VCS & CCB 1ST VERIFICATION REPORT FOR HECHU AFFORESTATION PROJECT IN ANHUI PROVINCE

Document Prepared By TÜV NORD CERT GmbH

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Summary

- **A brief description of the verification and the project.**

  The project activity developed in Hefei City and Chuzhou City, Anhui Province, P. R. China, is afforestation of barren or degraded lands, which would continue to remain barren or degraded in the absence of the project activity, by direct planting native trees (*Koelreuteria paniculata, Quercus robur, Celtis sinensis Pers, zelkova schneideriana*). The project not only sequester carbon through biomass growth but also provide native habitat for numerous species and provide employment for local workers in the adjoining forest management activities. The planted area accounts to 30,057 ha of forest. The project started on 22-April-2014 and it was registered by VCS under Project ID 1855 in conjunction with the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standard (CCBS).

- **The purpose and scope of verification.**

  The objective of the verification is to have an independent review ex post determination by a VVB (Validation and Verification Body) of the monitored GHG removals by sink that have occurred as a result of the implementation of the project activity during a defined monitoring period.

- **The monitoring period.**

  This is the first Monitoring period started from 22-April-2014 to 31-December-2018.

- **The method and criteria used for verification.**

  Verification is conducted using TÜV NORD CERT GmbH procedures in line with the requirements specified in the latest version of the VCS Validation and Verification Manual and applying auditing techniques. The verification team assessed the project activity's compliance against the VCS Version 4.0, the CCB Standard Third Edition, the selected methodology and the project monitoring report. The project is eligible under Project Scope 14. The verification criteria followed the guidance documents provided by VCS and CCB included the following:

  VCS version 4.0, VCS Program Guide version 4.0, AFOLU Requirements version 3.6, AFOLU Non- Permanence Risk Tool version 4.0, CCB Standards version 3.1, CCB Program Rules version 3.1 and the applied CDM methodology AR-ACM0003 – "Afforestation and reforestation of lands except wetlands" (version 2.0.0).

- **The number of findings raised during verification.**

  In the course of the verification, 12 Corrective Action Requests (CARs), 20 Clarification Requests (CLs) were raised and successfully closed. The assessment is included in the report.

- **Any uncertainties associated with the verification.**

  There are no restrictions of uncertainty.

- **Summary of the verification conclusion.**
  Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd has commissioned the TÜV NORD JI/CDM Certification Program to carry out the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) joint with Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) 1st periodic verification of the project, "Hechu Afforestation Project in Anhui Province" (1855) with regard to the relevant requirements of VCS standard version 4.0 and CCB Standards version 3.1. TÜV NORD confirms all verification activities including objectives, scope and criteria, level of assurance, monitoring and monitoring report adhere to VCS version 4.0 and CCB Standards version 3.1 and all associated updated as documented in this report, are complete.
  TÜV NORD concludes that the project activity "Hechu Afforestation Project in Anhui Province" in China, as described in the Monitoring Report version 02 of 25-March-2020, meets all relevant requirements for VCS and CCB verification activity and correctly applied the methodology AR-ACM0003 version 2.0.0. Hence TÜV NORD is able to certify that the GHG removals by sink from the project during the monitoring period 22-April-2014 to 31-December-2018 amount to **362,937 tCO_2e.**

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Objective

Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd has commissioned the TÜV NORD JI/CDM Certification Program to carry out the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) joint with Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) 1st periodic verification of the project for the monitoring period from 22-April-2014 to 31-December-2018. The objective of verification is to have an independent review ex-post determination by a DOE of the monitored GHG removals by sink that have occurred as a result of the project activity implemented during a defined monitoring period. The evaluation is done against the requirements of the VCS version 4.0 and CCBS third edition, based on the monitoring report. In order to confirm that the GHG removals by sink sound reasonable and meet the identified criteria, the verification involves the assessment of monitoring plan conformance to VCS/CCB rules and applied methodology. Verification is requirement and is seen as necessary to provide assurance on the generation of VCUs.

1.2 Scope and Criteria

The scope of the verification is to verify that: (a) the actual monitoring system and procedures are in compliance with the monitoring systems and procedures described in the monitoring plan; (b) the GHG removals by sink data and express a conclusion with a reasonable level of assurance about whether he reported GHG removals by sink data are free from material misstatement; (c) the reported GHG emissions data is sufficiently supported by evidence. Verification shall ensure that the reported GHG removals by sink are complete and accurate in accordance with the applicable VCS criteria in order to be certified. Verification is conducted using TÜV NORD procedures in line with the requirements specified in the VCS Program and ISO14064-3 requirements and applying auditing techniques. Verification team assessed and determines that the implementation and operation of the project activity, and steps to report GHG removals by sink comply with the VCS rules. The verification involved a document review of relevant documentation and interview with the project participants. Verification is not meant to provide any consultancy towards the project participants; however, stated request for clarifications and/or corrective actions may have provided input for improvement of the monitoring.

1.3 Level of Assurance

All GHG sinks, sources and GHG emissions equal to or greater than 5% of the total GHG assertions are considered. The project area covers 30,057 ha and has generated average of 72,587 VCUs per year, and therefore can be considered as a normal project per the VCS rules, in regards to its scale, subject to a 5% materiality threshold.

The assessment was conducted to provide a reasonable level of assurance of compliance against the defined audit criteria and materiality threshold within the audit scope. Based on the audit findings the verification statement reasonably assures that the GHG assertion is materially correct and is a fair representation of the GHG data and information.

1.4 Summary Description of the Project

The Hechu Afforestation Project in Anhui Province is implemented by Hefei Zhuoya Landscaping Engineering Co., Ltd and it aims in afforestation of barren or degraded lands, which would continue

to remain barren or degraded. The total area of the Project has an extension of 30,057 hectares and it is located inside the Hefei City and Chuzhou City, Anhui Province, China.

The project zone consists of 2 Cities (Hefei City and Chuzhou City) planted in different periods and four species have been chosen for the afforestation project: *Koelreuteria paniculata, Quercus robur, Celtis sinensis Pers, zelkova schneideriana*, all of them grew up successfully, which has been verified by on-site inspection and interview with the project implementer.

The project activity generates GHG removals by sink by changing the status of land from degraded and barren lands to sustainable forest production systems which increase the forest cover in the project region thus generating a typical landscape formed by biological and productive areas that produce financial, social and environmental benefits. The project has resulted in the benefits as described in Section 1 of the Monitoring Report. The project is registered under the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standard (CCBS).

2. VERIFICATION PROCESS

2.1 Audit Team Composition (*Rules* 4.3.1)

Lead Auditor/VCS-CCB Validator: Zhao Xuejiao (Fancy) is qualified by TÜV NORD in Validation and Verification of Clean Development Mechanism Requirements (CDM projects) and other voluntary schemes as VCS, ISO14064-2, GS, CCB and SD. She has experience with more than 150 validation and verification projects including VCS&CCB forestry project and GS forestry project in China. She has a bachelor degree of Biological Engineering and master degree of Environmental Engineering and conducted more than 10 CDM and GS projects in Anhui Province, thus has the relevant social and cultural expertise in this region and also have relevant ecological and biodiversity experience due to the education background. She speaks mandarin which is the common language in China and the regional residents can speak and understand this language.

Technical Expert: Li Guifang has Bachelor degree in Agriculture Resources and Environment and Master degree in Plant Nutrition, and work experience more than 5 years in consultancy under the GHG, ecological and biodiversity to the development of forestry management and A/R projects, qualified by TÜV NORD in Scope 14. Thus she has the relevant agriculture, forestry and or other land use experience in China due to education background and working experience. She speaks mandarin which is the common language in China and the regional residents can speak and understand this language.

The verification team member and technical reviewer composition are listed in the below tables,

Table 2-1 Verification team member

No.	Role	Type of resource	Last name	First name	Affiliation (e.g. name of central or other office of DOE or outsourced entity)	Involvement in			
						Desk/Doc review	On-site inspection	Interview(s)	Verification findings
1.	Team Leader (also verifier)	IR	ZHAO	Xuejiao	TÜV NORD China	☒	☒	☒	☒
2.	Team member (External Technical Expert)	EI	LI	Guifang	-	☒	☒	☒	☒

Table 2-2 Technical reviewer and approver

No.	Role	Type of resource	Last name	First name	Affiliation (e.g. name of central or other office of DOE or outsourced entity)
1.	Technical reviewer /Approver	IR	Alexandra	Nuske	TÜV NORD CERT GmbH

2.2 Method and Criteria

A project specific Verification and Sampling plan was developed to guide the verification auditing process to ensure efficiency and effectiveness. The purpose of the verification and sampling plant is to present a risk assessment for determining the nature and extent of validation procedures necessary to ensure the risk of auditing error is reduces to a reasonable level. According to the ISO14064-3, the criteria are the policy, procedure or requirement used as reference against which evidence is compared. Therefore verification of the monitoring plan and the reported project results were measured for compliance against the following criteria:

- VCS Standard, v4.0/VCSS/
- VCS Program Guide, v4.0/VCSPG/
- VCS Program Definitions, v4.0/VCSPD/
- VCS AFOLU requirements, v3.6/AFOLUR/
- VCS AFOLU Non-Permanence Risk Tool, v4.0/NPRT/
- CCB Climate, Community & Biodiversity Standards/CCBS/
- CCB Program Rules, v3.1/CCBPR/

The verification process derived from all items in the verification criteria stated above. Field sampling and techniques based on the project parameters, scope and best professional judgement of the verification team in order to meet a reasonable level of assurance. The verification consisted of the following three phase:

- Document review
- On-site assessment
- The resolution of outstanding issues and the issuance of the final verification report and certification.

The verification process derived from all items in the verification criteria stated above. Field sampling and techniques based on the project parameters, scope and best professional judgement of the verification team in order to meet a reasonable level of assurance.

The sampling plan during on-site verification is determined taking into account the accessibility and similitude of the areas and the tool for sampling was referred by verification team for the site verification.

The sampling design (number of plot, location) is considered to be in line with the requirements for validation (IAF Guidance on the Application of ISO/IEC Guide 66 - G.5.3.12. : x=$\sqrt{y}$, where x is the sampling size by verification team and y is the sample plots number determined by PP in MR), and it has ensured a representative cross-section of the properties in the areas.

Sample plots selected by VVB is calculated as below,

- Stratum 1, number of plots y is 8. X=√8=3
- Stratum 2, number of plots y is 6. X=√6=3
- Stratum 3, number of plots y is 6. X=√6=3

- Stratum 4, number of plots y is 5. X=√ 5=3

A ground inspection of the project area was conducted during the site visit and members of the verification team visited 12 sample plots within the project area.

During site visit, by sample plots observation and inspection, the verification team measured the sample plot diameter and area, counted the number of the trees inside plot, measured the DBH and height of the trees inside plot, and confirmed that the value of all trees from PP sampling data are correct and reasonable, hence it is verified that the calculation method used in the MR is correct and actual.

2.3 Document Review

The VCS&CCB MR[/MR/] and supporting background documents related to the project implementation and carbon sink, climate, community, biodiversity change monitoring were reviewed. Documents review was conducted to ensure consistency with and identify any deviation from VCS and CCB program requirements. Desk review included an examination of the project details, data and parameters, and quantification of GHG removals.

Furthermore, the verification team used additional documentation by third parties like host party legislation, technical reports referring to the monitoring or to the basic conditions and technical data.

The references used in the course of this verification are summarized in Appendix 2.

The verification was performed basing on the documents check and site inspection/measurements, refer to the section 4 of this report for the verification process detail and corresponding documents review.

2.4 Interviews

The objective of the interview process was to solicit important information from personnel related to project and relevant to the verification process. Onsite interviews and information discussions were conducted with project implementer[/I1/], local government officer[/I2/], local residents[/I3/] and Project VCS&CCB development consultant[/I4/]. The interviews were performed by the verification team on-site (within the project area, in Hefei City and Chuzhou City, Anhui Province, China) and the following is a list of the main interviewees and subject.

No.	Interviewee			Date	Subject	Team member
	Last name	First name	Affiliation			
1.	Lu[/I1/]	Mingyi	Hefei Zhuoya Landscaping Engineering Co., Ltd/ Project Manager	26-November-2019~ 29-November-2019	-Chronological description of the project activity with documents of key steps of the implementation. -Technical details of the project realization, project designing, operational life time -Project Boundary -ER calculation - Monitoring arrangements -Carbon sink measurements -Crediting period -Project activity starting date -Ownership -local stakeholder consultation	Zhao Xuejiao, Li Guifang
2.	Liu[/I2/]	Lili	Hefei City Forestry Bureau/ Forest Sector Staff	26-November-2019~29-November-2019	-National legislation to forest - Provincial legislation to afforestation -Local forestry development - Roles & responsibilities of the government -local communities changed by the project -local biodiversity situation changed by the project -local climate -local environment changed by the project	Zhao Xuejiao, Li Guifang
3.	Zhang[/I2/]	Yang	Chuzhou City Forestry Bureau/ Forest Sector Staff			
4.	Tao[/I3/]	Youhao	Xiaogang Village/ Resident/ worked as technician of this project	26-November-2019	-job opportunities -living condition -training -local stakeholder consultation -impact to local residents during this MP	Zhao Xuejiao, Li Guifang
5.	Zheng[/I3/]	Chuandao	Yifu Village/ Resident	26-November-2019		

6.	Zheng/I3/	Zhangzheng	Fuxing Village/ Resident/ Tree Planting worker	26-November-2019	-impact to local environment during this MP -impact to local biodiversity during this MP	
7.	Wang/I3/	Hongwen	Liliu Village/ Resident	26-November-2019		
8.	Zheng/I3/	Xiangyao	Lianhe Village / Resident/ Tree Planting worker	26-November-2019		
9.	Zhen/I3/	Yongyou	Huanghua Village / Resident/ Tree Planting worker	26-November-2019		
10.	Tao/I3/	Zhu	Nongzhuang Village/ Resident/ worked as technician of this project	26-November-2019		
11.	Zhen/I3/	Ju	Datang Village/ Resident/ worked as technician of this project	26-November-2019		
12.	Cheng/I3/	Guang	Chiyang Village/ Resident	26-November-2019		
13.	Zheng/I3/	Chenshou	Wangjiapo Village / Resident/ worked as technician of this project	26-November-2019		
14.	Fan/I3/	Chengzheng	Sanhe Village / Resident	26-November-2019		

15.	Shen/I4/	Keye	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd/ Technical Director	26-November-2019~29-November-2019	-Financial aspects -Deviations -Monitoring period -Project activity starting date -Assumptions -Sampling plan and implementation -Monitoring measurements - Editorial issues of the VCS&CCB MR	Zhao Xuejiao, Li Guifang

2.5 Site Inspections

The verification site inspection was conducted on 26-November-2019~29-November-2019. A ground inspection of the project area was conducted during the site visit and members of the verification team visited 12 sampling plots within the project area. During the site inspection the verification team was accompanied by the forest developer, local government officers, consultant and forest technicians.

During the site inspection, the 12 sampling plots are determined by the verification team by checking the map of the project location and PP sampling plots inventory/SPI/, details as following table,

Table 2-1 Locations for site inspection

Site Visit time	Area	Sample No.	Coordinates		Inspection Results
26-November-2019	Strata 1	ID13	117°53′59′′E	31°50′40′′N	Refer to table 4-7 of this report for the measurement records conducted by verification team.
	Strata 1	ID45	117°25′36′′E	31°30′50′′N	
27-November-2019	Strata 1	ID41	116°53′09′′E	31°46′53′′N	
	Strata 4	ID100	118°11′07′′E	32°33′49′′N	
	Strata 4	ID114	118°04′31′′E	33°04′05′′N	
	Strata 4	ID97	118°27′08′′E	32°25′31′′ N	
28-November-2019	Strata 3	ID76	118°03′36′′E	32°31′27′′N	
	Strata 3	ID126	118°04′19′′E	32°04′44′′ N	
	Strata 3	ID81	117°45′51′′E	32°53′35′′ N	
29-November-2019	Strata 2	ID22	117°36′25′′E	31°45′45′′N	
	Strata 2	ID23	117°35′15′′E	31°57′24′′N	
	Strata 2	ID24	117°31′27′′E	31°54′40′′N	

There are total 4 project stratifications for carbon calculation in the 2 Cities, the verification team visited targeted area for each project stratification, total 12 sampling plots. Refer to the section 4.4.1 of this report for the details of the sampling approach conducted by the verification team during site inspection and refer to table 4-7 of this report for the details of the sampling results concluded by the verification team.

2.6 Resolution of Findings

Material discrepancies identified in the course of the validation are addressed either as CARs, CLs or FARs.

A Corrective Action Request (CAR) is established where:

- The project participants have made mistakes that will influence the ability of the project activity to achieve real, measurable additional emission reductions;
- The VCS version 4.0 requirements have not been met;
- The CCBS third edition requirements have not been met;
- There is a risk that the emission reductions cannot be monitored or calculated.

A **Clarification Request (CL)** will be issued where information is insufficient, unclear or not transparent enough to establish whether a requirement is met.

A **Forward Action Request (FAR)** will be issued when certain issues related to project implementation should be reviewed during the first verification.

A detailed list of the CARs CLs and FAR raised and discussed in the course of this validation is included in Appendix 3 of this report.

In the course of the validation 12 Corrective Action Requests (CARs), 20 Clarification Requests (CLs) were raised and successfully closed. The assessment is included in the report.

2.6.1 Forward Action Requests

This is the first verification, two FARs were raised in the validation report/VAL/ and has been closed during this verification. The assessment is included in the report Appendix 3.

2.7 Eligibility for Validation Activities

The VVB TÜV NORD CERT GmbH hold accreditation for both validation and verification for the relevant sectoral scope 14.

As per the VCS standard, “Validation (including project crediting period renewal validation) and the first verification of a project (in a given project crediting period) may be undertaken by the same validation/verification body”, this is the first verification after the project registration occurred in 2019 from which the validation was conducted by TÜV NORD CERT GmbH.

3. VALIDATION FINDINGS

3.1 Participation under Other GHG Programs

The verification team is not aware of project involvement in other forms of environmental credits from its activities. The project has not been registered, and is not seeking registration, under any other GHG programs.

3.2 Methodology Deviations

During the monitoring period, there are no methodology deviations

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

During the monitoring period, there are no project description deviations related to the significant change.

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

During the monitoring period, there are no minor changes to project description.

3.5 Grouped Project (G1.13 – G1.15, G4.1)

This section is not applicable as the project is not a grouped project.

4. VERIFICATION FINDINGS

4.1 Public Comments (*Rules* 4.6)

The MR is available in both English/MR/ and Chinese (as is a summary document of the MR)/MRS/. Both the documents were made available on the CCB website (https://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/project_details/1855) for the public consultation period.

The public comment period was held from 01-November-2019 to 01-December-2019. No public comments were received for this project as confirmed by email from VCS on 05-December-2019/ENPC/, the date after the VCS and CCB public comment period for draft project documents expired.

4.2 Summary of Project Benefits

As per the information available in the MR/MR/ against the project benefits as determined in the PD/PD/ and confirmed by the PP during the on-site interview, the climate objectives consist in the afforestation of degraded land, which would continue to remain degraded, increasing the carbon stocks in the following pools: above-ground biomass and below-ground biomass. Community objectives would ensure the creation of employment and provide relevant training (skilled labour force), which would positively influence the livelihoods and well-being of the population. Biodiversity objectives would preserves the conservation of wildlife and of biodiversity in the Region.

The project seeks to provide experience of forest planting and management in low-latitude and high-altitude mountain area, the mitigation of the local soil erosion caused by over grazing and the improvement of the ecological environment of surrounding area as the unique project benefits, and generate GHG emission removals, create forest cover, provide employment, training and improve skills to community members thus improve their livelihood and well-being, and beneficial to biodiversity conservation and globally Critically Endangered or Endangered species.

By comparing the information given in the PD/PD/, it is confirmed that this section of project benefits is completed appropriately, the achievements during this monitoring period is verified by the verification team and confirmed as correct and actual. Refer to below related sections for detail assessment.

As stated in section 2.4.4 of the monitoring report, sustainable financing from carbon revenue for the site is essential to enable conservation action to ensure project implementation and continuation achievement of CCB benefits.

Thus it is concluded that all achievements reported are substantiated with information provided in the body of the monitoring report and confirmed by the assessment in the body of the verification report.

CAR 01 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.3 General

4.3.1 Implementation Status (G1.9)

The project activity is mainly implemented and in operation in accordance with the description contained in the validated PD/PD/. As confirmed during the on-site inspection, interviews, the project implementer has implemented the activities as described in the registered PD in compliance with

the VCS and CCBS requirements. The actual planted area accounts to 30,057 ha with four species native trees (*Koelreuteria paniculata, Quercus robur, Celtis sinensis Pers, zelkova schneideriana*) which is same to the registered PD.

