Clarification Request. CLOSED	

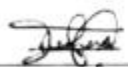
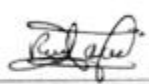
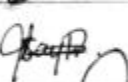
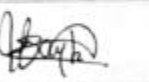
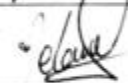
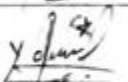
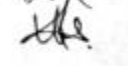
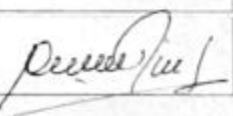
Clarifications and corrective action requests	Reference	Summary of project proponent response	Verification conclusion	Auditor
<u>Corrective Action Request CAR 1</u> Agreeing the text in section 2.1.10 (Sustainable development), "... to date it does not yet have a regional baseline, at the national or jurisdictional level". However, according the UNFCCC Website official material, there is a document entitled "Peru's submission of a Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL) for reducing emissions from deforestation in the Peruvian Amazon", Lima, Perú, Junio 2016 (https://redd.unfccc.int/files/frel_submission_peru_modified.pdf). The project proponent should be considering this information.	VCS Standard VCS Version 3 Requirements Document 21 June 2017, v3.7 Climate, Community and Biodiversity Project Design Standards SECOND EDITION G5. Legal Status and Property Rights Monitoring Report Template CCB_VCS_Monitoring_ Report_Template_CCBv 2.0_VCSv3.4 Monitoring Report CCB_VCS_Monitoring_ Report_AIDER REDD+ TambopataBahuaja Jul2017-Dec2018- 08.06.19	27/07/2019 Information regarding the aforementioned document has been included. Where is indicated that although the country does not yet have an established national baseline, it has been working to comply with the commitments established with the UNFCCC, so it has already sent its proposed emission reference level in June 2016. In addition, it is mentioned that as part of the pre-nesting, the Ministry of Environment (MINAM), on June 24, 2019, has sent a letter that extends the authorization of REDD + initiatives on the use of the baselines not nested at the reference level of forest emissions of the Amazon for projects that are developed in Protected Natural Areas. Documents are attached: Peru's Proposal for Forest Reference Emissions Level and letter from MINAM	29/07/2019 Proponent has properly addressed the Corrective Request. CLOSED	Action
<u>Corrective Action Request CAR 2</u> In section Legal Status and Property Rights, specifically in 2.5.1 (National and Local Laws) is not included the description about the forest reference emission level. According the CCB/VCS requirement, the project must satisfy applicable planning and regulatory requirements.	VCS Standard VCS Version 3 Requirements Document 21 June 2017, v3.7 Climate, Community and Biodiversity Project Design Standards SECOND EDITION G5. Legal Status and Property Rights Monitoring Report Template CCB_VCS_Monitoring_ Report_Template_CCBv 2.0_VCSv3.4 Monitoring Report CCB_VCS_Monitoring_ Report_AIDER REDD+ TambopataBahuaja	28/07/2019 The description about the Forest Reference Emission Level was included in the description of the mentioned section.	29/07/2019 Proponent has properly addressed the Corrective Request. CLOSED	Action