The implementation status of the project activity are identified and the assessment steps are taken as the following,

Table 4-1 Assessment of implementation status of the project activity

Item	Assessment
The existence of any material discrepancies between project implementation and the project description.	No material discrepancies have been noted; absence of such material discrepancies was confirmed through onsite inspection and interviews with the project personnel.
The implementation status of the monitoring plan and the completeness of monitoring, including the suitability of the implemented monitoring system (i.e., process and schedule for obtaining, recording, compiling and analyzing the monitored data and parameters).	The monitoring has been carried out mainly in accordance with the monitoring plan contained in the validated monitoring plan. The project stratifications for carbon calculation is ex post determined as 4 which is consistent with the registered PD. And the total sample plots are calculated as 25. According to the tool "Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities (Version 02.1.0)"/TNSP/, the number of plots within each stratum is calculated and total is confirmed as 25. As per the monitoring plan in the PD, it has stated that if there are changes in the area and boundary, the carbon stratification of the project needs to update. In addition, if the number of carbon stratums and the area change, the number of sample plots need to be recalculated, the project needs to consider tree species, patterns and other factors in actual planting, and update stratification to post-stratification. Due to there is no change to the area, boundary, tree species and planting, thus the post-stratification is consistent with the ex-ante determined in the registered PD and suitable for actual project implementation which is verified as reasonable and correct as per the methodology and tool. It is verified that the actual monitoring complies with the actual implementation of the project and that data have been assessed to correctly support the emission removals being claimed.
The existence of any material discrepancies between the actual monitoring system, and the monitoring	As assessed above, there is no change of the sampling plots in the actual monitoring system comparing with the monitoring plan. Through detailed review and data testing on implementation of all

plan set out in the project description and the applied methodology.	relevant aspects of actual monitoring system, it is confirmed there is no material discrepancy between methodology and actual monitoring system. The actual monitoring system is implemented in line with the applied methodology.
Whether the GHG emission reductions or removals generated by the project have become included in an emissions trading program or any other mechanism that includes GHG allowance trading.	It is confirmed, applying professional judgment, that there is very low risk of GHG removals having included in any other trading program or any other mechanism that includes GHG allowance trading which has been assessed and verified in the validation process.
Whether the project has received or sought any other form of environmental credit, or has become eligible to do so since validation or previous verification.	The verification team is unaware of any other environmental crediting program that project would be eligible to participate in since validation.
Whether the project has participated or been rejected under any other GHG programs since validation or previous verification.	There is no evidence of the project's rejection from any other GHG programs as the GS[/gs/], VCS[/vcs/] and CDM[/unfccc/] project data base since validation.
Sustainable development contributions.	The project generates GHG emission removals by the afforestation of barren or degraded lands which would remain barren or degraded; it also generates social and environmental co-benefits as conservation of the biodiversity.
List any previously validated methodology deviations, project description deviations, and minor changes to the project description (each verification report must contain an exhaustive list of all deviations or changes applied to the project).	This is the first periodic verification, so there is no previously validated methodology deviations, project description deviations, and minor changes to the project description.

Based on above assessment, it is concluded that the project has been implemented as described in the project description except the project minor change related to the tree species changed.

CAR 02, CAR 03 and CL 01 were raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.3.2 Risks to the Community and Biodiversity Benefits (G1.10)

The PD states the overall risks to the project are low, no major risks have arisen that may cause any loss of project benefits for the local community, climate and biodiversity, so that the long-term viability is assured. Natural risk identified are fire, diseases and insects, pesticide in PD[/PD/].

Fire risk is considered low because planting area is mostly barren land, local government sets the fireproofing period when using fire is forbidden in the open air and no fires occurred in the project areas as confirmed during the on-site inspection. Also during this monitoring period, the fire was

strictly controlled by local forest bureau who experienced in local natural risk control to minimize the potential effect which has been verified by interview with the local officer/I2/. And PP has established fire prevention procedure in Integrated Forest Management Manual/IFMM/ and carried out educational activities with the forest law and regulations on forest fire prevention which was confirmed by on-site interview with the local residents/I3/ and also found the forest law and regulations on forest fire prevention were listed on the local notice boards. Via on-site interview with local residents/I3/, technicians/I3/ and government officers/I2/, it is verified that there was no fire disaster occurred during this monitoring period in project area.

The planted trees may would be damaged by insects and disease, but the risk is considered low because it can be prevented by supervision and routine overseeing and the PP have in place a full Integrated Forest Management Manual/IFMM/. The biological measures to control pests and diseases will be mainly adopted. Via on-site interview with local residents/I3/, technicians/I3/ and government officers/I2/, it is verified that there was no insects and disease disaster occurred during this monitoring period in project area.

The chemical pesticides are allowed to be used only if there is a serious pest problem erupted in the project area, while improper pesticide application would be harmful to natural environment, but the risk is considered low because pesticide is strictly managed by well trained staff to minimize the potential effect/IFMM/. As no insects and disease disaster occurred, the environmental friendly measures such as mixed species arrangements and seed and seedling quarantine have been adopted during this monitoring period. Via on-site interview with local residents/I3/, technicians/I3/ and government officers/I2/, it is verified that there was no significant pesticide application occurred as no insects and disease disaster occurred.

Based on above assessment, it is confirmed that reasonable actions were in place and taken to mitigate risks to community and biodiversity benefits during this monitoring period.

4.3.3 Community and Biodiversity Benefit Permanence (G1.11)

The measures needed and taken to extend project benefits beyond the project lifetime include the selection of the species planted which assure the endurance/SPC/, the land use agreements with the land owner and project owner/LUA/, commercial logging will be forbidden/PL/. The measures taken will extend many of the project benefits in the project lifetime.

By the on-site visit it is confirmed that reasonable measures have been taken to enhance project benefits beyond the project lifetime, including forest management, aspects protecting the project lands and attempts to tie community success to project success.

Thus it is concluded that reasonable measures have been taken to enhance project benefits beyond the project lifetime in accordance with the validated project description document.

4.3.4 Stakeholder Access to Information (G3.1- G3.3)

At the time of validation process, the PD as well as a summary in local languages were made available to the community through summary sheet of the project. The full project documentations was published on VCS and CCB website for public comments. Thus the local communities and other stakeholders can easily download documents from the website. The project owner has published the Monitoring Manual and Monitoring Plan to the local stakeholders on the notice board which has been confirmed by checking the photo of the communities and stakeholders watching notice board/RVAR/ and interview with local residents/I3/.

Within the project area was made a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) survey in Mar. 2014 before the project started with stakeholder meeting by the PP inviting local villagers, permanent workers in the project, forestry experts and government officers to inform people of the possible impact in terms of economics, social and biodiversity aspects that the project might have on the community. This was confirmed by the PPs and by the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) survey report[/PRA/] provided during the site visit. Via checking the contents in the PRA, it is concluded that the project design details, relevancy and adequacy of the information has been provided to communities, and the analysis of project benefits to communities including all the potential impacts are provided to the stakeholders to let all the participants know the project's potential costs, risks and benefits. All the costs, risks and benefits are identified completely and adequately in the PRA process and during the site visit, by interviewed with the local stakeholders, it is verified that they understand the project's potential costs, risks and benefits to communities with the project development and process. There is no any important costs, risks and benefits missed.

The project implementer published the monitoring plan and monitoring manual on the local notice boards to explain the monitoring process to communities and other stakeholders which has been verified by checking the photo of the communities and stakeholders watching[/RVAR/].

Next, the monitoring results, monitoring plan and summary of the monitoring plan in local language, have been made publicly available on the CCB website (https://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/project_details/1855), which can be downloaded by stakeholders.

During the on-site verification, stakeholder meetings with the villagers, local officers, technicians and stakeholders have been carried out on 26-November-2019 in local government in Feidong County (located in Hefei City). By on-site checking the photo[/RVAR/], it is confirmed by the verification team that the monitoring plan and monitoring manual were published in the notice boards for each of the 128 villages of the 2 Cities before the site visit time. And by checking the letter issued by project owner to the local forest bureau[/LVSM/] and on-site observation, it is verified that the local forest bureau received letter and considered the importance of inviting the local stakeholder comments. During the meeting, project implementer introduced the monitoring results during this monitoring period and copies of monitoring report is available to anyone requests it. Verification team has participated and interview the stakeholders separately to access their real thought of the project, and the results are also verified by checking the meeting minute and questionnaires filled by stakeholders[/VSM/].

Therefore, it is concluded that the method for dissemination of project information, especially to local communities, appears to be effective.

CL 02, CL 03, CL 04 and CL 05 were raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.3.5 Stakeholder Consultation (G3.4 – G3.5)

The PD discusses the way stakeholders were involved in the project design initially, furthermore, the MR discusses the meeting and consultation regarding design, implementation, monitoring and benefits are shared with stakeholders and communities. Pertinent information about the project is being well disseminated by the project, through traditional channels of communication. Adequate levels of information are reaching stakeholders.

As stated in PD, a consultation through PRA and meetings with the stakeholders was made for introducing people about the project impacts and ask them to raise their opinions of the project design and their willingness to participate the implementation. This has been confirmed by checking the PRA/PRA/ and related meeting questionnaires/QUE/. The stakeholders are invited to provide their comments regarding the project implementation and impacts to them, also PP considered their participation in decision-making by asking all the participants to fill the questionnaires. Via checking all the questionnaires/QUE/ and by interview with the representatives during site visit, it is confirmed that all the participants agreed the implementation of the project, therefore, from that point, the project design was not modified and the project started with local stakeholder's agreement. Therefore, it is verified that the comments from community groups and other stakeholders have been considered and would influence project implementation if necessary through effective consultation.

Before the project started, the stakeholder input on project implementation has been documented though meeting minutes and questionnaires as stated above.

Furthermore, during this monitoring period, the stakeholder input on project implementation have been monitored through in-person meetings and questionnaires survey conducted in March to April 2019 which has been confirmed by checking the 100 filled questionnaires/CMQ/ collected during this period and cross verified by on-site interview with the local stakeholders/I2/,/I3/. In addition, during the on-site verification, stakeholder meetings with the villagers, local officers, technicians and stakeholders have been carried out on 26-November-2019 at the local government in Feidong County. During the meeting, project implementer introduced the monitoring results during this monitoring period and the comments from all the stakeholders have been documented as meeting minute. Via checking all the documents, it is verified that there is no grievances and negative comments received during this monitoring period, which has been also confirmed during the stakeholder meetings in verification process.

During on-site interview with project owner and technicians, it is confirmed that the project owner has a plan for continued communication. It is carried out by maintaining a direct line of communication with community members and relevant stakeholders through technicians located in each field. The technicians will conduct continuous in-person meetings with identified community groups and other stakeholders. And the project owner will consider all the recommendations and comments to improve or change project implementation if necessary. This is verified by on-site interview with project owner and technicians and also by checking the daily working log/WL/ recorded by the technicians which including the stakeholder consultation process and results. Furthermore, the project owner promised that they will carry out the continued communication as planning.

Based on above demonstration, it is confirmed that all consultation and participatory process have been undertaken directly with communities and other stakeholders through village notice boards and stakeholder meetings. And 100 representatives from local stakeholders filled the questionnaires whom covered different locations, different ages, different occupations and different education levels. Also 13 representatives from local stakeholders participated in the verification process stakeholder meeting.

Hence, it is concluded that the project's method for conducting communities and stakeholders consultations is effective.

CL 06, CL 07 and CL 08 were raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.3.6 Stakeholder Participation in Decision-making and Implementation (G3.6)

Before the project implementation, as assessed in the registered PD, a consultation through PRA and meetings with the stakeholders was made for introducing people about the project impacts and ask them to raise their opinions of the project design and their willingness to participate the following implementation. This has been confirmed by checking the PRA/PRA/ and related meeting questionnaires/QUE/. The stakeholders are invited to provide their comments regarding the project implementation and impacts to them, also PP considered their participation in decision-making by asking all the participants to fill the questionnaires. Via checking all the questionnaires/QUE/ and by interview with the representatives/I2,I3/ during site visit, it is confirmed that all the participants agreed the implementation of the project, therefore, from that point, the project design was not modified and the project started with local stakeholder's agreement.

During the project implementation, local consultations, community monitoring, dissemination of project and monitoring information are taken. The identified stakeholders are local government and villagers located in surrounding villages. Representatives of stakeholders covering different locations in project zone, different age, gender and culture background have been distributed by questionnaires and all the feedback are considered by project owner for changing the project implementation if necessary. Via checking all the questionnaires/QUE/ and by interview with the representatives/I2,I3/ during site visit, it is confirmed that all the participants agreed the project implementation and they confirmed they have effectively participated and involved in project implementation, monitoring, and evaluation by communication with project owner, noticed by village notice boards and asked to fill the related questionnaires. Therefore, from that point, the project monitoring was not modified.

Due the nature of stakeholders identified and the actions taken by the project owner for their involvement can confirm the project enabled community participation in project implementation.

Furthermore, via on-site interview with the local women stakeholders and technicians, it is verified that they are encouraged by PP to participate the working, stakeholder meeting and maintaining the regular communications with Sorority Director and Nationalities Officer of local counties. Thus the culture- and gender-sensitivity of implementation of such actions has been demonstrated.

CL 09 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.3.7 Anti-discrimination (G3.7)

During the interview with the project owner, local officers and technicians, it is verified that the project proponent and all other entities involved in project design and implementation are not involved in or complicity in any form of discrimination or sexual harassment with respect to the project due to the labor contract was signed based on the <Labor Law of the People's Republic of China>/llc/ with anti-discrimination assurance. <Labor Law of the People's Republic of China> is the national law to protect the legitimate rights and interests of workers, the clause 12 in this law is related to anti-discrimination assurance. Thus this law as specific policy is put in place by the project proponents to prevent discrimination, thus it is ensured that the project proponent and all other entities involved in project design and implementation will not violate the standard's anti-discrimination requirement. The stakeholder involvement was inclusive without any discrimination of gender, cultural identity and religion. The own policies guarantee that no type of discrimination is tolerated at any point of the project implementation.

The stakeholder involvement was inclusive without any discrimination of gender, cultural identity and religion. The national policies[/llc/] guarantee that no type of discrimination is tolerated at any point of the project implementation.

Furthermore, via checking the labor contracts with technicians[/LC/] and interview with the women stakeholders and technicians, it is verified that 45 women were employed as technicians and women are under the protection of the national laws and policies and no any form of discrimination or sexual harassment with respect to the project.

CL 10 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.3.8 Stakeholder Feedback and Grievance Redress Procedure (G3.8)

A grievance redress process is in place as per the PD[/PD/] and validation report[/VAL/]. A specific staff is in charge of recording and collecting conflicts and grievances of local communities and individual farmers. He was nominated who is the first responsible for responding to requests from the community. Stakeholders can either appeal through village representatives or directly to the local forestry bureau.

During the on-site interview with the specific staff and checking his recordings[/CGL/] about the conflicts and grievances of local communities during this monitoring period, it is verified that there is no any grievances raised in this implementation period.

Hence, it is confirmed that the formal grievance process was outlined sufficiently in the monitoring report and confirmed on-site during discussion with project personnel and it is concluded that the grievance redress procedure has been implemented according to the project's validated design.

CL 11 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.3.9 Worker Relations (G3.9 – G3.12)

The steps taken to verify the project proponent has taken actions and implemented measures to ensure that the relationship between the project and workers meet the GS requirements have been listed as below:

1. Build the capacity of the communities through job training and employment

Forest Management Manual[/IFMM/] includes technical advice is provided for each technician and trainings are offered for all the technicians immediately once they were hired and continuously for different topics like physical safety measures, health, forest land inspection, use of monitoring and measuring instruments and data records which are useful for effective forest management and monitoring. By checking the sample of training records of the technicians[/TTR/], it is verified that the trainings are offered for all the technicians immediately once they were hired. Furthermore, till the time of verification, several trainings were provided to technicians in each September from 2014 to 2018 related to planting, tending and monitoring skills and experience which verified by checking the training records[/TTR/]. Besides, in order to carry out a successful and efficient monitoring survey, special trainings providing orientation for the project monitoring was provided to technical staffs prior to the monitoring activities for this monitoring period. The continuous training is confirmed as provided.

In addition, via on-site interview with the local villagers, it is verified that Monitoring Manual has been distributed to each village by notice board and the local officers from forest bureau had provided the live demonstrations.

Thus it is demonstrated that the project is building local capacity through job skills training and manual distribution.

2. People from the communities are given an equal opportunity to fill work positions

The project makes an effort to hire locally as confirmed by the project manager during the on-site visit and hiring criteria are based on skill sets without discrimination. Actually 110 persons (41% are women) from the local communities are involved in the project activity during this monitoring period and they are properly hired as technicians for forest management, inspection and monitoring by verifying the labor contracts/LC/. Furthermore, via checking the monthly payroll/PAY/ to technicians and maintenance workers, it is verified that an equal opportunity and payment are given to the employments.

3. The project is in compliance with all relevant laws and regulations regarding worker's rights and workers are informed of their rights

A relevant law to which the PPs shall comply is available in the validated PD/PD/ and in the monitoring report, the hiring process is governed by the labour code and all workers have a contract in which its duties, rights and laws that protect them are reported, this is confirmed via checking the labor contracts/LC/ and on site interview with local government officer/I2/ and forest technicians/I3/.

4. Inform workers of risks and how to minimize risk and Minimize workplace risk using best work practices.

The PD states that the project owner shall meet <Safety and Healthy in Forestry Work> published by ILO and <Labor Law of the People's Republic of China> regarding workers' health and safety. Both the two regulations are confirmed as international and national rule and laws which can be used as the occupational safety regulations to obey. The activities that endanger workers are those related to workplace accidents due to the use of dangerous machinery that requires qualified personnel and basic supplies and uniform to prevent accidents and the workers are also trained providing information and practical exercises to prevent any risk which has been verified by checking the training records/TTR/. During the monitoring period, due to the fire risk, basic supplies and uniform for evacuation plan is available to the technicians which has been confirmed during site observation and interview with the technicians/I3/.

Based on above step-wise assessment, it is concluded that the relationship between workers and the project upholds the intent and design presented in the validated project description.

CAR 04, CAR 05 and CAR 06 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.3.10 Management Capacity (G4.2 – G4.3)

The steps taken to verify the project proponent has taken actions and implemented measures to ensure the capacity exists to implement the project over the project lifetime is demonstrated as below:

1. Key technical and management skills

Key technical skills required to implement the project are mentioned in the PD[/PD/]. Via checking the staff list of above three actors[/LC/,/PAY/], it is confirmed that for each individual, experience and education and other qualifications are cited. The PPs and team have the skills necessary to be required to implement the project successfully, including community engagement, biodiversity assessment and carbon measurement and monitoring skills. The project team at the time of the validation process is confirmed in the monitoring report. During the on-site verification process, the varication team conducted the sampling to the sample plots for carbon and biodiversity measurement, it is confirmed that the PPs and team have the skills to the project implementation and CCB measurement and monitoring.

2. Financial health

During the on-site visit and checking the business license[/BL/] of the participant parties, it is confirmed that the project proponent Hefei Zhuoya Landscaping Engineering Co., Ltd is a privacy and legally registered company. Other involved entity Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd is also a legally registered company in China. The PD states that neither the project owner and nor the other parties have been suspected of charged with or found guilty of corruption, bribery, embezzlement, fraud, favoritism, cronyism, nepotism or collusion. Furthermore, through checking the company information in National Enterprise Credit Information Publicity System[/neci/], it is confirmed that during this monitoring period, both the companies are legally operated, the financial health is verified. And by checking the website, it is confirmed that during this monitoring period neither the project owner and nor the other party have been suspected of charged with or found guilty of corruption, bribery, embezzlement, fraud, favoritism, cronyism, nepotism or collusion. Via checking the public website of credit information system[/CGL/] of Chinese company[/neci/], it is confirmed that the statement in MR is actual and credible. Thus, it is concluded that the financial health of the implementing organizations is verified and they can ensure adequate financial support over the project lifetime.

3. Not complicit in any form of corruption

As legally registered companies according to above assessment, the project proponent and other involved entity in project implementation have the obligation to comply with relevant regulations, including anti-corruption law. This is verified by checking the company information in National Enterprise Credit Information Publicity System[/neci/] and on-site observation with company business license[/BL/]. Thus it is concluded that the project is not involved or complicit in any form of corruption during this monitoring period.

Therefore, it is verified that the project has the capacity to implement the project in accordance with the validated project description[/PD/].

CL 12 and CL 13 were raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details

4.3.11 Commercially Sensitive Information (*Rules* 3.5.13 – 3.5.14)

None of the commercially sensitive information found in all the documents of the project.

4.3.12 Rights Protection and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (G5.1-G5.5)

The steps taken to verify actions taken and measures implemented by the project proponent to protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples, communities and other stakeholders are listed as below:

1. Property rights

Prior to the project initiation, the project lands are collective-owned by local villages, this is verified by checking the Certification of land rights[/CLR/]. The local farmers have the right to the use of land[/LUA/]. The project owner and forestry department are responsible for the comprehensive implementation and management of the project [/LUA/, /ERPA/].

2. Does not encroach uninvited on private, community or government property.

The project proponent and forestry department from local government are responsible for the comprehensive implementation and management of the project as defined in the land use agreement and project approval[/LUA/, /AAPP/]. Via on-site interview with the local officer and villagers, it is verified that no entity can encroach the project area as private, community or government property and change the land usage type.

3. Free, prior and informed consent

The local villagers have the right to the use of land, and Hefei Zhuoya Landscaping Engineering Co., Ltd is authorized by local villages to implement the project as a project proponent, which is confirmed by checking the land use agreement[/LUA/]. Thus it is verified that prior and informed consent has been obtained from villagers whose property rights are affected by the project through a transparent and agreed process.

4. Appropriate restitution or compensation

As stated in the validated PD, it is verified that the project area are mostly degraded land and barren land with no residents in baseline scenario, thus it is confirmed that there was no residents to be migrated. And by checking the PRA process results, it is verified that all the local stakeholders voluntarily agreed the implementation of the project before started, and as above statement, it is confirmed that the state-owned forest farms and local villagers have the right of land, and this will not be changed by the project implementation, hence, no compensation is requested from the state-owned forest farms and local villagers.

5. Do not lead to the involuntary removal or relocation

Based on above assessment, it is concluded that the project does not complicit of involuntary relocation as within the project area there are no communities living or depending on the resources located inside the areas through checking the land use agreement and project approval[/LUA/, /AAPP/] and onsite observations and interview with technicians from forest farms and local villagers[/I3/].

6. Reduce illegal activities

Via on-site interview with local government officers, communities, technicians and on-site observation, it is verified that there are no illegal activities inside the project area or in neighboring areas; the area is considered as being peaceful and excluded from social conflict. Furthermore, any illegal logging activities will be fined or sentenced to punishment according to Chinese laws[/law/], and the forests are preserved by project staff regularly as determined in the Integrated Forest Management Manual[/IFMM/], thus it is confirmed no illegal deforestation occurred during this monitoring period. In conclusion, the project's climate, community and biodiversity impacts will not be affected by the illegal activities.

7. None of unresolved dispute

As local villages have voluntarily authorized the right of forest management to the project proponent during the project crediting period, thus there are no ongoing unresolved conflicts over land rights

territories and resources in the project zone. This is confirmed by on site interview with officers from local Forestry Bureau[/I2/] and local residents[/I3/] and checking the land use agreement[/LUA/]. And as stated by local officer, it is confirmed that the local government was responsible to supervise the local villager's right to the land. And the project did not violate the ownership of the land by the villagers and stakeholders, and then did not encroach uninvited on private property, community property, or government property during this monitoring period, which is in line with the CCB rules.

Therefore, it is concluded that the project has protected the rights of Indigenous Peoples, communities and other stakeholders in accordance to the third edition of the CCB standard and the validated project description[/PD/].

CAR 07 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.3.13 Legal Status (G5.6)

Both the validated PD[/PD/] and the MR provide an extensive list of internal agreements, regulations, national and local laws and explain their applicability to the project and the way compliance with the law is achieved by the project where applicable. The laws and regulations are confirmed through checking the public website[/law/, /regu/] which has been compared with the actual situation of the project by on-site observation during this monitoring period, and by interview with the local officers, it is verified that the project is not in violation of any local or national laws or regulations.

4.4 Climate

4.4.1 Accuracy of GHG Emission Reduction and Removal Calculations

Monitoring approach

The monitoring has been carried out in accordance with the monitoring plan contained in the validated PD[/PD/].

The following table describe for each parameter which data are fixed ex-ante. Data and parameters fixed ex-ante as listed in the monitoring report have been cross-checked and reviewed as applicable against the validated PD and applied methodology.

t_{VAL} used to determine the total number of sample plots (n) as stated in the A/R Methodological Tool "Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities" (Version 02.1.0) is a parameters to be defined ex-post and thus not requested in the data available at the validation.

The following list shows the default values used in this verification for GHG removals calculation:

Table 4-2 Assessment of ex-ante determined parameters

Parameter	Description	Value applied	Assessment
A_i	Area of all stratum *i* (ha)	30,057	In the ex-ante estimation, the value of 30,057 ha was taken by Field measurement, this value is confirmed as reasonable and consistent with the validated PD,

			thus used for ex post GHG removals calculation.
$BEF_{2,j}$	Biomass expansion factor for conversion of stem biomass to above-ground biomass	**Tree species** / ***$BEF_{2,j}$*** All Broadleaf forest[1] / 1.674	In the ex-ante estimation, the default values were taken from The People's Republic of China Second National Communication on Climate Change, issued by NDRC, 2013. The default values are confirmed as reasonable due to these are National authority data, thus used for ex post GHG removals calculation.
CF_{TREE}	Carbon fraction of tree biomass for tree species or group of tree species *j* (t C t^{-1} d.m.)	**Tree species** / ***CF_{TREE}*** All Broadleaf forest / 0.497	In the ex-ante estimation, the default values were taken from The People's Republic of China Second National Communication on Climate Change, issued by NDRC, 2013. The default values are confirmed as reasonable due to these are National authority data, thus used for ex post GHG removals calculation.
D_j	Basic wood density	**Tree species** / ***D_j*** All Broadleaf forest / 0.598	In the ex-ante estimation, the default values were taken from The People's Republic of China Second National Communication on Climate Change, issued by NDRC, 2013. The default values are confirmed as reasonable due to these are National authority data, thus used for ex post GHG removals calculation.
R_j	Root-shoot ratio of tree species *j* (Dimensionless)	**Tree species** / ***R_j*** All Broadleaf forest / 0.261	In the ex-ante estimation, the default values were taken from The People's Republic of China Second National Communication on Climate Change, issued by NDRC, 2013. The default values are confirmed as reasonable due to these are National authority data, thus used for ex post GHG removals calculation.
t_{VAL}	Two-sided Students t-value, at infinite degrees of freedom for the required	1.645	This value is not listed in the PD as ex-ante parameter. This value is used to determine the total number of sample plots (n) as stated in the A/R Methodological Tool "Calculation of the number of

[1] All the four tree species belongs to Broadleaf forest which is verified by checking the "Study on biomass and growth rule of dominant tree species in oak broad-leaved forest in Qingyang County" by Anhui Agricultural University/SBLF/, and the values of Broadleaf forest are used for determine the Wood density (D), biomass expansion factor (BEF), root-shoot ratio and carbon fraction according to The People's Republic of China Second National Communication on Climate Change, issued by NDRC, 2013.

	confidence level (Dimensionless)		sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities" (Version 02.1.0). As per the tool, Use the 90% confidence level for determination of biomass stock in A/R CDM project activities, and value is defined as 1.645 in the tool. This is the first monitoring period, the total number of sample plots (n) has to be determined so that the monitoring can be done for measuring the sampling, hence, it is verified that the value listed as ex-ante parameter in MR is correct and in line with the methodological tool.

It is confirmed that the parameters listed above are fixed ex-ante and used for baseline and project emissions calculation in accordance with the applied methodology and methodological tools.

The following table describe for each parameter which is to be measured according to the monitoring plan and how the verification team has verified that the actual monitoring complies with the monitoring plant and that data have been assessed to correctly support the GHG removals being claimed.

Table 4-3 Assessment of ex-post determined parameters

Parameter	Description	Value applied	Assessment
$V_{TREE,j}$; $V_{TREE,l,p,j,i}$	Stem volume of tree species *j*; Stem volume of tree *l* of species *j* in sample plot *p* of stratum *i*	Refer to ER sheet for details.	This is a calculated value and for the ex-post estimation during verification, using allometric equations based on tree dimensions (comprise of height and diameter at breast height) to calculate the stem volume. This parameter is listed in the validated PD as the stem volume was designed in the PD to calculate the tree biomass, and the related allometric equations were used in the MR to calculate the stem volume. This approach is confirmed as in line with the applied methodology and its tools. Also the allometric equation is verified as conservative for the estimation of GHG removals.
$H_{l,p,j,i}$; $DBH_{l,p,j,i}$	Height of tree l of species j in sample plot p of stratum i; Diameter at breast height of tree l of species j in sample plot p of stratum i (m, cm)	Refer to ER sheet for details.	These two parameters are monitored by Field measurements in sample plots and they are two tree dimensions used as entry data into the stem volume equations for the calculation of stem volume of trees as stated in above column. And the allometric equation used will be demonstrated to be appropriate for the purpose of estimation of tree biomass by applying the tool "Demonstrating

			appropriateness of allometric equations for estimation of aboveground tree biomass in A/R CDM project activities”. All the field measured data are measured at the sample plots according to the sampling plan, and then the data are collected and recorded for an electronic copy with the combination of the maps for the ERs calculation. All the measured data and calculation process are provided and verified. The values were measured by the monitoring equipment of Tape, Range pole and Vernier caliper. Hypsometer and metric tape were used to measure the height of the tree and range pole with the tree height mark, and vinyl tape, wooden stake was used to measure the diameter at breast height. It is verified that the approach is in line with the National standard: LY/T 2253-2014 <Guidelines on carbon accounting and monitoring for afforestation project> issued by National Forest Bureau/GCA/ and HJ 710.1-2014 “Technical guidelines for biodiversity monitoring—terrestrial vascular plants” issued by Ministry of environmental protection/TGBM/. All the devices have a state-recognized certificate of qualification which has been verified by checking the products qualification/PQ/ and confirmed as no need to be calibrated. Based on the verification team’s local expertise and searching the applicable national calibration regulations for these devices, it is verified that there is no need to do the calibration for these kind of equipment. Hence, it is concluded that the measurement devices and calibration information is correct and applicable to the monitoring of this project. During the onsite visit, the verification team conducted randomly re-measurement in sample plot selected by verification team for each stratum of the project activity, and verified the initial field measurement records provided by the PP, cross checked with the field measurement results and found they are consistent with the data presented in the MR and the ER calculation spreadsheet. Refer to below sub section of “**Sampling Approach**” for details of the PP sampling plan assessment and sampling approach

			taken by verification team during site inspection.
A_i; $A_{PLOT,i}$	Area of stratum *i*; Size of sample plot in stratum *I* (ha)	**Strata *i*** / **A^i** Unit / ha 1 / 9,324 2 / 6,704 3 / 7,425 4 / 6,604 **Total** / **30,057** $A_{PLOT,I}$: 0.07 (ha)	The areas of stratum is measured through GPS measuring equipment. **30,057 ha** planted area and 4 strata are ex-post defined. For the field measurements, a circular sample plot with a diameter of 30m design has chosen; the sample plot design is determined in the registered PD/PD/ and plots are measured with a fiberglass tape from a fixed central point, and adjusted by the slope when needed which is verified as in line with the National standard: LY/T 2253-2014 <Guidelines on carbon accounting and monitoring for afforestation project> issued by National Forest Bureau/GCA/. During site measurement by verification team for each plot, the radius is measured as 30 m and the plot area is equal to 0.07ha.
$N_{i,j}$	Number of the tree species j of strata i	Refer to ER sheet for details	The number of tree species in each sample plot was measured by field measurement through counting the number inside the sample plot. During the onsite visit, the verification team conducted randomly re-counting in sample plots selected by verification team for each stratum of the project activity cross-checked with the field measurement numbers provided by the PP, and found they are consistent with the data presented in ER calculation spreadsheet.
n	Number of sample plots required for estimation of biomass stocks within the project boundary (Dimensionless)	25	The number of sample plots is calculated based on the methodological Tool: Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities (Version 02.1.0) using the below equation $$n = \left(\frac{t_{VAL}}{E}\right)^2 \times \left(\sum_i w_i \times s_i\right)^2$$ This value is not listed in the PD as a monitored parameter. But used to calculate number of sample plots for measurements as stated in the A/R Methodological Tool "Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities" (Version 02.1.0). This is the first monitoring period, the total number of sample plots (n) has to be determined so that the monitoring can be done for measuring the sampling, hence, it is

			verified that the value listed as monitored parameter in MR is correct and in line with the methodological tool.
n_i	Number of sample plots allocated to strata *i* (Dimensionless)	**Strata *i*** / **n_i** Unit / - 1 / 8 2 / 6 3 / 6 4 / 5	The number of sample plots allocated to strata *i* is calculated based on the methodological Tool: Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities (Version 02.1.0) using the below equation $n_i = n \times \frac{w_i \times s_i}{\sum_i w_i \times s_i}$ This value is not listed in the PD as a monitored parameter. But used to calculate number of sample plots for measurements as stated in the A/R Methodological Tool "Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities" (Version 02.1.0). This is the first monitoring period, the Number of sample plots allocated to strata *i* (n_i) has to be determined so that the monitoring can be done for measuring the sampling, hence, it is verified that the value listed as monitored parameter in MR is correct and in line with the methodological tool.
E	Acceptable margin of error (i.e. one-half the confidence interval) in estimation of biomass stock within the project boundary (t d.m. ha^{-1})	**8.514**	Acceptable margin of error in estimation of biomass stock is calculated by 10% of the mean biomass stock within the project boundary. The mean biomass stock within the project boundary was calculated by the estimation value from the registered PD which has been checked by the verification team as correct in the sample plots calculation sheet/SPCS/. This value is not listed in the PD as a monitored parameter. But used to calculate number of sample plots for measurements as stated in the A/R Methodological Tool "Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities" (Version 02.1.0). This is the first monitoring period, the Acceptable margin of error (E) has to be determined so that the monitoring can be done for measuring the sampling, hence, it is verified that the value listed as monitored parameter in MR is correct and in line with the methodological tool.
w_i	Relative weight of the area of stratum i (i.e. the	**Strata *i*** / **w_i** Unit / /	This is a calculated value.

	area of the stratum i divided by the project area) (Dimensionless)	1: 31% 2: 22.3% 3: 24.7% 4: 22% **Total**: **-**	The relative weight of the area of stratum *i* is equal to the area of the stratum *i* divided by the project area. This value is not listed in the PD as a monitored parameter. But used to calculate number of sample plots for measurements as stated in the A/R Methodological Tool "Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities" (Version 02.1.0). This is the first monitoring period, the relative weight of the area of stratum i (w_i) has to be determined so that the monitoring can be done for measuring the sampling, hence, it is verified that the value listed as monitored parameter in MR is correct and in line with the methodological tool.
s_i	Estimated standard deviation of biomass stock per unit area in strata i (t d.m. ha^{-1})	**Strata *i***: **s_i** Unit: t d.m. ha^{-1} 1: 27.164 2: 27.164 3: 23.693 4: 23.693	The values of this parameter are calculated by biomass stock per unit area multiply the existing standard deviation data related to the project area. Standard deviation is derived from the existing data related to the project area issued by the Hefei Forestry Bureau and Chuzhou Forestry Bureau based on the results of years of forestry surveys/SDPA/. This value is not listed in the PD as a monitored parameter. But used to calculate number of sample plots for measurements as stated in the A/R Methodological Tool "Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities" (Version 02.1.0). This is the first monitoring period, the Estimated standard deviation of biomass stock (s_i) has to be determined so that the monitoring can be done for measuring the sampling, hence, it is verified that the value listed as monitored parameter in MR is correct and in line with the methodological tool.
u_c	Uncertainty in carbon change ΔC_{TREE} (Dimensionless)	**1.71%**	The parameter is used to determine the uncertainty discount, the value is calculated by below equation as per the tool of "Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks of trees and shrubs in A/R CDM project activities" version 04.2. $u_C = \frac{t_{VAL} \times \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{M} w_i^2 \times \frac{s_{\Delta,i}^2}{n_i}}}{\lvert \Delta b_{TREE} \rvert}$ As per the tool, "if u_c estimated from above Equation is greater than 10 per cent, ΔC_{TREE} is made conservative by applying

			uncertainty discount according to the procedure provided in Appendix 2”. The value of u_c is calculated as 1.71%, hence, the uncertainty discount is not used for this monitoring period. This value is not listed in the PD as a monitored parameter. But used to calculate uncertainty discount as stated in the A/R Methodological Tool “Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks of trees and shrubs in A/R CDM project activities” (Version 04.2). Hence, it is verified that the value listed as monitored parameter in MR is correct and in line with the methodological tool.
b_{TREE}	Mean change in tree biomass per hectare within the biomass estimation strata (t d.m.ha^{-1})	Refer to ER sheet for details	The parameter is used to calculate uncertainty in carbon stock u_c, the value is calculated by all the sample plots results. Variance is calculated as mean change value based on the biomass/ha values for all the sample plots for each stratum. This value is not listed in the PD as a monitored parameter. But used to calculate uncertainty in carbon stock as stated in the A/R Methodological Tool “Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks of trees and shrubs in A/R CDM project activities” (Version 04.2). Hence, it is verified that the value listed as monitored parameter in MR is correct and in line with the methodological tool.
t_{VAL}(for calculation of u_C)	Two-sided Students t-value for a confidence level of 90 per cent and degrees of freedom equal to n – M, where n is total number of sample plots within the tree biomass estimation strata and M is the total number of tree biomass estimation strata (Dimensionless)	1.721	t_{VAL}(for calculation of u_C) is the parameter from Tool “Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks of trees and shrubs in A/R CDM project activities” (Version 04.2) used to calculate u_C. And the value is derived from “Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities” (Version 02.1.0) due to n (total number of sample plots within the tree biomass estimation strata) is 25 and M(the total number of tree biomass estimation strata) is 4. Thus degrees of freedom equal to n-M is 21, via checking the tool of “Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities” (Version 02.1.0), the value of t_{VAL} is 1.721 by degree of freedom is 21 at confidence level of 90%. This value is not listed in the PD as a monitored parameter. But used to calculate uncertainty in carbon stock as

			stated in the A/R Methodological Tool "Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks of trees and shrubs in A/R CDM project activities" (Version 04.2). Hence, it is verified that the value listed as monitored parameter in MR is correct and in line with the methodological tool.

It is confirmed that the validated monitoring plan has been properly implemented and followed by the PPs and all parameters needed for calculate GHG removals have been monitored.

Sampling approach by PP

PP has adopted a sampling method in the MR according to the validated PD, according to the A/R methodological tool "Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities" version 02.1.0 to determine the sample plots number for measurement and monitoring during this monitoring period. The number of sampling plots is calculated as below sub-steps:

I. Post stratification

The post stratification is same to the prior stratification as defined in the approved PD due to there is no change the project design and the project is implemented as per the registered PD, the post stratification during this monitoring period is listed in below table,

Table 4-4 Post-stratification during this monitoring period

Strata	Area (ha)	Tree species	Year to plant
Total	**32,047**	**-**	
1	9,324	*koelreuteria paniculata*	2014
2	6,704	*Quercus robur*	2014
3	7,425	*Celtis sinensis Pers*	2015
4	6,604	*zelkova schneideriana*	2015

Thus, it is verified that post stratification has been implemented taking into account of the growth rates of species, planting period and patterns same to the ex-ante determination in the registered PD. Via on-site inspection, it is verified that the ex post stratification is correct and reasonable in line with the actual status of the project implementation.

II. Calculation of number sample plots

As a follow up to ex post stratification, the calculation of number sample plots and their allocation to the project strata has been revised.

PP calculated numbers based on the A/R methodological tool "Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities" version 02.1.0. As determined in the validated PD, the plot size is set to be a circular area with a diameter of 30m and the area of each sampling plot is calculated about 706.86 m^2, which is much less than 5% of the total project area, thus according to the tool, this is defined as a small sampling fraction (that is, when area sampled is less than 5% of the project area), the following simplified equation can be used for estimating the number of sample plots:

$$n = \left(\frac{t_{VAL}}{E}\right)^2 \times (\sum_i w_i \times s_i)^2 \quad (1)$$

Where:

n	=	Number of sample plots required for estimation of biomass stocks within the project boundary; dimensionless
t_{VAL}	=	Two-sided Students t-value at infinite degrees of freedom for the required confidence level; dimensionless
E	=	Acceptable margin of error (i.e. one-half the confidence interval) in estimation of biomass stock per unit area within the project boundary; t d.m. ha^{-1}, i.e. in the units used for s_i
w_i	=	Relative weight of the area of stratum i (i.e. the area of the stratum i divided by the project area); dimensionless
s_i	=	Estimated standard deviation of biomass stock per unit area in stratum i; t d.m. ha^{-1}
i	=	1, 2, 3, biomass stock estimation strata within the project boundary

Number of sample plots allocated to a strata is calculated as:

$$n_i = n \times \frac{w_i \times s_i}{\sum_i w_i \times s_i} \quad (2)$$

Where:

n_i	=	Number of sample plots allocated to strata *i*; dimensionless
n	=	Number of sample plots required for estimation of biomass stocks within the project boundary; dimensionless
w_i	=	Relative weight of the area of strata *i* (i.e. the area of the stratum *i* divided by the project area); dimensionless
s_i	=	Estimated standard deviation of biomass stock per unit area in strata *i*; t d.m. ha^{-1}

Based on the assessment for the above parameters in the monitoring parameters part, the mean biomass stock with the project boundary and the standard deviation of biomass stock in each strata were estimated as per the request in the tool using existing value related to the local project area, which were used to calculate the final number of sample plots based on formula (1) and (2) as mentioned above, via checking the MR against the methodological tool, it is verified that the values are determined correct based on the tool.