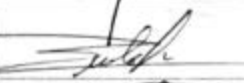
Clarifications and corrective action requests	Reference	Summary of project proponent response	Verification conclusion	Auditor
	Jul2017-Dec2018-08.06.19			
<u>Corrective Action Request CAR3</u> In section 2 of the Word document "Risk Report", in the table entitled "Land Tenure and Resource Access/Impact", row "g)" indicates that this section is not applicable, however, in the Excel table corresponding to this information, it appears qualified as -2.	Risk Report Calculation Tool, v3.1 VCS-Risk-Report-Calculation-Tool-v3.1_Tambo_07.2017-12.2018 VCS-Non-Permanence-Risk-Report-Template-v3.2-REDDProject-RNTAMB-PNBS_Vintage07.2017-12.2018	25/07/2019 The data qualified as "-2" was indicated in the table as an error. The qualification in the table was changed to "0". The correct files are attached.	29/07/2019 Proponent has properly addressed the Corrective Action Request. CLOSED	
<u>Corrective Action Request CAR4</u> The Annexed Non-Permanence Risk Report does not include the follow-up to the mitigation measures described in the Risk tool: - Project has available as callable financial resources at least 50% of total cash out before project reaches breakeven - 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	Risk Report Calculation Tool, v3.1 VCS-Risk-Report-Calculation-Tool-v3.1_Tambo_07.2017-12.2018 VCS-Non-Permanence-Risk-Report-Template-v3.2-REDDProject-RNTAMB-PNBS_Vintage07.2017-12.2018	28/07/2019 The information of the mitigation measures described were attached in the CAR4 file, in appendix B and F, respectively.	29/07/2019 Proponent has properly addressed the Corrective Action Request. CLOSED	
<u>Corrective Action Request CAR5</u> In section 2 of the "Risk Report" Word document, in the table entitled "Land Tenure and Resource Access/Impact", the sum of the classifications is not correct, which influences the total result of the risk analysis.	Risk Report Calculation Tool, v3.1 VCS-Risk-Report-Calculation-Tool-v3.1_Tambo_07.2017-12.2018 VCS-Non-Permanence-Risk-Report-Template-v3.2-REDDProject-RNTAMB-PNBS_Vintage07.2017-12.2018	27/07/2019 The qualification in the table was changed, as was indicated in CAR3, it is so that the calculation has not changed, and it continues being "0".	29/07/2019 Proponent has properly addressed the Corrective Action Request. CLOSED	
<u>Corrective Action Request CAR6</u> Some data/parameter presented in the table Data and Parameters Monitored (Section 3.1.2) are not consistent with the data applied or resultants in the Excel files, such as: Hoja de calculo - Emisiones del Py REDD-Jul2017 dic2018_05062019,	VCS Standard VCS Version 3 Requirements Document 21 June 2017, v3.7 Monitoring Report Template CCB_VCS_Monitoring_Report_Template_CCBv2.0_VCSv3.4	29/07/2019 The information for the data parameters presented in the table Data Parameters Monitored (Section 3.1.2) were reviewed and were made changes. The documents (reference) with the correct data are attached.	29/07/2019 Proponent has properly addressed the Corrective Action Request. CLOSED	

Clarifications and corrective action requests	Reference	Summary of project proponent response	Verification conclusion	Auditor
Hoja de calculo - Fugas por desplazamiento de actividades, Hoja de calculo-LINEA BASE Y CASO DEL PROYECTO-actualizada-20-4-12, Hoja de calculo-Post-desforestacion and MatrizMDD-2018II / Degradación_BD y procesamiento_24_11_2018. For example: Forest cover monitoring map for the project area (541,463.86/559046,143) Forest cover monitoring map for the leakage belt (187735.53/176800,317) ADefPA,iu,t (144.54/185,998545) ADefLB,l,u,t /4425.4/4556,79923) It is necessary to review the consistency between the data applied and the data expressed in the monitoring report and the annexed documentation (e.g. Informe_Final_Deforestación_2017_2018_ok)	Monitoring Report CCB_VCS_Monitoring_Report_AIDER REDD+ TambopataBahuaia Jul2017-Dec2018-08.06.19 Informe_Final_Deforestación_2017_2018_ok INFORME DEFORESTACIÓN_Jul-Dic2018			

APPENDIX B: INTERVIEWS

OPENING /CLOSING MEETING FORMATS	 Icontec INTERACCIÓN
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ATTENDANTS (7)			
Name	Position / Entity	Signature	
		OPEN	CLOSE
Rosalba Ana Castro Aponte	Responsable area Social - ADOER ^{noo}		
SANDRA ANCCASI LAZO	Especialista por estatal - ADOER		
Sylvia Hayta O'ugard	Responsable del área de Servicios Ecosistémicos - ADOER		
Betsy Melany Ortuño Lazo	Responsable del área Servicios Ecosistémicos - Madre de Dios		
Yohamir Casanca Leon	Asistente de Monitoreo Biológico		
Juan Carlos Lara Rivas	Responsable : Área Monitoreo Biológico		
Vanessa Monica Hilari Rincón del	Responsable : Dirección Investigaciones		
José P. Quintaro Condor	Coordinador Regional		

Reduction of deforestation and degradation in Tambopata National Reserve and Bahuaja - Sonene National Park within the area of Madre de Dios Region - Peru Interviewed People during the Onsite visit		 icontec INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE NORMAS TECNICAS
Name	Position / Entity (or community)	Signature
Vladimir Renuz Proda	Seje RNTAMB	
Victor Zambrano G.	Presidente CG - RNTAMB	
Osorio Pablo Landuy Cruz	Presidente de Coopaser	
Gilberto Vera Torres	Seje Productores - COOPASER	
NOEL G. MACHUCA M.	VICTOR RAUL	
ELVER PAREJO FORTAN	ASISTENTE en pos cosecha.	
Cesar Augusto Jojaji Enay	Presidente Comunidad Natuupakene	

Reduction of deforestation and degradation in Tambopata National Reserve and Bahuaja - Sonene National Park within the area of Madre de Dios Region - Peru

Date: 16/07/2019 - 19/07/2019
Lead Auditor: Angela DUQUE