The sample plots were allocated to each stratum based on size of each stratum relative to the total project area.

The number of sampling plots used for monitoring and measurement are listed in table below,

Table 4-5 Number of sample plots in each stratum

Strata	W_i	S_i	t_{VAL}	E	n	n_i	Number of sample plots
1	0.310	27.164	1.645	8.514	25	8	8

2	0.223	27.164				6	6
3	0.247	23.693				6	6
4	0.220	23.693				5	5

The total numbers of sample plots for the **30,057** ha are 25. After determined the number of the plots, PP randomly selected the location for all the sample plots. Via checking the project area KML file/KML/, it is verified that there are totally 128 planting plots included in the project area. The PP has randomly selected the 25 sample plots from these planting plots. Via checking the sampling plots selection records/SSSR/, it is confirmed that the location of the sample plots are selected randomly using the Excel random function and ArcGis software. And the location of the sampling plots have been clearly and correctly listed in the MR.

Sampling approach by verification team

During the site visit, the verification team performed sample of 25 samples selected by PP. Field sampling and techniques based on the project parameters, scope and best professional judgement of the verification team in order to meet a reasonable level of assurance.

The sampling approach during on-site verification is determined taking into account the accessibility and similitude of the areas and the tool for sampling was referred by verification team for the site verification. The sampling design (number of plots, location) is considered to be in line with the requirements for validation (IAF Guidance on the Application of ISO/IEC Guide 66 - G.5.3.12.: x=$\sqrt{y}$), and it has ensured a representative cross-section of the properties in the areas.

Verification team performed sample calculated as below,

Stratum 1, number of plots y is 8. X=$\sqrt{8}$=3

Stratum 2, number of plots y is 6. X=$\sqrt{6}$=3

Stratum 3, number of plots y is 6. X=$\sqrt{6}$=3

Stratum 4, number of plots y is 5. X=$\sqrt{5}$=3

Verification team randomly selected 12 sample plots from each strata from the PP sampling plots inventory/SPI/ and a ground inspection of the project area was conducted during the site visit and members of the verification team visited 12 sample plots from 25 PP samples within the project area.

The measurement results carried during verification team operation and the raw data of rest of the 13 sample plots were checked against the ER spread sheets and the same was found to be acceptable without any deviation. The measurement results carried out by verification team are concluded as below table:

Table 4-6 Measurement results conducted by verification team

Strata	Sample No.	Longitudes (E)	Latitudes (N)	Number of saplings	Mean DBH (cm)	Mean Height (m)
1	ID13	117°53′59″E	31°50′40″N	85 (koelreuteria paniculata)	4.02	5.18
1	ID45	117°25′36″E	31°30′50″N	85 (koelreuteria paniculata)	4.05	5.12

2	ID41	116°53′09″E	31°46′53″N	83 (koelreuteria paniculata)	4.09	5.13
2	ID100	118°11′07″E	32°33′49″N	117 (zelkova schneideriana)	4.41	4.75
3	ID114	118°04′31″E	33°04′05″N	115 (zelkova schneideriana)	4.41	4.93
3	ID97	118°27′08″E	32°25′31″ N	117 (zelkova schneideriana)	4.51	4.71
3	ID76	118°03′36″E	32°31′27″N	98 (Celtis sinensis Pers)	4.50	5.10
3	ID126	118°04′19″E	32°04′44″ N	89 (Celtis sinensis Pers)	4.50	5.07
3	ID81	117°45′51″E	32°53′35″ N	98 (Celtis sinensis Pers)	4.40	5.00
4	ID22	117°36′25″E	31°45′45″N	87 (Quercus robur)	4.03	4.12
4	ID23	117°35′15″E	31°57′24″N	88 (Quercus robur)	4.13	4.00

Verification team compared the above information they got from the on-site measurement and the raw data from the monitoring survey/FSR/, it can be concluded that the monitoring results in MR are acceptable and accurate.

Thus in conclusion, the GHG data monitoring follows project own procedures with regard to management and monitoring. Verification team has assessed the information provided by the PP by reviewing the data and information to verify their completeness, the validated monitoring plan in PD, the applied methodology and methodological tools; evaluating the data management and the quality assurance and quality control of the reported GHG removals.

GHG Emission Reduction and Removal Calculations

The GHG removals are calculated according the applied methodology AR-ACM0003 version 02 and validated PD/PD/ as below steps,

I. Baseline net GHG removals by sinks

The baseline net GHG removal by sinks are equal to zero as determined in the validated PD.

II. Actual net GHG removals by sinks

The actual net GHG removals by sinks were estimated as the change in the carbon stocks in project occurring in the selected carbon pool, minus the increase in non-CO_2 GHG emissions within the project boundary as a result of the implementation of the A/R CDM project activity (Equation (2) in the applied methodology) and validated PD, which is shown as follows:

$$\Delta C_{ACTUAL,t} = \Delta C_{P,t} - GHG_{E,t} \quad (3)$$

Where:

$\Delta C_{ACTUAL,t}$	=	Actual net GHG removals by sinks, in year *t*; t CO_2-e
$\Delta C_{P,t}$	=	Change in the carbon stocks in project, occurring in the selected carbon pools, in year *t*; t CO_2-e
$GHG_{E,t}$	=	Increase in non-CO_2 GHG emissions within the project boundary as a result of the implementation of the A/R CDM project activity, in year *t*, as estimated in the tool "*Estimation of non-CO_2 GHG emissions resulting from burning of biomass attributable to an A/R CDM project activity*"; t CO_2-e

According to the tool, the use of fire for site preparation and/or to clear the land of harvest residue prior to replanting is specifically excluded from the project management and therefore non-CO_2 GHG emissions are estimated as zero.

$GHG_{E,t}$ = 0

Change in the carbon stocks in project, occurring in the selected carbon pools in year t shall be calculated as follows:

$$\Delta C_{P,t} = \Delta C_{TREE_PROJ,t} + \Delta C_{SHRUB_PROJ,t} + \Delta C_{DW_PROJ,t} + \Delta C_{LI_PROJ,t} + \Delta SOC_{AL,t} \quad (4)$$

Where:

$\Delta C_{P,t}$	=	Change in the carbon stocks in project, occurring in the selected carbon pools, in year *t*; t CO_2-e
$\Delta C_{TREE_PROJ,t}$	=	Change in carbon stock in tree biomass in project in year *t*, as estimated in the tool "*Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks of trees and shrubs in A/R CDM project activities*"; t CO_2-e
$\Delta C_{SHRUB_PROJ,t}$	=	Change in carbon stock in shrub biomass in project in year *t*, as estimated in the tool "*Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks of trees and shrubs in A/R CDM project activities*"; t CO_2-e
$\Delta C_{DW_PROJ,t}$	=	Change in carbon stock in dead wood in project in year *t*, as estimated in the tool "*Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks in dead wood and litter in A/R CDM project activities*"; t CO_2-e
$\Delta C_{LI_PROJ,t}$	=	Change in carbon stock in litter in project in year *t*, as estimated in the tool "*Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks in dead wood and litter in A/R CDM project activities*"; t CO_2-e
$\Delta SOC_{AL,t}$	=	Change in carbon stock in SOC in project, in year *t*, in areas of land meeting the applicability conditions of the tool "*Tool for estimation of change in soil organic carbon stocks due to the implementation of A/R CDM project activities*", as estimated in the same tool; t CO_2-e

For conservativeness, only change in carbon stock in tree biomass of project will be considered as determined in the validated PD. Therefore, the above equation can be simplified as:

$$\Delta C_{P,t} = \Delta C_{TREE_PROJ,t} \quad (5)$$

And the tool "Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks of trees and shrubs in A/R CDM project activity" (Version 04.2) is used to estimate the change in carbon stock above the ground. According to the tool, change in carbon stock in trees between two points of time is estimated by using one of the following methods or a combination thereof:

(a) Difference of two independent stock estimations;

(b) Direct estimation of change by re-measurement of sample plots;

(c) Estimation by proportionate crown cover;

(d) Demonstration of "no-decrease".

Method (b) has been determined in the validated PD as per the methodological tool and is used in the monitoring of the following verification.

Thus the change in the carbon stocks in project was estimated as the change in carbon stock in tree biomass following methodological tool "Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks of trees and shrubs in A/R CDM project activities" (Version 04.2), as described below.

a. Estimation of carbon stock in trees biomass

According to the tool, Method (b) (Direct estimation of change by re-measurement of sample plots) is applied for the monitoring during the verification.

Under this method, the change in carbon stock and the associated uncertainty are estimated as follows:

$$\Delta C_{TREE} = \frac{44}{12} \times CF_{TREE} \times \Delta B_{TREE} \quad (6)$$

$$\Delta B_{TREE} = A \times \Delta b_{TREE} \quad (7)$$

$$\Delta b_{TREE} = \sum_{i=1}^{M} w_i \times \Delta b_{TREE,i} \quad (8)$$

$$u_{\Delta C} = \frac{t_{VAL} \times \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{M} w_i^2 \times \frac{s_{\Delta,i}^2}{n_i}}}{|\Delta b_{TREE}|} \quad (9)$$

Where:

ΔC_{TREE}	=	Change in carbon stock in trees between two successive measurements; t CO_2-e
CF_{TREE}	=	Carbon fraction of tree biomass; t C/t d.m.
ΔB_{TREE}	=	Change in biomass within the biomass estimation strata; t d.m.
A_i	=	Sum of the area of the biomass estimation strata; ha
Δb_{TREE}		Mean change in tree biomass per hectare within the biomass estimation strata; t d.m./ha
w_i	=	Ratio of the area of stratum i to the sum of areas of biomass estimation strata (i.e. $w_i = A_i/A$); dimensionless
$\Delta b_{TREE,i}$	=	Mean change in tree biomass per hectare in strata *i*; t d.m./ha
$u_{\Delta C}$	=	Uncertainty in ΔC_{TREE}
t_{VAL}	=	Two-sided Student's t-value for a confidence level of 90 per cent and degrees of freedom equal to n – M, where n is total number of sample plots within the tree biomass estimation strata, and M is the total number of tree biomass estimation strata
$s_{\Delta,i}^2$	=	Variance of mean change in tree biomass per hectare in stratum *i*; (t d.m. ha^{-1})^2
n_i	=	Number of sample plots, in stratum *i*, in which tree biomass was re-measured

Tree biomass per hectare in a sample plot is estimated by applying one of the plot measurement methods provided in Appendix 1 of the Tool. PP choose the measurement of fixed area plots for the calculation for this project during this monitoring period.

In this method, sample plots of the same size (e.g. or of a hectare) are installed in a stratum. All trees in a sample plot above a minimum dimension are measured and the biomass of each tree is estimated. The biomass of the individual tree is added and the sum is divided by the area of the sample plot to obtain the plot biomass value.

The plot biomass value (i.e. per-hectare tree biomass at the centre of the plot) is estimated as follows (all time-dependent variables relate to the time of measurement):

$$b_{TREE,p,i} = \frac{B_{TREE,p,i}}{A_{PLOT,i}} \quad (10)$$

$$B_{TREE,p,i} = \sum_j B_{TREE,j,p,i} \quad (11)$$

$$B_{TREE,j,p,i} = \sum_l B_{TREE,l,j,p,i} \quad (12)$$

Where:

$b_{TREE,p,j}$	=	Tree biomass per hectare in sample plot *p* of strata *i*; t d.m./ha
$B_{TREE,p,j}$	=	Tree biomass in sample plot *p* of strata *i*;; t d.m.
$A_{PLOT,i}$	=	Size of sample plot in strata *i*; ha
$B_{TREE,j,p,j}$	=	Biomass of trees of species *j* in sample plot *p* of strata *i*;; t d.m.
$B_{TREE,l,j,p,j}$	=	Biomass of trees *l* of species *j* in sample plot *p* of strata *i*;; t d.m.

Biomass of a tree in a sample plot is estimated by using the following equations:

$$B_{TREE,l,j,p,i} = V_{TREE,l,p,j,i} \times D_j \times BEF_j \times (1 + R_j) \quad (13)$$

Where:

$B_{TREE,l,p,j,i}$	=	Biomass of tree *l* of species *j* in sample plot *p* of strata *i*; t d.m.
$V_{TREE,l,p,j,i}$	=	Stem volume of tree *l* of species *j* in sample plot *p* of strata *i*, estimated from the tree dimension(s) as entry data into a volume table or volume equation; m^3
D_j	=	Density of tree species *j*; t d.m/m^3
BEF_j	=	Biomass expansion factor for conversion of tree stem biomass to above-ground tree biomass, for tree species *j*; dimensionless
R_j	=	Root-shoot ratio for tree species *j*; dimensionless

Due to the stem volume was designed in the PD to calculate the tree biomass, allometric equations were used in the MR as per the tool. This approach is confirmed as in line with the applied methodology and its tools. Also the allometric equation is verified as conservative for the estimation of GHG removals.

For the Stem volume of tree l of species j in sample plot p of stratum i $V_{TREE,l,p,j,i}$, the tree dimensions used as entry data into a volume equations are Height of tress ($H_{l,p,j,i}$) and Diameter at breast height of trees ($DBH_{l,p,j,i}$). The following allometric equation is used to calculate the above-ground biomass of each tree species:

Table 4-7 Allometric equations of tree species

Tree species	*Allometric equations for above-ground biomass*

Broadleaf Forest for all the tree species[2]	$V_{TREE,j} = 0.000050479055 \times D^{1.9085054} \times H^{0.99076507}$

The data source of allometric equations is confirmed as "Tree volume tables of China"/AEB/ issued by China Forestry Publishing House.

Both data source are checked as per the tool of "Demonstrating appropriateness of allometric equations for estimation of aboveground tree biomass in A/R CDM project activities" (version 01.0), as stated in this tool, a species-specific or group-of-species-specific allometric equation derived from trees growing in edapho-climatic conditions similar to those in the project area is considered appropriate, and hence can be used for ex post estimation of tree biomass, if at least one of the following conditions is satisfied:

(a) The equation is used in the national forest inventory, or the national GHG inventory, of the host Party;

(b) The equation has been used in commercial forestry sector of the host Party for ten years or more;

(c) The equation was derived from a data set of at least 30 sample trees, and the value of coefficient of determination (R^2) obtained was not less than 0.85.

Via checking the "Tree volume tables of China"/AEB/ issued by China Forestry Publishing House, it is verified that the data source is the National standard used in the national forest inventory in the host country China, so the equation is verified as fulfill the condition (a) thus confirmed as appropriate.

Based on the above calculation equation, it is concluded that for the four tree species, volume equations were used to convert measured Height of trees ($H_{l,p,j,i}$) and Diameter at breast height of trees ($DBH_{l,p,j,i}$) to stem volume of trees for each tree with sampling plot stem volume of each tree in sample plot was converted to above-ground tree biomass using basic wood density and biomass expansion factors, and the above-ground tree biomass was expanded to total tree biomass using root-shoot ratios.

Finally, based on above calculation process, during this monitoring period, for each stratum, the monitoring and calculation results of the carbon stock change is as following,

Table 4-8 The monitoring results based on sample plots

Strata *i*	Unit	Total	1	2	3	4
$A_{PROJ,i}$	ha	30,057	9,324	6,704	7,425	6,604
w_i	/		31%	22.3%	24.7%	22%
s_i^2	t dm·ha^{-1}		0.048	0.072	0.261	0.052
E	t dm·ha^{-1}	8.514				
t_{VAL}(to calculate n)	/	1.645				
t_{VAL} (to calculate $u_{\Delta C}$)	/	1.721				
n		25				

[2] All the four tree species belongs to Broadleaf forest which is verified by checking the "Study on biomass and growth rule of dominant tree species in oak broad-leaved forest in Qingyang County" by Anhui Agricultural University/SBLF/, and the values of Broadleaf forest are used for determine the Wood density (D), biomass expansion factor (BEF), root-shoot ratio and carbon fraction according to The People's Republic of China Second National Communication on Climate Change, issued by NDRC, 2013.

n_i		25	8	6	6	5
$u_{\Delta C}$		1.71%				
ΔC_{TREE}	t CO_2	**362,937**				

For the parameters calculation process and results, Refer to ER sheet for details.

Via checking the details calculation in the ER sheet, it is confirmed that the uncertainty is calculated as 1.71% which is less than 10%, therefore no discount of the mean biomass should be applied according to the tool "Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks of trees and shrubs in A/R CDM project activities".

In conclusion, it is confirmed that the calculation of GHG removals by sink has been carried out in accordance with the formulae and methods described in the validated monitoring plan/PD/ and applied methodology and tools.

For this monitoring period, PP claimed the VCUs in several vintages as below:

1. **22-April-2014 – 31-December-2015**
2. **01-January-2016 – 31-December-2016**
3. **01-January-2017 – 31-December-2017**
4. **01-January-2018 – 31-December-2018**

For determination of the ER for the period from 22-April-2014 to 31-December-2015, the monitoring data are derived from the monitoring survey conducted in Jan. 2016/FSR/.

For determination of the ER for the period from 01-January-2016 to 31-December-2016, the monitoring data are derived from the monitoring survey conducted in Jan. 2017/FSR/.

For determination of the ER for the period from 01-January-2017 to 31-December-2017, the monitoring data are derived from the monitoring survey conducted in Jan. 2018/FSR/.

For determination of the ER for the period from 01-January-2018 to 31-December-2018, the monitoring data are derived from the monitoring survey conducted in Jan. 2019/FSR/.

Via checking all the field monitoring results, it is verified that since the start date of the project, PP conducted the monitoring survey annually in Jan since 2016 to get statistics of the tree growing. Via checking the four ER calculation sheets for period as above statement, it is confirmed that the original data derived from the monitoring survey are correct and actual and ER calculations for the four vintages are also correct and actual.

The total GHG removals by sink being claimed for vintage periods and total this monitoring period account as follows:

Period	GHG removals by sink	Buffer 10%	VCUs
22-April-2014 – 31-December-2015	110,770	11,077	99,693
01-January-2016 – 31-December-2016	68,927	6,893	62,034
01-January-2017 – 31-December-2017	84,103	8,410	75,693
01-January-2018 – 31-December-2018	99,137	9,914	89,223

Total	**362,937**	**36,294**	**326,643**

CAR 08, CAR 09, CAR 10 and CAR 11 were raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.4.2 Quality of Evidence to Determine GHG Emission Reductions and Removals

During the verification assessment, the evidence provided by the PPs was sufficient in both quantity and quality to support the determination of GHG removals reported by the project. The threshold for materiality to the total GHG removals reported was met for this project; materiality is a concept that the errors, omissions and misrepresentations could affect the GHG removals assertion and influence the intended users. As defined by VCS version 3, the materiality will be 5%.

The source and nature of the evidence (external or internal, oral or documented) for the determination of GHG emission reductions or removals has been assessed and verified in above section 4.4.1 together with each calculation step, thus the reliability of the evidence is confirmed. The evidence provided to determine GHG removals reported in the Monitoring Report included values, notations, units an sources; the evidences has been cross-checked with supplied GHG removals calculation spreadsheet/XLS/.

The procedure for data generation and aggregation, recording, transfer and final transposition into the MR was also verified and found to be in compliance with the monitoring plan in the validated PD.

For the measuring devices, the confirmation of no need to conduct calibration has been assessed and verified in above section 4.4.1 together with the assessment of monitoring parameters, the implemented approach is verified as appropriate and in line with the national regulations.

Therefore it is confirmed through cross-checks that adequate monitoring mechanism are in place where the required parameters need to be monitored, and the quantity and quality of the evidence used to determine the GHG reductions and removals is concluded as sufficient and appropriate.

4.4.3 Non-Permanence Risk Analysis

The project utilized the VCS Procedural Document “AFOLU Non-Permanence Risk Tool” (version 4.0)/NPRT/ to assess risk according to internal risk, external risk, natural risk and mitigation measures for minimizing risk. At all levels has been evaluated the rationale, appropriateness and justifications of risk rating chosen by PPs.

Each risk category was calculated based on the VCS guidance and the input provided by the PPs. The risk has been reassessed at time of the first verification and with that prior to any issuance of VCUs. The information was verified and cross-checked through document and literature review/AAPP/&/PDAO/&/IFMM/, onsite visits of the project area and interviews conducted/IM01/. Details of the assessment are provided as follow.

Risk factor	Verification findings
Internal risks	
Project management	The management team includes individuals who have successfully managed projects through validation of GHG credits under the CDM, CCER, VCS Program/vcs/,/ccer/,/unfccc/, therefore this mitigation is scored as -2. There is a specific mitigation plan made by project proponent for

	potential risks to the project, which includes a process for monitoring progress and documenting lessons learned or corrections that may be needed, and incorporating them into project decision-making in this monitoring period, which has been verified in the Monitoring Manual/MM/, therefore this mitigation is scored as -2.
Financial viability	According to the reported barren hills and wasteland data in the project design/PDAO/, the forestry departments at all levels counted and approved the afforestation area, and allocated the funds and provincial-level funds and local funds issued by the state to the counties. So project cash flow breakeven point is greater than 10 years from the current risk assessment. The cash out of the project is mainly for implementation of the project during the first three years, which has been fully secured by the project owner and buyer. Therefore this mitigation is scored as 6.
Opportunity cost	The NPV from the project is negative while the NPV from the most reasonable alternative land use activity (the land continued to be barren with no use) is zero. Therefore this mitigation is scored as 0.
Project longevity	Since the main tree species planted in the project are Koelreuteria paniculata, Quercus robur, Celtis sinensis Pers, zelkova schneideriana which all have Suitable for the growth of Subtropical foothills, therefore the project longevity selected 30 years/PL/ and the crediting period is selected to be 20 years. Therefore this mitigation is scored as 0.
External risks	
Land tenure and resource access/impact	Project Approval/AAPP/ is checked, it is verified that the land of the project is all collective-owned, and the project proponent holds a concession for operating and management of the forest on the land. Therefore this mitigation is scored as 0.
Community Engagement	The project land are mostly barren land by checking the baseline survey/BLS/, no residents living within the project area/CBSR/. And for the households living within 20km of the project boundary outside the project area, nearly all of them have been consulted during the Participatory Rural Appraisal/PRA/ of the project and the community monitoring survey by questionnaires. According to the PRA report and filled questionnaires, the project generates net positive impacts on the social and economic well-being of the local communities who derive livelihoods from the project area during this monitoring period. Therefore this mitigation is scored as -5.
Political Risk	The project is located in China. According to World Bank Institute's WGI, the six indicators of China are respectively -0.30, 0.30, -0.47, -0.25, -0.39 and -1.59, averaged over the most recent five years, so the mean score is -0.45. Governance Score is -0.45 then the final score is 4. China has an established Designated National Authority under the CDM and has at least one registered CDM Afforestation/Reforestation project, therefore this mitigation is scored as -2. Total Score is 2.
Natural risks	

Fire	Major. Fire risk is considered low in the early phase of the project because planting area is mostly barren land, after the trees grow to a certain age (over 30 years), the risk of fire may increase, and the project proponent will adopt the necessary measures for fire preventing. Thus, LS= 2 Furthermore, local government sets the fireproofing period when using fire is forbidden in the open air and no fires occurred in the project areas for this monitoring period as confirmed during the on-site visit. Also the fire will be strictly controlled by project proponent who experienced in local natural risk control to minimize the potential effect and established fire prevention procedure in Integrated Forest Management Manual/IFMM/. Therefore the mitigation is scored as 0.25.
Pest and disease outbreaks	Insignificant. According to historical records, the pest and disease risk are not common, and the mixed plantation will prevent the trees from pest and disease outbreaks in a certain way based on technical experience. Hence the risk is less than every 10 years. LS=2 The planted trees may would be damaged by insects and disease, but the risk is considered low because it can be prevented by routine overseeing and the PP have in place a full Integrated Forest Management Manual/IFMM/. The biological measures to control pests and diseases will be mainly adopted. The chemical pesticides are allowed to be used only if there is a serious pest problem erupted in the project area, while improper pesticide application would be harmful to natural environment, but the risk is considered low because pesticide will be strictly managed by well trained staff to minimize the potential effect/IFMM/. As the biological measures to control pests and diseases will be mainly adopted, the pesticide application will be limited. During this monitoring period, there was no pest and disease risk occurred which is confirmed by checking the daily log of the technicians and interview with the officer from local forest bureau and local residents. Therefore the mitigation is scored as 0.25.
Extreme Weather	Minor There is basically no extreme weather in the project area based on weather reports collected from historic records from local government/whr/; and there was no extreme weather in the project area during this monitoring period as confirmed by checking the historic records for this monitoring period from local government/whr/ and interview with the officer from local forest bureau and local residents. LS=1. Therefore the mitigation is scored as 0.25.
Geological risk	Minor The geological risk such as earthquakes around the project area are mostly low intensity, so the damage will be minor. According to historical records from local government/whr/, there is no earthquakes or volcanoes occurred in recent 30 years around the project area as confirmed during the on-site interview with local officer. And there was no geological risk in the project area during this monitoring period as confirmed by checking the historic records

	for this monitoring period from local government[/whr/] and interview with the officer from local forest bureau and local residents. LS=1. Furthermore, local government will be responsible for the recovery of the forest if there is an earthquake occurred as confirmed during the on-site visit. Also the project proponent is experienced in local natural risk control to minimize the potential effect and established specific instruction in geological risk control in Integrated Forest Management Manual[/IFMM/]. Therefore the mitigation is scored as 0.25.
Other risks	None is observed.

In summary, the PPs have accounted for risk factors in a reasonable manner and have reached an overall risk rating that encompasses all risks of non-permanence; the project is able to effectively manage risks to project benefits during the monitoring period and project lifetime. Risk mitigation strategies were confirmed to have been implemented as planned in the validated PD and are summarized in the non-permanence risk assessment conducted by the project. During the verification activity no additional risks to project benefits are identified.

The overall risk rating according to the applied tool is 10%. The validation team concludes that this risk rating is purely based on the tool cited above, according to VCS requirements.

The non-performance risk report[/NPRR/] and Risk Calculation Sheet[/RCS/] are provided by PP. The risk analysis is assessed for its appropriateness. The overall risk rating for the specific monitoring period is 10% and it represents the buffer applied (VCUs that must be deposited in the AFOLU pooled buffer).

4.4.4 Dissemination of Monitoring Plan and Results (CL4.2)

The monitoring results, monitoring plan and summary of the monitoring report in local language, have been made publicly available on the VCS and CCB website, which can be confirmed by checking the corresponding webpage.

In addition, hard copies of the monitoring plan and monitoring manual have been distributed among local stakeholders by PP and local government which is confirmed and verified by interview with the local stakeholders.

Furthermore, the project implementer published the monitoring plan and monitoring manual on the local notice boards to explain the monitoring process to communities and other stakeholders which has been verified by checking the photo of the communities and stakeholders watching[/RVAR/] and seen by verification team during site inspection.

Finally, meetings with stakeholders have been carried out during site verification. During the meeting, project implementer introduced the monitoring results during this monitoring period and copies of monitoring report is available to anyone requests it. Verification team has participated and the results are also verified by checking the meeting minute and questionnaires filled by stakeholders[/VSM/].

In conclusion, the results of climate monitoring were disseminated in accordance with the validated project description.

CL 14 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.4.5 Optional Gold Level: Climate Change Adaptation Measures (GL1.3)

N/A

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

N/A

4.5 Community

4.5.1 Community Impacts (CM2.1)

The analysis of the net benefits to the communities is conducted making comparison with the baseline scenario. The asset which are assessed are the human capital, social capital, physical capital, financial capital, natural capital and no negative well-being impacts have been identified, while it is expected that the forest will generate benefits on the quality of the environment and on living conditions of the local residents and workers. By the interview with the project implementer, technicians and local stakeholders, this is was confirmed. Being the monitoring period mostly related to the retro-active period, the analysis and the assessment did at the time of the project validation is not changed.

The MR states that the project will generate positive community impacts through increasing local job opportunities and household income and living level, improving technical skills of artificial seedling and increasing household income and living level, especially to local women's capability and well-being, so that to provide actual direct benefits to community group-local workers and residents in villages including women. The analysis of the net benefits to the communities is conducted to each category of local residents and workers. Each benefit has been verified by checking the labor contracts/LC/, periodical payroll/PAY/, training records/TTR/ during this monitoring period and on-site observation and interview with local residents, workers and women.

Hence, it is concluded that all the impacts for each community identified in the project description were accurate during this monitoring period.

CAR 12 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.5.2 Negative Community Impact Mitigation (CM2.2)

As per the validated PD/PD/ and confirmed by the project implementer/I1/, local residents/I3/ and technicians/I3/ during the interview, the project does not generate negative impacts on communities and are not expected given the nature of the project. Being the monitoring period mostly related to the retro-active period, the analysis and the assessment did at the time of the project validation is not changed.

4.5.3 Net Positive Community Well-being (CM2.3)

As stated in §4.5.1 of this report, the project is designed and implemented to produce net positive well-being impacts on local communities. The MR states that the project is implemented to produce net positive well-being impacts on local communities as designed in the validated PD/PD/.

It states that project generates positive community impacts through overcoming poverty by providing job, creating more local job opportunities and reduce migrant rural workers by providing

permanent and temporary job, improving gender equity by providing more jobs to women than men, promoting technical and economic capability of local communities by providing related trainings and skills and enhancing social cohesion by organizing local culture activities, so that to provide actual direct benefits to community group-local villages.

The positive impacts including change to economic indicators of the region, the cultural and economic history of the mentioned communities and the interactions between the communities, also changes on the ecosystem services, the expected changes in the well-being conditions and other characteristics of communities are stated in the MR as per validated PD. Descriptions in MR has been checked, it is verified that the impacts on the community groups in this monitoring period is correct via checking actual labor contracts/LC/, periodical payroll/PAY/, training records/TTR/ during this monitoring period and by site inspection and interview with local stakeholders and local officers from government.

Via checking the project implementation comparing with the project design, it is verified that the expected changes is reasonable and can be achieved.

Being the monitoring period mostly related to the retro-active period, the analysis and the assessment did at the time of the project validation is not changed. Thus it is concluded that the net impact of project activities on community groups is all positive.

4.5.4 Protection of High Conservation Values (CM2.4)

No HCVs was identified related to community well-being in the project zone based on above assessment and assessed in the validated PD/PD/, thus none of the HCVs related to community well-being will be negatively affected by the project.

4.5.5 Other Stakeholder Impacts (CM3.2-CM3.3)

The MR states that no negative offsite effects are expected during this monitoring period same as the validated PD/PD/. Oppositely, the project provides valued experience of forest management and carbon trading to other stakeholder, which in some way could encourage more followers to engage in similar projects for sustainable development. The local officer/I2/ and technicians/I3/, during the on-site visit and the interview, confirmed that the project did not result in net negative impact on other stakeholders during this monitoring period. Being the monitoring period mostly related to the retro-active period, the analysis and the assessment did at the time of the project validation is not changed.

4.5.6 Community Monitoring Plan (CM4.1, CM4.2, GL2.2, GL2.3, GL2.5)

The PP carried out the community monitoring as per established community monitoring plan submitted to VERRA on 27-June-2019 within one year after the validation finished/MP/.

To validate the community monitoring results during this monitoring period, the verification team take stepwise verification as following,

a. Check the dates, frequency and method as per PD

As designed in the monitoring plan/MP/, the monitoring parameters reflect the actual changes in well-being resulting from the project activities for community groups were measured and monitored by interview for each community groups affected by the project and collect all the relevant information through questionnaires.

During this monitoring period, the project owner established a monitoring team including all the technicians conducting interviews with local communities affected by the project, this has been confirmed by site interview with the technicians[/I2/] and local stakeholders[/I3/].

As per the frequency defined in the monitoring plan[/MP/], the monitoring should be conducted before every verification event, the monitoring team distributed 100 questionnaires to collect the interview results for the representatives of local residents living in project zone from March to April in 2019 and got 100 valid questionnaires back, thus it is verified that the monitoring frequency is in line with the validated PD design[/PD/].

b. Check the monitoring results

Via checking the 100 questionnaires[/CMQ/] collected by monitoring team, it is verified that the questionnaires were distributed to different community groups as defined in the PD including Migrant rural workers, Local rural workers, Surplus rural labors, Rural cooperatives, Female rural workers and the key variables set in the questionnaire are in line with the plan in validated PD[/PD/].

Via comparing the information in the questionnaires, it is verified that monitoring results listed in the MR is correct and actual.

c. Evaluation of monitoring

The monitoring procedures and approaches during this monitoring period were carried out as listed in the PD, via checking the results, it is verified that PP established a series of procedures including organizing monitoring team, training, preparation and survey. The sub procedures are verified as capable to finish this monitoring, which is confirmed by interview with the monitoring team member[/I1, I3, I4/] and based on the experience of the monitoring team.

By combining the information in the questionnaires, it is confirmed that during this monitoring period,

90% of the representatives from groups of migrant rural workers, surplus rural labors, female rural workers considered that there was an increase of household income due to the implementation of the project which provided more local job opportunities;

80% of the representatives from group of rural cooperatives considered that there was an improvement of their capability and technical skills due to the project;

70% of the representatives from group of local rural workers considered that there was an improvement of social activities resulting from the project.

During the on-site verification, stakeholder meeting with different community groups has been carried out in Feidong County on 26-November-2019. During the meeting, the affected community representatives are interviewed separately by verification team, and all the representatives confirmed that the project increase of household income due to the implementation of the project which provided more local job opportunities, improve their capability and technical skills and increase social activities.

Based on above evaluation from the affected communities, it is verified that the monitoring results reflect the actual community impact from each community groups affected by the project.

Thus it is concluded that the community monitoring during this monitoring period was carried out in accordance to the validated project description.

CL 15 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.5.7 Community Monitoring Plan Dissemination (CM4.3)

The community monitoring results, community monitoring plan have been made publicly available on the VCS and CCB website, which can be confirmed by checking the corresponding webpage.

In addition, hard copies of the community monitoring plan and community monitoring manual have been distributed among local stakeholders by PP and local government which is confirmed and verified by photo check/RVAR/ and interview with the local stakeholders.

Furthermore, the project implementer published community monitoring plan and community monitoring manual on the local notice boards to explain the monitoring process to communities and other stakeholders which has been verified by checking the photo of the communities and stakeholders watching/RVAR/ and seen by verification team during site inspection.

Finally, meetings with stakeholders have been carried out during site verification. During the meeting, project implementer introduced the community monitoring results during this monitoring period and copies of community monitoring results is available to anyone requests it. Verification team has participated and the results are also verified by checking the meeting minute and questionnaires filled by stakeholders/VSM/.

In conclusion, the results of community monitoring were disseminated in accordance with the validated project description.

CL 16 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.5.8 Optional Gold Level: Short-term and Long-term Community Benefits (GL2.2)

N/A

4.5.9 Optional Gold Level: Smallholder/community member Risks (GL2.3)

N/A

4.5.10 Optional Gold Level: Marginalized and/or Vulnerable Community Groups (GL2.4)

N/A

4.5.11 Optional Gold Level: Net Impacts on Women (GL2.5)

N/A

4.5.12 Optional Gold Level: Benefit Sharing Mechanisms (GL2.6)

N/A

4.5.13 Optional Gold Level: Governance and Implementation Structures (GL2.8)

N/A

4.5.14 Optional Gold Level: Smallholders/Community Members Capacity Development (GL2.9)

N/A

4.6 Biodiversity

4.6.1 Biodiversity Changes (B2.1)

The monitoring report states that the project seeks to change the biodiversity intact through the Scientific and rational afforestation of degraded or barren land.

PP evaluated the biodiversity element of species of plants and animals as per the monitoring plan[/MP/], it is considered as appropriate to the project to identify and quantify the native species of plants and animals within the project boundary.

A list of biodiversity variables is reported in the monitoring report and the justification used to attribute biodiversity changes to the project's activities was assessed by verification team as following,

1. For Species of plants, besides the four successfully grew species of the tree to establish an artificial forest, it is verified that there were many crops, bushes and grasses growing around the planted trees which has significantly increased the plant cover during this monitoring period, and this is also verified by on-site inspection to the sample plots and remote observation of the project area and checking the biodiversity survey report for this monitoring period issued by Anhui Province Academy of Social Sciences[/BSR/].
2. For species of animals, via checking the biodiversity survey report for this monitoring period issued by Anhui Province Academy of Social Sciences[/BSR/], it is verified that there were animals traces found in the sample line within the project area with the result of a total of 8 species were found and one species was found in the sampling line of each carbon layer.

In conclusion, the project's assessment of changes in biodiversity resulting from project activities in the project zone during the monitoring period are verified as accurate. There is no reason to believe the project area remains less rich in biodiversity than the project start.

CL 17 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.6.2 Mitigation Actions (B2.3)

As verified in the validated PD, it is proved that the project has no negative impacts on biodiversity and thus no special measures need to be taken for maintenance or enhancement of biodiversity and high conservation value attributes.

Afforestation in this project uses local species which is confirmed in PD, implement afforestation activity through scientific and reasonable method with no burning and slash, and protect the existing vegetation as much as possible and no invasive species were introduced in the project which has been determined in the project design and confirmed by site inspection.

Therefore, it is concluded that no negative impacts on biodiversity or HCV attributes recorded, so no measures were necessary to mitigate impacts, beyond the routine operation of the project.

4.6.3 Net Positive Biodiversity Impacts (B2.2)

The local tree species plantation has different positive impact on soil, climate and biodiversity; when local tree species are planted in degraded areas, an increase of flora and fauna biodiversity can be recorded. This afforestation activity is implemented with scientific and reasonable configuration

method, with no burning and slash and reduce the fire and insect risk. With the planted trees gradually grow up to forest, project sites has become ecological community with the domain species of trees, which has improved biodiversity. Above assessment have been demonstrated in the section 4.6.1.

Furthermore, via on-site investigation and checking the map[/MAP/], it is verified that as the project site is located in Hefei City and Chuzhou City in Anhui Province, the surrounding area is concentrated of wildlife. Therefore revegetation of project sites facilitates biodiversity protection of the Chao Lake Nature Reserve and whole project zone confirmed by checking the biodiversity survey report[/BSR/].

Based on the situation of biodiversity within the project zone at baseline scenario, the project area will continue to be barren or degraded land and with low biodiversity condition. The main change by the project scenario is to create forest cover of the project area with local native species which has great vitality and adaptation to project zone, this has been verified by site inspection.

The local tree species plantation has different positive impact on soil, climate and biodiversity; when local tree species are planted in project areas, an increase of flora and fauna biodiversity can be recorded, including species of animals could be increased and original wild animals around project area can be protected. As per the validated PD, 14 national protected species inhabit in the nature reserve, including one is globally endangered species according to IUCN[/IUCN/]. These species benefit from reduced threats as a result of the project activity.

These will be protected by the improvement on ecological environment of the surrounding area through the project activity implementation, the improvement on ecological environment of the surrounding area has been confirmed during the site observation.

Besides, this afforestation activity is implemented with scientific and reasonable configuration method, with efficient measures of fire prevention and insect control. And via on-site interview with local residents, technicians and officers, it is verified that there was no fire and insect disaster occurred during this monitoring period in project area.

In conclusion, the net impact of the project's activities on biodiversity are positive.

4.6.4 High Conservation Values Protected (B2.4)

No HCVs has been identified related to biodiversity based on above assessment and in line with the validated PD.

4.6.5 Invasive Species (B2.5)

The species used is native trees developed in China which is verified by validated PD and onsite observations. These are not considered as invasive species. In conclusion, all the planted trees are native species and no invasive species have been introduced into any area affected by the project.

4.6.6 Impacts of Non-native Species (B2.6)

Only native species are used in the project activities which is defined in the PD and verified by checking the Seedling Purchase Contract [/SPC/] and onsite observations, thus there are no adverse effects from non-native species.

4.6.7 GMO Exclusion (B2.7)

The PPs declared and assured that no GMOs has been and will be used in the project to generate GHG emissions reductions or removals which is defined in the PD and verified by checking the Seedling Purchase Contract /SPC/ and onsite observations.

4.6.8 Inputs Justification (B2.8)

As assessment to the validated PD, it is verified that no fertilizers were used in the project during this monitoring period, chemical pesticides are allowed to be used only if there is a serious disease problem erupted in the project area, biological control agents are used in the project according to local Pest Control and Prevention Policy/IFMM/. The chemical pesticides are allowed to be used only if there is a serious pest problem erupted in the project area, while improper pesticide application would be harmful to natural environment, but the risk is considered low because pesticide is strictly managed by well trained staff to minimize the potential effect/IFMM/. As the biological measures to control pests and diseases was mainly adopted, the pesticide application was limited during this monitoring period. Via on-site interview with the project implementer and local officers, it is verified that there was no significant pesticide application occurred as no insects and disease disaster occurred.

Therefore, it is concluded that the use of each input is justified as per the PD and did not pose harm to the region's environment or communities during this monitoring period.

CL 18 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.6.9 Negative Offsite Biodiversity Impacts (B3.1) and Mitigation Actions (B3.2)

The MR and PD both state that no potential negative impacts on biodiversity outside of the project zone would resulting from project activities; the project contributes to the conservation of the biodiversity and ecosystem. No actual impacts were observed during the site visit and/or reported during the monitoring period. Refer to 4.6.1 and 4.6.3 of this report for detail assessment.

4.6.10 Net Offsite Biodiversity Benefits (B3.3)

Net biodiversity impacts from a project that protects habitat within a project area is unlikely to be anything but neutral.

4.6.11 Biodiversity Monitoring Plan (B4.1, B4.2, GL3.4)

The PP carried out the biodiversity monitoring as per established biodiversity monitoring plan in the monitoring plan submitted to VERRA on 27-June-2019 within one year after the validation finished/MP/.

To validate the biodiversity monitoring results during this monitoring period, the verification team take stepwise verification as following,

a. Check the dates, frequency and method as per Monitoring Plan

As designed in the monitoring plan/MP/, the monitoring parameters reflect the actual changes of biodiversity were measured and monitored by survey variables for biodiversity during this monitoring period as stated in the MR.

During this monitoring period, the project owner established a monitoring team including all the 110 technicians conducting biodiversity survey affected by the project, all technicians have performed biodiversity monitoring during the monthly forestland inspection to record the discovery of any biodiversity including both flora and fauna. This has been confirmed by site interview with the monitoring team member/I3/.

As per the frequency defined in the PD, the monitoring should be conducted during each verification, the monitoring team conducted site survey from start date of the project implementation since Apr 2014, thus it is verified that the monitoring frequency is in line with the validated PD design/PD/.

b. Check the monitoring results

Via checking the biodiversity survey report/BSR/ completed by monitoring team, it is verified that the monitoring approach used for investigation is as per the design defined in the PD/PD/. One sample plot was determined in each project strata for measuring trees, and three sample plots were determined in each tree plot for measuring shrub, and one sample plot was determined in each shrub plot for measuring herbage, and one sample searching line were determined in each project strata for measuring animals by observation and searching trace along the searching line.

The sample plots are confirmed as fixed for the whole project lifetime for monitoring the change of the biodiversity which is considered as reasonable and appropriate.

Via comparing the information in the biodiversity survey report/BSR/, it is verified that monitoring results listed in the MR is correct and actual.

c. Evaluation of monitoring

The monitoring procedures and approaches during this monitoring period were carried out as listed in the PD, via checking the results, it is verified that PP established a series of procedures including organizing monitoring team, training, preparation, determination of the sample plots and survey. The sub procedures are verified as capable to finish this monitoring, which is confirmed by interview with the monitoring team member/I3/ and based on the experience of the monitoring team.

By checking the information in the biodiversity survey report/BSR/ and biodiversity monitoring spreadsheets filled by the technicians/BMS/, it is confirmed that during this monitoring period, there were no Herbaceous plants in the herbaceous layer. In the arborous layer, Neolitsea sericea was found with a total number of 16 strains and 5% coverage. There are two kinds of shrub vegetation species were found in the 25 shrub layers. And the 8 species of animals were found by different trace.

During the on-site verification, the verification team investigated the sample plots and measured the vegetation to confirm the PP monitoring results, through comparing the both results, it is verified that the values are almost same.

Based on above evaluation from the biodiversity monitoring, it is verified that the monitoring results reflect the actual biodiversity impact from each species affected by the project.

Thus it is concluded that the biodiversity monitoring during this monitoring period was carried out in accordance to the validated project description.

CL 19 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.6.12 Biodiversity Monitoring Plan Dissemination (B4.3)

The biodiversity monitoring results, biodiversity monitoring plan have been made publicly available on the VCS and CCB website, which can be confirmed by checking the corresponding webpage.

In addition, hard copies of the biodiversity monitoring plan and biodiversity monitoring manual have been distributed among local stakeholders by PP and local government, also all the technician explained how the project was monitored, which is confirmed and verified by interview with the local stakeholders.

Furthermore, the project implementer published biodiversity monitoring plan and biodiversity monitoring manual on the local notice boards to explain the monitoring process to communities and other stakeholders which has been verified by checking the photo of the communities and stakeholders watching/RVAR/ and seen by verification team during site inspection.

Finally, meeting with stakeholder had been carried out during site verification. During the meeting, project implementer introduced the biodiversity monitoring results during this monitoring period and copies of biodiversity monitoring results is available to anyone requests it. Verification team has participated and the results are also verified by checking the meeting minute and questionnaires filled by stakeholders/VSM/.

In conclusion, the results of biodiversity monitoring were disseminated in accordance with the validated project description.

CL 20 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

4.6.13 Optional Gold Level: Trigger Species Population Trends (GL3.3)

N/A

4.6.14 Optional Gold Level: Effectiveness of Threat Reduction Actions (GL3.4)

N/A

4.7 Additional Project Implementation Information

No additional project implementation is relevant for reporting here as details on project implementation are in included in preceding sections.

4.8 Additional Project Impact Information

The project has been able to demonstrate impacts to all CCB indicators as mentioned throughout this report; no further steps to verify additional monitoring were warranted. The reported project impact information was sufficient and suitable for the verification of the project's CCB impacts.

5. VERIFICATION CONCLUSION

Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd has commissioned the TÜV NORD JI/CDM Certification Program to carry out the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) joint with Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) 1st periodic verification of the project activity Hechu Afforestation Project in Anhui Province in China, VCS reference No. 1855, for the period 22-April-2014 to 31-December-2018, with regard to the relevant requirements for VCS and CCBS.

Based on the documented evidence and corroborated by an on-site assessment, TÜV NORD can confirm that:

- the project has been implemented and operated as per the validated PD;
- the project description deviation were assessed does not impact the applicability of the methodology, additionality and the appropriateness of the baseline/without-project scenario, and the project remains in compliance with the CCB Version 3 and VCS rules.
- the monitoring report and other supporting documents provided are complete and verifiable and in accordance with the applicable VCS and CCB requirement;
- the monitoring is in place as per the applied baseline and monitoring methodology;
- the monitoring complies with the monitoring plan in the validated PD;
- the monitoring plan in the validated PD is as per the applied baseline and monitoring methodology.
- the project complies with the verification criteria for projects set out in the Third Edition of the CCB Standards

The GHG removals by sink were calculated correctly on the basis of the approved monitoring methodology AR-ACM0003 Afforestation and reforestation of lands except wetlands, version 02.0 and the monitoring plan submitted to VERRA. Hence it is certified that the GHG removals by sink from the project during the monitoring period amount as follows:

Monitoring period: From 22-April-2014 to 31-December-2018

Verified GHG emission reductions and removals in the above verification period:

Year	Baseline emissions or removals (tCO_2e)	Project emissions or removals (tCO_2e)	Leakage emissions (tCO_2e)	Net GHG emission reductions or removals (tCO_2e)
22-April-2014 – 31-December-2015	0	110,770	0	110,770
01-January-2016 – 31-December-2016	0	68,927	0	68,927
01-January-2017 – 31-December-2017	0	84,103	0	84,103
01-January-2018 – 31-December-2018	0	99,137	0	99,137
Total 22-April-2014 to 31-December-2018	**0**	**362,937**	**0**	**362,937**

For the total Monitoring period 22-April-2014 to 31-December-2018: the value is gross of the 10% (36,294 tCO_2e) buffer withholding based on the non-permanence risk assessment tool. This results in **326,643** tCO_2e equivalent of credits eligible for issuance as VCUs.

Beijing, 02-April-2020	Hannover, 02-April-2020
Zhao Xuejiao	Alexandra Nuske
TÜV NORD JI/CDM Certification Program	TÜV NORD JI/CDM Certification Program
Validation Team Leader	Final Approval

APPENDIX 1: ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations	Full texts
ARR	Afforestation, Reforestation and Revegetation
AFOLU	Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use
BAU	Business as usual
CAR	Corrective Action Request
CCB	Climate, Community & Biodiversity
CCBA	Climate, Community & Biodiversity Association
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CL	Clarification Request
CO_2	Carbon dioxide
CO_2e	Carbon dioxide equivalent
CP	Certification Program // Crediting Period
DNA	Designated National Authority
EB	CDM Executive Board
ER	Emission Reductions
ETS	Emission Trading Scheme
FAR	Forward Action Request
GHG	Greenhouse gas(es)
GMO	Genetically modified organism
GS	Gold Standard
HCVs	High Conservation Values
IFM	Improved Forest Management
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
JNR	Jurisdictional and Nested REDD+
MP	Monitoring plan
MR	Monitoring Report
NDRC	National Development and Reform Commission
NPRA	Non-Permanence Risk Analysis
PD	Project Description
PP	Project Participant
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
QC/QA	Quality control/Quality assurance
REDD	Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VCS	Verified Carbon Standard
VCSA	Verified Carbon Standard Association
VCU	Verified Carbon Unit
VVB	Validation/Verification Body

APPENDIX 2: DOCUMENTS REVIEWED OR REFERENCED

No.	Author	Reference	Title	References to the document	Provider
1	Hefei City Forest Bureau and Chuzhou City Forest Bureau	/AAPP/	Approval of afforestation project plan	Approval of afforestation project plan approved by Hefei Forest Bureau and Chuzhou Forest Bureau dated 16/01/2014 for planting area in Hefei and Chuzhou City	PP
2	China Forestry Publishing House	/AEB/	Allometric equations of Broadleaf Forest	"Tree volume tables of China" issued by China Forestry Publishing House in Apr. 2017	PP
3	VCSA	/AFOLUR/	AFOLU Requirements, version 3.6	https://verra.org/project/vcs-program/rules-and-requirements/	VCS website
4	UNFCCC	/ARM/	Afforestation and reforestation Methodology	AR-ACM0003 "Afforestation and reforestation of lands except wetlands", version 2.0.0	UNFCCC website
5	Anhui Provincial Academy of Social Sciences	/BDS/	Biodiversity Survey Report	Biodiversity Survey Report issued by Anhui Provincial Academy of Social Sciences in Jan 2014	PP
6	Local Administration for Industry and Commerce	/BL/	Business License	Business License of all the participants of the project	PP
7	Anhui Provincial Academy of Social Sciences	/BLS/	Baseline Survey Report	Baseline Survey Report issued by Anhui Provincial Academy of Social Sciences in Sep. 2013	PP
8	Technicians	/BMS/	Biodiversity monitoring spreadsheets	Biodiversity monitoring spreadsheets filled by the technicians during this monitoring period	PP
9	Anhui Province Academy of Social Sciences	/BSR/	Biodiversity survey report	Biodiversity survey report for this monitoring period issued by Anhui province academy of social sciences dated 26/04/2019	PP
10	NDRC	/CC/	Climate Change Index	The People's Republic of China Second National Communication on Climate Change, issued by NDRC, 2013	NDRC website
11	CCBA	/CCBPR/	CCB Program Rules, version 3.1	https://verra.org/project/ccb-program/rules-requirements-and-guidance/	CCB website
12	CCBA	/CCBS/	CCB Standard, version 3.1	https://verra.org/project/ccb-program/rules-requirements-and-guidance/	CCB website
13	Specific staff	/CGL/	Conflicts and grievances	Conflicts and grievances of local communities and individual villagers	PP

14	Hefei and Chuzhou City Forest Bureau	/CLR/	Certification of land rights	Certification of land rights issued by Hefei and Chuzhou City Forest Bureau dated in Oct. 2013	PP
15	Representatives of local villagers	/CMQ/	Community Monitoring Questionnaires	100 valid questionnaires of Community Monitoring	PP
16	VERRA	/ENPC/	Email of no public comments	Email from VERRA on 05-December-2019 confirmed No public comments were received for this project	PP
17	Technicians	/FSR/	Field Survey Records	Annual Field survey records for carbon sink monitoring by monitoring team since 2015 to 2019	PP
18	National Forest Bureau	/GCA/	Guidelines on carbon accounting and monitoring for afforestation project	LY/T 2253-2014 <Guidelines on carbon accounting and monitoring for afforestation project> issued by National Forest Bureau	Public Website
19	Google	/GE/	Google Earth	Google Earth Map	Public software
20	The State Council of China	/GGP/	Grain for Green Program	Grain for Green Program issued by the State Council of China	Public Website
21	Hefei Zhuoya Landscaping Engineering Co., Ltd.	/IFMM/	Integrated Forest Management Manual	Integrated Forest Management Manual issued by Hefei Zhuoya Landscaping Engineering Co., Ltd.	PP
22	International Union for Conservation of Nature	/IUCN/	International Union for Conservation of Nature	The IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria (version 3.1)	PP
23	PP	/KML/	KML file of project area	KML file of project area submitted to VERRA	PP
24	Project Owner	/LC/	Labor Contract	Labor Contract of project staffs and person who planted trees and Technicians	PP
25	Local village committee in project area and Project Owner	/LUA/	Land Use Agreement	Land Use Agreement signed by Local village committee in project area and Project Owner in Oct. 2013	PP
26	PP	/LVSM/	Letter of verification site meeting	Letter issued by project owner to the local forest bureaus to arrange the auditor verification site meeting and invited local stakeholders representative	PP
27	Hefei Zhuoya Landscaping Engineering Co., Ltd.	/MAP/	Map of project area	1. Map with land-use types and the boundaries of all the plots for identifying the project location and boundaries of the project 2. Separate KML file shows the correct project boundaries	PP

28	PP	/MM/	Monitoring Manual	Monitoring Manual created by PP in Dec. 2018	PP
29	PP	/MP/	Monitoring plan	Monitoring plan for both Community and Biodiversity monitoring submitted to VERRA on 27-June-2019 after validation finished	PP
30	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd	/MR/	Monitoring report	1st periodic Monitoring report of "Hechu Afforestation Project in Anhui Province" Draft Version No. 01, dated 20/09/2019 Final Version No. 02, dated 25/03/2020	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd
31	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd	/MRS/	Monitoring report Summary in Chinese version	1st periodic Monitoring report summary in Chinese version of "Hechu Afforestation Project in Anhui Province" Draft Version No. 01, dated 25/09/2019 Final Version No. 02, dated 27/03/2020	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd
32	VCSA	/MRT/	Monitoring Report Template	CCB_VCS_Monitoring_Report _Template_CCBv3.0-_VCSv3.4	VCS website
33	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd	/NPRR/	Non-performance risk report	Non-performance risk report for this monitoring period, Version No. 01, dated 27/03/2020	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd
34	VCSA	/NPRT/	AFOLU Non-Permanence Risk Tool, version 4.0	https://verra.org/project/vcs-program/rules-and-requirements/	VCS website
35	Project Owner	/PAY/	Periodical payroll	Periodical payroll to persons who planted trees and all the technicians	PP
36	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd	/PD/	Project Description	Approved Project Description of "Hechu Afforestation Project in Anhui Province" (Version No. 03, dated 08/04/2019)	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd
37	Institute of Forestry Investigation and Planning, Anhui Agricultural University	/PDAO/	Project Design for Afforestation Operation	Project Design for Afforestation Operation issued by Institute of Forestry Investigation and Planning, Anhui Agricultural University on 01/12/2013	PP
38	VCSA&CCBA	/PDP/	Project Development Process	"VCS+CCB Project Development Process" (version 3.0)	VCS website
39	Anhui Forestry Investigation	/PL/	Project Lifetime evidence	Project Lifetime evidence issued by Anhui Forestry	PP

	and Design Co., Ltd.			Investigation and Design Co., Ltd.	
40	Devices Manufacturer	/PQ/	Products Qualification	Products qualification for all the measuring devices	PP
41	Anhui Provincial Academy of Social Sciences	/PRA/	Participatory Rural Appraisal	Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) report of the project issued by Anhui Provincial Academy of Social Sciences on 10/03/2014	PP
42	Local stakeholders	/QUE/	Questionnaires in PRA	Filled Questionnaires during PRA Process	PP
43	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd	/RCS/	Risk Calculation Sheet	Risk Calculation Sheet for this monitoring period, Version 01, 20/09/2019	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd
44	PP	/RVAR/	Routine villager assembly record	Photos of routine villager assembly for access to the monitoring records for each of the 128 villages of the 2 Cities	PP
45	PP	/SBLF/	Study of broad-leaved forest	"Study on biomass and growth rule of dominant tree species in oak broad-leaved forest in Qingyang County" by Anhui Agricultural University	PP
46	Qianxinan Forest Bureau	/SDPA/	Standard deviation for project area	Standard deviation of the existing data related to the project area issued by the Hefei Forestry Bureau and Chuzhou Forestry Bureau based on the results of years of forestry surveys in Dec. 2019	PP
47	Local village committee and local Garden nursery company	/SPC/	Seedling Purchase Contract	Seedling Purchase Contract signed between local village committee and local Garden nursery company dated in 2014 and 2015	PP
48	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd	/SPCS/	Sample plots calculation sheet	Sample plots calculation sheet	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd
49	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd	/SPI/	Sampling plots inventory	PP Sampling plots inventory of 25 samples	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd
50	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd	/SSSR/	Sampling plots selection records	Sampling plots selection records proved that the sampling plots are selected randomly by excel function	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd
51	UNFCCC	/TAE/	Methodological tool	Demonstrating appropriateness of allometric equations for estimation of	UNFCCC website

				aboveground tree biomass in A/R CDM project activities (Version 01.0)	
52	UNFCCC	/TEC/	Methodological tool	Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks of trees and shrubs in A/R CDM project activities, version 04.2	UNFCCC website
53	Ministry of environmental protection	/TGBM/	Technical guidelines for biodiversity monitoring—terrestrial vascular plants	HJ 710.1-2014 "Technical guidelines for biodiversity monitoring—terrestrial vascular plants" issued by Ministry of environmental protection	Public Website
54	UNFCCC	/TNSP/	Methodological tool	Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities, Version 02.1.0	UNFCCC website
55	Project Owner	/TTR/	Technical Training Record	1. New employee training records including labor Law and worker's right training. 2. Technical Training Record dated in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 3. Training records of special trainings for the project monitoring by explaining the monitoring plan and measurement method to technicians	PP
56	TUV NORD	/VAL/	Validation report	Approved Validation report of "Hechu Afforestation Project in Anhui Province" (Version No. 01, dated 08/04/2019)	VCS website
57	VCSA	/VCSPD/	VCS Program Definitions, version 4.0	https://verra.org/project/vcs-program/rules-and-requirements/	VCS website
58	VCSA	/VCSPG/	VCS Program Guide, version 4.0	https://verra.org/project/vcs-program/rules-and-requirements/	VCS website
59	VCSA	/VCSS/	VCS Standard, version 4.0	https://verra.org/project/vcs-program/rules-and-requirements/	VCS website
60	VCSA	/VRT/	Verification Report Template	CCB_VCS_Verification_Report_Template_CCBv3.0_VCSv3.4	VCS website
61	PP	/VSM/	Verification Site Meeting Records	Verification Site Meeting Records including meeting minute and questionnaires filled by stakeholders	PP
62	Technicians	/WL/	Working log	Working log recorded by the technicians which including the forest management work record, stakeholder consultation process and results	PP

63	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd	/XLS/	Net anthropogenic GHG removals by sinks calculation spreadsheets	Draft calculation spreadsheets of "Hechu Afforestation Project in Anhui Province" (Version No. 01, dated 20/09/2019) Final calculation spreadsheets of "Hechu Afforestation Project in Anhui Province" (Version No. 02, dated 25/03/2020) including separate sheets for four vintages a. Period 2014-04-22 to 2015-12-31 b. Period 2016-01-01 to 2016-12-31 c. Period 2017-01-01 to 2017-12-31 d. Period 2018-01-01 to 2018-12-31	Shanghai Libra Investment & Management Co., Ltd
64	Gold Standard Organization	/gs/	Gold Standard	http://www.goldstandard.org/	Website
65	IPCC	/ipcc/	IPCC publications	www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp	Website
66	National Government	/law/	Laws related to forestry	<PRC Forest Law>, <PRC Forest Law Implementing Regulations>, <PRC Wildlife Protection Law>, <Forest Fire Prevention Regulations>, <Insect Control Regulation>, <PRC Production Safety Law>	Website
67	Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China	/llc/	Labor Law	Labor Law of the People's Republic of China	National public website
68	National System	/neci/	National Enterprise Credit Information Publicity System	National Enterprise Credit Information Publicity System	National public website
69	National Government	/regu/	Administrative regulations related to forestry	<Regulations for Implementing the Forest Law>, the <Regulations for Grain for Green>, the <Regulations for the Protection of Wild Plants and Animals>, the <Regulation for Nature Reserve>, the <Regulation for Forest Fire Control>, and the <Regulation for Forest Diseases and Pests Control>	National public website
70	UNFCCC	/unfccc/	UNFCCC	http://cdm.unfccc.int	Website
71	VCS	/vcs/	VCS	http://www.v-c-s.org/	Website

72	Local government	/whr/	Local Weather	http://www.ahqx.gov.cn/	Website

APPENDIX 3: CLARIFICATION REQUESTS, CORRECTIVE ACTION REQUESTS AND FORWARD ACTION REQUESTS

Table 1. Remaining FAR from validation and/or previous verification

FAR ID	01	**Section no.**	4.4.1	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of FAR				
Community monitoring plan is not provided during validation process.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
The community monitoring plan has been submitted after validation on 27/06/2019.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☐	Changes in the MR	Section(s):	New version No.:	
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:	
☒	Other:	/MP/		
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
The project webpage on VERRA has been checked, it is confirmed that PP submitted the community monitoring plan/MP/ and published on the website on 27/06/2019. The monitoring of community is confirmed as per the submitted community monitoring plan.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed			

FAR ID	02	**Section no.**	5.4.1	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of FAR				
Biodiversity monitoring plan is not provided during validation process.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
The biodiversity monitoring plan has been submitted after validation on 27/06/2019.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☐	Changes in the MR	Section(s):	New version No.:	
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:	
☐	Other:			
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
The project webpage on VERRA has been checked, it is confirmed that PP submitted the biodiversity monitoring plan and published on the website on 27/06/2019. The monitoring of biodiversity is confirmed as per the submitted biodiversity monitoring plan.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed			

Table 2. CL from this validation

CL ID	01	**Section no.**	2.2.1	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
The key dates and milestones after the project registration is not listed in the schedule table.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
The key dates and milestones has been added to the schedule table.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.2.1	New version No.: 02	
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:	
☐	Other:			
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020

The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that key dates and milestones after the registration, like, monitoring survey, draft MR finished, MR GSC, site verification, etc. Thus it is verified that the key milestones have all been listed and the dates are confirmed as correct.	
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed

CL ID	02	**Section no.**	2.3.1	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
The actual information of stakeholder access to project documents process is not specified.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
The full project documentation has been published on VCS and CCB website (https://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/project_details/1855), as well as the project summary in Chinese version, the local communities and other stakeholders can easily download from the website. No public comments received during the public comment period from 01-November-2019 to 01-December-2019. The project periodic development has been published on the notice board of 128 villages involved in the project, including PD, monitoring manual and monitoring plan, at the same time, the contact persons' information was also announced. If there is any negative feedback, a meeting will be immediately held in the village.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.3.1	New version No.: 02	
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:	
☐	Other:			
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the time and location of the MR published to local stakeholders is added. The project implementer published the monitoring plan and monitoring manual on the local notice boards to explain the monitoring process to communities and other stakeholders which has been verified by checking the photo of the communities and stakeholders watching/RVAR/. The actual information of MR GSC in the CCB and VCS website is added, the monitoring results, monitoring plan and summary of the monitoring plan in local language, have been made publicly available on the CCB website (https://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/project_details/1855), which can be downloaded by stakeholders. The actual information of the auditor site verification stakeholders' meeting is added, during the on-site verification, stakeholder meeting with the villagers, local officers, technicians and stakeholders have been carried out on 26-November-2019 at local government. Refer to section 4.3.4 of this report for details assessment.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed			

CL ID	03	**Section no.**	2.3.2&2.3.3&2.3.4	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
1. Actual information of dissemination of Summary Project Documents is not clarified in 2.3.2. 2. Actual situation of Informational Meetings with Stakeholders is not clarified in 2.3.3. 3. Actual information of how the PP explained Community Costs, Risks, and Benefits during this monitoring period is not specified.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
1. Information of dissemination of Summary Project Documents has been clarified in 2.3.2. 2. Actual situation of Informational Meetings with Stakeholders has been clarified in 2.3.3. 3. Project proponent has been explained the potential costs, risks, and benefits during this monitoring period.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.3.2&2.3.3&2.3.4	New version No.: 02	
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:	
☐	Other:			
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020

1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the actual information of dissemination of Summary Project Documents added into the section 2.3.2. 2. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the actual situation of Informational Meetings with Stakeholders added into the section 2.3.3. 3. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the actual information of how the PP explained Community Costs, Risks, and Benefits during this monitoring period. By on-site checking interview with the local stakeholders/I2,I3/, it is verified that they understand the explanation of the Costs, Risks, and Benefits. Refer to section 4.3.4 of this report for details assessment.	
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed

CL ID	04	**Section no.**	2.3.5	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
The detail information to stakeholder on verification process is not clarified.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
The status and process of the project for CCB and VCS verification has been published through routine villager assembly and posted on every 128 village notice boards before 26-November-2019 when the on-site verification began.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.3.5		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:
☒	Other:	/LVSM/, /VSM/		
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the actual information to stakeholder on verification process is specified. During the on-site verification, stakeholder meetings with the villagers, local officers, technicians and stakeholders have been carried out on 26-November-2019 in local government in Feidong County. By on-site checking the photo/RVAR/, it is confirmed by the verification team that the monitoring plan and monitoring manual were published in the notice boards for each of the 128 villages of the 2 Cities before the site visit time. And by checking the letter issued by project owner to the local forest bureau/LVSM/ and on-site observation, it is verified that the local forest bureau received letter and considered the importance of inviting the local stakeholder comments. During the meeting, project implementer introduced the monitoring results during this monitoring period and copies of monitoring report is available to anyone requests it. Verification team has participated and interview the stakeholders separately to access their real thought of the project, and the results are also verified by checking the meeting minute and questionnaires filled by stakeholders/VSM/.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed			

CL ID	05	**Section no.**	2.3.6	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
The information of Site Visit and Opportunities to Communicate with Auditor is not clarified.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
The auditor surveyed the site plots and forests of the project from 26th November to 29th November 2019, The project proponent arranged stakeholder meeting on first day 26th November 2019 with the auditor.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.3.6		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:
☐	Other:	/LVSM/, /VSM/		
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020

The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the actual information of the Site Visit and Opportunities to Communicate with Auditor is added. During the on-site verification, stakeholder meetings with the villagers, local officers, technicians and stakeholders have been carried out on 26-November-2019 in local government in Feidong County. By on-site checking the photo/RVAR/, it is confirmed by the verification team that the monitoring plan and monitoring manual were published in the notice boards for each of the 128 villages of the 2 Cities before the site visit time. And by checking the letter issued by project owner to the local forest bureau/LVSM/ and on-site observation, it is verified that the local forest bureau received letter and considered the importance of inviting the local stakeholder comments. During the meeting, project implementer introduced the monitoring results during this monitoring period and copies of monitoring report is available to anyone requests it. Verification team has participated and interview the stakeholders separately to access their real thought of the project, and the results are also verified by checking the meeting minute and questionnaires filled by stakeholders/VSM/.	
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed

CL ID	06	**Section no.**	2.3.7	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
1. Description of how communities, including all community groups and other stakeholders, have influenced project implementation is missing. 2. Document of consultations is missing 3. Indication of if and how project design has been affected by stakeholder input is missing.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
1. The description of how communities, including all community groups and other stakeholders, have influenced project implementation has been added. 2. Photos and content information of the questionnaire have been added. 3. Prior to the stakeholder meeting, Anhui Hefei Zhuoya distributed questionnaires to villagers to collect feedback from various stakeholders on the implementation of the project.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.3.7		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:
☐	Other:	/CMQ/		
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020

1. Before the project started, the stakeholder input on project implementation has been documented though meeting minutes and questionnaires as stated in PD. Furthermore, during this monitoring period, the stakeholder input on project implementation have been monitored through in-person meetings and questionnaires survey conducted in November to December 2019 which has been confirmed by checking the 100 filled questionnaires/CMQ/ collected during this period and cross verified by on-site interview with the local stakeholders/I2/,/I3/. In addition, during the on-site verification, stakeholder meetings with the villagers, local officers, technicians and stakeholders have been carried out on 26-November-2019 at the local government in Feidong County. During the meeting, project implementer introduced the monitoring results during this monitoring period and the comments from all the stakeholders have been documented as meeting minute. Via checking all the documents, it is verified that there is no grievances and negative comments received during this monitoring period, which has been also confirmed during the stakeholder meetings in verification process.
2. Document of consultations are provided by PP. The questionnaires/CMQ/ and photos/RVAR/ are checked and the contents are confirmed consistent with the MR.
3. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the description of If and how project design has been affected by stakeholder input has been clarified in the updated MR. By checking the filled questionnaires/CMQ/ and collected information during verification site meeting, it is verified that all of the representatives were satisfied with the implementation of the project and wished to speed up the following verification and issuance process.

Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed

CL ID	07	**Section no.**	2.3.8	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
1. The actual information of this monitoring period is not clarified. 2. Description of how communication and consultation about the project has continued between the project proponent(s) and communities and other stakeholders is missing. 3. Explanation of the processes the project proponent has used to consider this input and how this communication and consultation has influenced the project through adaptive management is missing.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
1. The actual information of this monitoring period has been clarified. 2. The description of how communication and consultation about the project has continued between the project proponent(s) and communities and other stakeholders has been added. 3. The explanation of the processes has been added.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.3.8	New version No.: 02	
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:	
☒	Other:	/WL/		
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the actual information of this monitoring period has been specified. 2. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the description of how communication and consultation about the project has continued between the project proponent(s) and communities and other stakeholders has been provided in the updated MR. During on-site interview with project owner and technicians, it is confirmed that the project owner has a plan for continued communication. It is carried out by maintaining a direct line of communication with community members and relevant stakeholders through technicians located in each field. The technicians will conduct continuous in-person meetings with identified community groups and other stakeholders. And the project owner will consider all the recommendations and comments to improve or change project implementation if necessary. This is verified by on-site interview with project owner and technicians and also by checking the daily working log/WL/ recorded by the technicians which including the stakeholder consultation process and results. Furthermore, the project owner promised that they will carry out the continued communication as planning. 3. Based on above demonstration, it is confirmed that all consultation and participatory process have been undertaken directly with communities and other stakeholders through village notice boards and stakeholder meetings. And 100 representatives from local stakeholders filled the questionnaires whom covered different locations, different ages, different occupations and different education levels. Also 13 representatives from local stakeholders participated in the verification process stakeholder meeting. Hence, it is concluded that the project's method for conducting communities and stakeholders consultations is effective.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed			

CL ID	08	**Section no.**	2.3.9	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
1. The actual information of this monitoring period is not clarified. 2. Justification that adequate levels of information sharing have occurred is not provided.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
1. The actual information of this monitoring period has been clarified. 2. Local villagers can know the status of the project through the notice board of the village committee and leave comments on the village committee comment book. They can also put forward their own opinions through the Internet or the visit of technicians. All stakeholders can express their opinions in this way and finally give feedback to the forest bureau. On this basis, the information of stakeholders can be shared.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.3.9	New version No.: 02	

☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:
☐	Other:		
DOE assessment			**Date:** 05/02/2020

1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that actual information of this monitoring period has been clarified.
2. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the justification that adequate levels of information sharing have occurred has been provided in the updated MR, which is confirmed as in line with the requirement of the MR form.

Refer to section 4.3.5 of this report for detail assessment.

Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed

CL ID	09	**Section no.**	2.3.10	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				

1. The actual information of this monitoring period is not clarified, how to get the comments from stakeholders and how did they participate in the decision making is not specified.
2. As per the form, the culture- and gender-sensitivity of implementation of such actions is not demonstrated.

Project participant response			**Date :** 30/01/2020
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.3.10	New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:
☒	Other:	/CMQ/	
DOE assessment			**Date:** 05/02/2020

1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the actual information of the second round of stakeholders' meeting is added. During the project implementation, local consultations, community monitoring, dissemination of project and monitoring information are taken. The identified stakeholders are local government and villagers located in surrounding villages. Representatives of stakeholders covering different locations in project zone, different age, gender and culture background have been distributed by questionnaires and all the feedback are considered by project owner for changing the project implementation if necessary. Via checking all the questionnaires/CMQ/ and by interview with the representatives/I2,I3/ during site visit, it is confirmed that all the participants agreed the project implementation and they confirmed they have effectively participated and involved in project implementation, monitoring, and evaluation by communication with project owner, noticed by village notice boards and asked to fill the related questionnaires. Therefore, from that point, the project monitoring was not modified.
2. Via on-site interview with the local women stakeholders and technicians, it is verified that they are encouraged by PP to participate the stakeholder meeting and maintaining the regular communications with Sorority Director and Nationalities Officer of local towns. Thus the culture- and gender-sensitivity of implementation of such actions has been demonstrated.

Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed

CL ID	10	**Section no.**	2.3.11	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				

The actual female labor number is missing in section 2.3.11.

Project participant response	**Date :** 30/01/2020

The part has been added, and during the current monitoring period, 45 women were employed as technicians.			
Documentation provided by project participant			
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.3.11	New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:
☒	Other:	/LC/, /PAY/	
DOE assessment			**Date:** 05/02/2020
The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the actual female labor number is added. The number is confirmed as consistent with the PD and also verified by checking the labor contracts/LC/ and payroll/PAY/. Hence, it is concluded that the stakeholder involvement was inclusive without any discrimination of gender, cultural identity and religion. The national policies/llc/ guarantee that no type of discrimination is tolerated at any point of the project implementation.			
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed		

CL ID	11	**Section no.**	2.3.12	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
1. How the project's grievance redress procedure is implemented during this monitoring period as set out in the project description is not clarified. 2. The results during this monitoring period are missing.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
1. The project's grievance redress procedure has been clarified. the project owner nominated a specific staff in charge of recording and collecting conflicts and grievances of local communities and individual farmers. Forest patroller in each project site play an important role of treating with ordinary conflicts and grievances, and report to the forest stations or bureau. 2. During this monitoring period there has no grievances received during this monitoring period.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.3.12		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:
☒	Other:	/CGL/		
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
1. A grievance redress process is in place as per the PD/PD/ and validation report/VAL/. A specific staff is in charge of recording and collecting conflicts and grievances of local communities and individual farmers. He was nominated who is the first responsible for responding to requests from the community. Stakeholders can either appeal through village representatives or directly to the local forestry bureau. 2. During the on-site interview with the specific staff and checking his recordings/CGL/ about the conflicts and grievances of local communities during this monitoring period, it is verified that there is no any grievances raised in this implementation period.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed			

CL ID	12	**Section no.**	2.4.3	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
Who conducted monitoring and assessment of carbon, community and biodiversity for this monitoring period is not specified.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
The part has been specified, during the monitoring period, the measurement of data and the monitoring of biodiversity are mainly undertaken by 110 technicians employed by Hefei Zhuoya. The project manager of Hefei Zhuoya is responsible for on-site verification, continuously guiding the tasks and specifications of these technicians, and the final data collection and inspection.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.4.3		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:

☐	Other:	/FSR/	
DOE assessment			**Date:** 05/02/2020
The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the 110 technicians employed by Hefei Zhuoya conducted the monitoring of carbon, community and biodiversity for this monitoring period, and the assessment was conducted by Hefei Zhuoya, which has been verified by checking the monitoring results/FSR/, and interview with the PP and technicians.			
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed		

CL ID	13	**Section no.**	2.4.5	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
Description of any activities and/or processes implemented to be able to provide this assurance is missing.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
The activities and/or processes of Avoidance of Corruption and Other Unethical Behavior has been added.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.4.5		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:
☒	Other:	/BL/		
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the activities and/or processes implemented to be able to provide assurance of avoidance of corruption has been specified. As legally registered companies according to above assessment, the project proponent and other involved entity in project implementation have the obligation to comply with relevant regulations, including anti-corruption law. This is verified by checking the company information in National Enterprise Credit Information Publicity System/neci/ and on-site observation with company business license/BL/. Thus it is concluded that the project is not involved or complicit in any form of corruption during this monitoring period.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed			

CL ID	14	**Section no.**	3.1.4	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
Description of dissemination of Monitoring Plan and Results is not provided based on the actual situation of this monitoring period.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
The part has been added, including the photos and the effect of the meeting and other aspects, the actual situation has also been clarified.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 3.1.4		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:
☐	Other:	/RVAR/, /VSM/		
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020

The monitoring results, monitoring plan and summary of the monitoring plan in local language, have been made publicly available on the VCS and CCB website, which can be confirmed by checking the corresponding webpage. In addition, hard copies of the monitoring plan and monitoring manual have been distributed among local stakeholders by PP and local government which is confirmed and verified by interview with the local stakeholders. Furthermore, the project implementer published the monitoring plan and monitoring manual on the local notice boards to explain the monitoring process to communities and other stakeholders which has been verified by checking the photo of the communities and stakeholders watching[/RVAR/] and seen by verification team during site inspection. Finally, meetings with stakeholders have been carried out during site verification. During the meeting, project implementer introduced the monitoring results during this monitoring period and copies of monitoring report is available to anyone requests it. Verification team has participated and the results are also verified by checking the meeting minute and questionnaires filled by stakeholders[/VSM/]. In conclusion, the results of climate monitoring were disseminated in accordance with the validated project description.

Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed

CL ID	15	**Section no.**	4.3.1	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
1. The actual information during this monitoring period is not specified in the description. 2. Affected community groups in the key variables table are not corresponding to the ones defined in the section 4.1.1.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
1. The actual information during this monitoring period has been specified, the project community was evaluated by means of questionnaires and result. 2. Affected community groups in the key variables table has been corrected in the section 4.1.1.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 4.3.1		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:
☐	Other:			
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the actual information during this monitoring period has been specified. During this monitoring period, the project owner established a monitoring team including all the technicians conducting interviews with local communities affected by the project, this has been confirmed by site interview with the technicians[/I2/] and local stakeholders[/I3/]. As per the frequency defined in the PD, the monitoring should be conducted before every verification event, the monitoring team distributed 100 questionnaires to collect the interview results for the representatives of local residents living in project zone from March to April in 2019 and got 100 valid questionnaires back, thus it is verified that the monitoring frequency is in line with the validated PD design[/PD/]. 2. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the affected community groups in the key variables table are revised to be corresponding to the ones defined in the section 4.1.1.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*		☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed		

CL ID	16	**Section no.**	4.3.2	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
Actual information of the community monitoring plan dissemination during this monitoring period is missing.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
Actual information of the community monitoring plan dissemination during this monitoring period has been added.				
Documentation provided by project participant				

☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 4.3.2	New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:
☒	Other:	/VSM/, /RVAR/	
DOE assessment			**Date:** 05/02/2020

The community monitoring results, community monitoring plan and summary of the community monitoring plan in local language, have been made publicly available on the VCS and CCB website, which can be confirmed by checking the corresponding webpage.
In addition, hard copies of the community monitoring plan and community monitoring manual have been distributed among local stakeholders by PP and local government which is confirmed and verified by photo check/RVAR/ and interview with the local stakeholders.
Furthermore, the project implementer published community monitoring plan and community monitoring manual on the local notice boards to explain the monitoring process to communities and other stakeholders which has been verified by checking the photo of the communities and stakeholders watching/RVAR/ and seen by verification team during site inspection.
Finally, meetings with stakeholders have been carried out during site verification. During the meeting, project implementer introduced the community monitoring results during this monitoring period and copies of community monitoring results is available to anyone requests it. Verification team has participated and the results are also verified by checking the meeting minute and questionnaires filled by stakeholders/VSM/.
In conclusion, the results of community monitoring were disseminated in accordance with the validated project description.

Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed

CL ID	17	**Section no.**	5.1.1	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
1. The justification of change to the plants is not complete as per the survey results. 2. The justification of change to the animals is not complete as per the survey results.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
1. The justification of change to the plants has been completed according to the survey results. 2. The justification of change to the animals has been completed according to the survey results.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 5.1.1		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:
☒	Other:	/BSR/		
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020

1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the justification of change to the plants is complete as per the biodiversity survey results listed in the Biodiversity Survey Report issued by Anhui Provincial Academy of Social Sciences in Jan 2014/BSR/.
2. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the justification of change to the animals is complete as per the biodiversity survey results listed in the Biodiversity Survey Report issued by Anhui Provincial Academy of Social Sciences in Jan 2014/BSR/.
Refer to section 4.6.1 of this report for detail assessment.

Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed

CL ID	18	**Section no.**	5.1.8	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
The actual information of this monitoring period for input effect is not specified.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
The actual information of this monitoring period for input effect has been specified. During monitoring period, no chemical pesticides and no biological control agents, so there is no effect.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 5.1.8		New version No.: 02

☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:
☒	Other:	/IFMM/	

DOE assessment	**Date:** 05/02/2020
The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the actual information of this monitoring period for input effect is specified. As assessment to the validated PD, it is verified that no fertilizers were used in the project during this monitoring period, chemical pesticides are allowed to be used only if there is a serious disease problem erupted in the project area, biological control agents are used in the project according to local Pest Control and Prevention Policy/IFMM/. The chemical pesticides are allowed to be used only if there is a serious pest problem erupted in the project area, while improper pesticide application would be harmful to natural environment, but the risk is considered low because pesticide is strictly managed by well trained staff to minimize the potential effect/IFMM/. As the biological measures to control pests and diseases was mainly adopted, the pesticide application was limited during this monitoring period. Via on-site interview with the project implementer and local officers, it is verified that there was no significant pesticide application occurred as no insects and disease disaster occurred.	
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed

CL ID	19	**Section no.**	5.3.1	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
1. How to determine the fixed sample plots and sample lines to monitoring biodiversity is not specified. 2. Who and when conducted the monitoring survey of biodiversity is not specified. 3. The results and evaluation of monitoring is not specified.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
1. The methods for determining the fixed sample plots and sample lines has been specified. 2. The monitoring survey of biodiversity was led by Anhui Province Academy of Social Sciences and conducted by technicians also. 3. The results and evaluation of monitoring has been specified.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 5.3.1		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:
☐	Other:			
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
1. The revised MR is checked, it is verified that the determination process of the fixed sample plots and sample lines to monitoring biodiversity is specified. 2. The revised MR is checked, it is verified that the description of Who and when conducted the monitoring survey of biodiversity has been specified. 3. The revised MR is checked, it is verified that the results and evaluation of monitoring has been specified. It is confirmed that the monitoring results for the biodiversity is consistent with the biodiversity survey report/BSR/ and biodiversity monitoring spreadsheets filled by the technicians/BMS/ and verified as reasonable and acceptable. Refer to section 4.6.11 of this report for detailed assessment.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*		☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed		

CL ID	20	**Section no.**	5.3.2	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CL				
Actual information of the biodiversity monitoring plan dissemination during this monitoring period is missing.				
Project participant response				**Date :**
Actual information of the biodiversity monitoring plan dissemination during this monitoring period has been added.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 5.3.2		New version No.: 02

☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:
☐	Other:	/RVAR/, /VSM/	
DOE assessment			**Date:** 05/02/2020

The biodiversity monitoring results, biodiversity monitoring plan and summary of the biodiversity monitoring plan in local language, have been made publicly available on the VCS and CCB website, which can be confirmed by checking the corresponding webpage.
In addition, hard copies of the biodiversity monitoring plan and biodiversity monitoring manual have been distributed among local stakeholders by PP and local government, also all the technician explained how the project was monitored, which is confirmed and verified by interview with the local stakeholders.
Furthermore, the project implementer published biodiversity monitoring plan and biodiversity monitoring manual on the local notice boards to explain the monitoring process to communities and other stakeholders which has been verified by checking the photo of the communities and stakeholders watching/RVAR/ and seen by verification team during site inspection.
Finally, meeting with stakeholder had been carried out during site verification. During the meeting, project implementer introduced the biodiversity monitoring results during this monitoring period and copies of biodiversity monitoring results is available to anyone requests it. Verification team has participated and the results are also verified by checking the meeting minute and questionnaires filled by stakeholders/VSM/.
In conclusion, the results of biodiversity monitoring were disseminated in accordance with the validated project description.

Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed

Table 2. CAR from this validation

CAR ID	01	**Section no.**	1.2	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CAR				

1. The value of achievements during the Project Lifetime for GHG emission reductions & removals is not correct.
2. The figure of Total number of community members whose well-being was improved as a result of project activities is not consistent with PD and not in any other parts of the MR.
3. The figure of Number of women whose well-being was improved as a result of project activities is not consistent with PD and not in any other parts of the MR.

Project participant response			**Date :** 30/01/2020

1. The value of achievements during the Project Lifetime for GHG emission reductions & removals has been corrected.
2. The figure of Total number of community members whose well-being was improved as a result of project activities has been corrected and consistent with PD.
3. The figure of Number of women whose well-being was improved as a result of project activities has been corrected and consistent with PD.

Documentation provided by project participant			
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 1.2	New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:
☐	Other:		
DOE assessment			**Date:** 05/02/2020

1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the value of achievements during the Project Lifetime for GHG emission reductions & removals is revised to be correct.
2. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the figure of total number of community members whose well-being was improved is revised to be correct and same to the PD.
3. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the figure of Number of women whose well-being was improved is revised to be correct and same to the PD.

Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed

CAR ID	02	**Section no.**	2.1.1	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CAR				
1. For section 2.1.1, as per the MR template, the demonstration of the operation of the project activity(s) during this monitoring period, including any information on events that may impact the GHG emission reductions or removals and monitoring is missing. 2. As per the template, description of how leakage and non-permanence risk factors are being monitored and managed is missing.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
1. The demonstration of the operation of the project activity(s) during this monitoring period, including any information on events that may impact the GHG emission reductions or removals and monitoring has been added. During this monitoring period, no events affecting emission reduction and monitoring occurred in the project area. 2. Description of how leakage and non-permanence risk factors are being monitored and managed has been added.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.1.1	New version No.: 02	
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:	
☒	Other:	/NPRR/		
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the demonstration of the operation of the project activity(s) during this monitoring period, including any information on events that may impact the GHG emission reductions or removals and monitoring has been added. During this monitoring period, it is verified that no events affecting emission reduction and monitoring occurred in the project area. 2. The revised MR is checked, it is verified that the leakage is zero as per the validated PD and the non-permanence risk factors have been evaluated in the separated report/NPRR/.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed			

CAR ID	03	**Section no.**	2.1.8	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CAR				
Methodological tools are not correctly listed.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
Methodological tools has been corrected.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.1.8	New version No.: 02	
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:	
☐	Other:			
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the methodological tools are correctly listed in section 2.1.8 by checking the UNFCCC website and all the tools are confirmed as used for ER calculation for this monitoring period.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed			

CAR ID	04	**Section no.**	2.3.13	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CAR				
1. The description of providing orientation and training for the project's workers and a wide range of people from the communities is not complete, the training for people from the communities is missing. 2. Identification of how local capacity is not lost is missing. 3. The training related to the monitoring skills is not specified.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
1.The project's workers and a wide range of people from the communities training plans and contents have been added in great detail.				

2. Identification of how local capacity has been built has been added. 3. The training related to the monitoring skills has been added.			
Documentation provided by project participant			
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.3.13	New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:
☒	Other:	/TTR/	
DOE assessment			**Date:** 05/02/2020
1. The revised MR is checked, it is verified that the description is added and evidence is provided by PP. Forest Management Manual/IFMM/ includes technical advice is provided for each technician and trainings are offered for all the technicians immediately once they were hired and continuously for different topics like physical safety measures, health, forest land inspection, use of monitoring and measuring instruments and data records which are useful for effective forest management and monitoring. By checking the sample of training records of the technicians/TTR/, it is verified that the trainings are offered for all the technicians immediately once they were hired. Furthermore, till the time of verification, several trainings were provided to technicians in each September from 2014 to 2018 related to planting, tending and monitoring skills and experience which verified by checking the training records/TTR/. Besides, in order to carry out a successful and efficient monitoring survey, special trainings providing orientation for the project monitoring was provided to technical staffs prior to the monitoring activities for this monitoring period. 2. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the continuous training is provided. In addition, via on-site interview with the local villagers, it is verified that Monitoring Manual has been distributed to each village by notice board and the local officers from forest bureau had provided the live demonstrations. Thus it is demonstrated that the project is building local capacity through job skills training and manual distribution. 3. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the training related to the monitoring skills is specified and training records are provided/TTR/. In order to carry out a successful and efficient monitoring survey, special trainings for the project monitoring was provided to technicians prior to the monitoring activities for this monitoring period which is confirmed by checking the training records/TTR/.			
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed		

CAR ID	05	**Section no.**	2.3.14	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CAR				
1. The Community Employment Opportunities categories are not clearly defined in this monitoring period. 2. The number of workers especially the female workers are not clearly defined in this monitoring period.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
1. The Community Employment Opportunities categories has been clearly defined. 2. The number of workers especially the female workers has been clearly defined.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.3.14		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:
☒	Other:	/LC/, /PAY/		
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the Community Employment Opportunities categories are clearly defined in this monitoring period. The project makes an effort to hire locally as confirmed by the project manager during the on-site visit and hiring criteria are based on skill sets without discrimination. Actually 110 persons (half are women) from the local communities are involved in the project activity during this monitoring period and they are properly hired as technicians for forest management, inspection and monitoring by verifying the labor contracts/LC/. Furthermore, via checking the monthly payroll/PAY/ to technicians and maintenance workers, it is verified that an equal opportunity and payment are given to the employments. 2. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that 45 females worked as technicians which has been verified by checking the labor contracts/LC/ and payroll/PAY/.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed			

CAR ID	06	**Section no.**	2.3.15	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CAR				
It stated in section 2.3.15 that by posting the labor law propaganda materials in the village, the farmers are aware of their right, however, the law should be listed in the labor contract.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
There are regular new employee training provided to workers before they start the job, which clearly indicate their rights and mechanism for grievance appeal, and the worker's rights are guaranteed in the labor contracts for each workers. The new employee training was in accordance with the Labor Law of People's Republic of China which guarantees the protection of employee's rights and benefits.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.3.15		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:
☐	Other:	/TTR/, /LC/		
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
A relevant law to which the PPs shall comply is available in the validated PD/PD/ and in the monitoring report, the hiring process is governed by the labour code and all workers have a contract in which its duties, rights and laws that protect them are reported, this is confirmed via checking the labor contracts/LC/ and on site interview with local government officer/I2/ and forest technician/I3/. Also all the workers have new employee training including Labor Law and worker's rights which has been verified by checking the related training records/TTR/.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed			

CAR ID	07	**Section no.**	2.5.2	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CAR				
As per the template, below demonstration is missing, 1. The free, prior, and informed consent has been obtained of those whose property rights will be or are affected by the project. 2. Appropriate restitution or compensation has been allocated to any parties whose lands have been or will be affected by the project.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
1. The relevant demonstration has been added in the updated MR. 2. The relevant demonstration has been added in the updated MR.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 2.5.2		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:
☐	Other:			
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the relevant demonstration has been added. 2. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the relevant demonstration has been added. Refer to section 4.3.12 of this report for detailed assessment.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed			

CAR ID	08	**Section no.**	3.1	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CAR				
1. t_{VAL} used for calculate the sample plots number is missing in ex-ante parameters as per the tool. 2. For parameter $V_{TREE,i}$; $V_{TREE,l,p,j,i}$, why the four species using the allometric equations of Broadleaf forest is not specified. 3. The calibration information of the monitoring equipment for measure the parameter of $H_{l,p,j,i}$ and $DBH_{l,p,j,i}$ is missing. 4. The value of $N_{i,j}$ 1700 need to be specified as this value is not listed in the ER sheet. 5. Some parameters used for calculate the sample plots number are missing in ex-post parameters as				

per the tool.			
Project participant response			**Date :** 30/01/2020
1. t_{VAL} used for calculate the sample plots number has been clarified in ex-ante parameters as per the tool. 2. For parameter $V_{TREE,j}$; $V_{TREE,l,p,j,i}$, why the four species using the allometric equations of Broadleaf forest has been specified. 3. The calibration information of the monitoring equipment for measure the parameter of $H_{l,p,j,i}$ and $DBH_{l,p,j,i}$ has been clarified. 4. The value of $N_{i,j}$ 1700 need to be specified as this value has been listed in the ER sheet. 5. Some parameters used for calculate the sample plots number has been clarified in ex-post parameters as per the tool.			
Documentation provided by project participant			
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 3.1	New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:
☐	Other:		
DOE assessment			**Date:** 05/02/2020
1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the parameter has been added in the updated MR. 2. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the clarification is added as footnote. 3. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed the calibration is no need for the measuring devices. 4. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the clarification is added. 5. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that parameters have been added in the updated MR. All the related part in MR has been updated in line with the correction request. Refer to section 4.4.1 of this report for detailed assessment.			
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed		

CAR ID	09	**Section no.**	3.1.3	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CAR				
1. The monitoring process is not clearly described. 2. The monitoring of the applicability conditions listed in methodology and tools is not specified. 3. How to calculate the sample plots for each strata according to the tool of "Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities (Version 02.1.0)" is not specified. 4. How to select the sample plots is not specified. 5. The detail information of the sample plots including number, geographical coordinates, tree species, number of trees is missing. 6. A map with sample plots location is missing. 7. The results of sample plots measurement are missing. 8. The calculation process and result of the parameter uncertainty u_C is missing, tool of "Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks of trees and shrubs in A/R CDM project activities" is not followed.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
1. The monitoring process has been clearly described. 2. The monitoring of the applicability conditions listed in methodology and tools has been specified. 3. The calculate of the sample plots will be provided by excel. 4. How to select the sample plots has been specified and provided by excel. 5. The detail information of the sample plots including number, geographical coordinates, tree species, number of trees has been added. 6. A map with sample plots location has been added. 7. The results of sample plots measurement has been added. 8. The calculation process and result of the parameter uncertainty u_C has been corrected and explained.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 3.1.3		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:
☒	Other:	/KML/, /SSSR/		
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020

1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that monitoring process is clearly described as per the approved PD. 2. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that monitoring of the applicability conditions listed in methodology and tools is specified as per the requirement in the PD. 3. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the calculation of the sample plots for each strata has been specified in line with the tool of "Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities (Version 02.1.0)". 4. After determined the number of the plots, PP randomly selected the location for all the sample plots. Via checking the project area KML file/KML/, it is verified that there are totally 154 planting plots included in the project area. The PP has randomly selected the 25 sample plots from these planting plots. Via checking the sampling plots selection records/SSSR/, it is confirmed that the location of the sample plots are selected randomly using the Excel random function and ArcGis software. And the location of the sampling plots have been clearly and correctly listed in the MR. 5. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the detail information of the sample plots including number, geographical coordinates, tree species, number of trees has been listed which verified as correct by checking the sampling plots inventory/SPI/. 6. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that a map with sample plots location is added. The location is confirmed as correct by checking the sampling plots inventory/SPI/ comparing with the google earth map. 7. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the results of sample plots measurement has been added. Refer to section 4.4.1 of this report for detailed assessment. 8. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the calculation process and result of the parameter uncertainty $u_C$has been corrected and explained. Refer to section 4.4.1 of this report for detailed assessment.	
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed

CAR ID	10	**Section no.**	3.2.2	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CAR				
1. Why the allometric equations can be used for the purpose of ex-post estimation of tree biomass is not specified as per the tool of "Demonstrating appropriateness of allometric equations for estimation of aboveground tree biomass in A/R CDM project activities". 2. The result of u_C is not listed and the conclusion based on the tool is not demonstrated.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
1. Selection of allometric equations is based on the tool "Demonstrating appropriateness of allometric equations for estimation of aboveground tree biomass in A/R CDM project activities", In this tool a species-specific or group-of-species-specific allometric equation derived from trees growing in edapho-climatic conditions similar to those in the project area is considered appropriate, and hence can be used for ex post estimation of tree biomass, if at least one of the following conditions is satisfied: (a) The equation is used in the national forest inventory, or the national GHG inventory, of the host Party; (b) The equation has been used in commercial forestry sector of the host Party for ten years or more; (c) The equation was derived from a data set of at least 30 sample trees, and the value of coefficient of determination (R2) obtained was not less than 0.85. The calculation formula of this monitoring period is DB52/T 702_2011 < The binary standing tree volume table of China fir> and DB52/T 773_2012 < The binary standing tree volume table of Cypress >, The local standard of Anhui province where the project is located. Because the criteria are used for national forest inventory in the host country, meeting the (a) option in the above criteria is tool compliant 2. The result of u_C has been listed, according to the Appendix 2 of the tool, the uncertainty in the estimated mean value of a parameter is more than 10 per cent, the estimated mean value is either increased or decreased by a percentage of the uncertainty. The table provides the uncertainty discount factors to be applied for different ranges of uncertainty.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 3.2.2	New version No.: 02	
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:	
☐	Other:			

DOE assessment	**Date:** 05/02/2020
1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the reason of allometric equations can be used for the purpose of ex-post estimation of tree biomass has been provided in line with the requirement of the tool of "Demonstrating appropriateness of allometric equations for estimation of aboveground tree biomass in A/R CDM project activities". Refer to section 4.4.1 of this report for detailed assessment. 2. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the result of u_c is calculated and listed, and the conclusion based on the tool is demonstrated. Refer to section 4.4.1 of this report for detailed assessment.	
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed

CAR ID	11	**Section no.**	3.2.4	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CAR				
The net anthropogenic GHG removals by sinks are divided by civil years in table of section 3.2.4, how to conduct the annually monitoring should be illustrated				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020
Every year, PP conducted the measurement data of tree height and tree thickness, and the annual monitoring data calculation table are provided.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 3.2.4		New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):		New version No.:
☒	Other:	/FSR/		
DOE assessment				**Date:** 05/02/2020
For this monitoring period, PP claimed the VCUs in several vintages as below: 1. **22-April-2014 – 31-December-2015** 2. **01-January-2016 – 31-December-2016** 3. **01-January-2017 – 31-December-2017** 4. **01-January-2018 – 31-December-2018** For determination of the ER for the period from 22-April-2014 to 31-December-2015, the monitoring data are derived from the monitoring survey conducted in Jan. 2016/FSR/. For determination of the ER for the period from 01-January-2016 to 31-December-2016, the monitoring data are derived from the monitoring survey conducted in Jan. 2017/FSR/. For determination of the ER for the period from 01-January-2017 to 31-December-2017, the monitoring data are derived from the monitoring survey conducted in Jan. 2018/FSR/. For determination of the ER for the period from 01-January-2018 to 31-December-2018, the monitoring data are derived from the monitoring survey conducted in Jan. 2019/FSR/. Via checking all the field monitoring results, it is verified that since the start date of the project, PP conducted the monitoring survey annually in Jan. since 2016 to get statistics of the tree growing. Via checking the four ER calculation sheets for period as above statement, it is confirmed that the original data derived from the monitoring survey are correct and actual and ER calculations for the four vintages are also correct and actual.				
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*		☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed		

CAR ID	12	**Section no.**	4.1.1	**Date :** 03/01/2020
Description of CAR				
As per the template, for each group, in section 4.1.1, 1. Explain how the affected groups have participated in the evaluation of impacts 2. Provide all relevant references Above information is not listed in MR.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 30/01/2020

1. During the monitoring period, through stakeholder meetings, technicians, household of questionnaire investigation to collect information and access methods such as field, affected by the project group are expressed in this period of project for your true feelings, including the increase of income, through labor to enhance the cohesion between the community and natural environment improvement, etc are the effects of the project, the owner also collected through each person's expression summary form the influence the objective of the Community Impacts. 2. All relevant references have been provided.			
Documentation provided by project participant			
☒	Changes in the MR	Section(s): 4.1.1	New version No.: 02
☐	Changes in XLS	Worksheet(s):	New version No.:
☐	Other:		
DOE assessment			**Date:** 05/02/2020
1. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that the explanation of how the affected groups have participated in the evaluation of impacts is added. Via checking the 100 questionnaires/CMQ/ collected by monitoring team, it is verified that the questionnaires were distributed to different community groups as defined in the PD including Migrant rural workers, Local rural workers, Surplus rural labors, Rural cooperatives, Female rural workers and the key variables set in the questionnaire are in line with the plan in validated PD/PD/. Via comparing the information in the questionnaires, it is verified that the affected groups have participated in the evaluation of impacts 2. The revised MR is checked, it is confirmed that all the relevant references have been listed in this section. The monitoring procedures and approaches during this monitoring period were carried out as listed in the PD, via checking the results, it is verified that PP established a series of procedures including organizing monitoring team, training, preparation and survey. The sub procedures are verified as capable to finish this monitoring, which is confirmed by interview with the monitoring team member/I1, I3, I4/ and based on the experience of the monitoring team.			
Conclusion *Tick the appropriate checkbox*	☐ Additional action should be taken (finding remains open) ☒ The finding is closed		