



PV Climate

Validation and Verification Requirements

Version 1.1

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INTRODUCTION

As part of the Plan Vivo Carbon Standard (PV Climate) V5 certification process, *Validations* and *Verifications* evaluate the compliance of *Projects* with the Project Requirements and the Methodology Requirements in order for *Projects* to become *Registered* and/or to issue *Plan Vivo Certificates (PVCs)*.

Projects that generate *Carbon Benefits* equal to or greater than 10,000 t CO₂e/yr (classified as 'macroscale') are required to complete *Validations* and *Verifications* using a Plan Vivo-approved Validation and Verification Body (VVB). All other *Projects* are considered microscale and may follow the above, or they may also choose to use an alternative, microscale *Validation* and *Verification* process overseen by Plan Vivo with the help of an *Independent Expert* (IE).

VVBs are qualified, independent organisations that are approved by Plan Vivo prior to performing *Validations* and *Verifications*.

The microscale *Validation and Verification* process is performed by Plan Vivo with the support of appropriately qualified and approved *Independent Experts* (IEs), who carry out site visits and report non-conformances back to Plan Vivo and the *Project Coordinator*.

Validation

Details provided in the *PDD* will be checked for conformance with PV Climate through desk-based review, *Stakeholder* interviews and a site visit.

The *Validator* will assess the accuracy, completeness, quality, and veracity of information recorded in the *PDD*, and the knowledge, capacity and functionality of the *Project Coordinator* and *Project Participants*.

Verification

The *Verifier* will assess the accuracy, completeness, quality, and veracity of the information provided in *Annual Reports* and any revisions to the *PDD* made during the *Verification Period* through desk-based review, *Stakeholder* interviews, and a site visit. This includes verifying the number of *Plan Vivo Certificates* generated by the *Project* during the *Verification Period*.

The *Verifier* will also assess the conformance of the *Project* with the procedures and processes described in the *PDD* and re-assess the validity of key information in the *PDD* and the knowledge, capacity, and functionality of the *Project Coordinator* and *Project Participants*.

Validation and Verification Requirements

1 Validation

Requirements

- 1.1 All *Projects* must be *Validated* by a Plan Vivo approved VVB or through the microscale *Validation* process before registration and issuance of *Plan Vivo Certificates (PVCs)*.
- 1.2 *Projects* that generate *Carbon Benefits* equal to or greater than 10,000 t CO₂e per year must be *Validated* by a *VVB*; *Projects* that generate *Carbon Benefits* of less than 10,000 tCO₂ per year can be *Validated* through the microscale *Validation* process or by a *VVB*.
- 1.3 Any Corrective Action Requests (*CARs*) or New Information Requests (*NIRs*) raised in the *Validation* process must be resolved before registration of the *Project*.
- 1.4 Any Forward Action Requests (*FARs*) raised in the *Validation* process must be resolved within a timeframe agreed by Plan Vivo and (where applicable) the *VVB*.

Guidance

- *IEs* and *VVBs* that have been approved by Plan Vivo are listed on the Roster of Plan Vivo Approved *VVBs* and *IEs* on the [Plan Vivo website](#).

2 Verification

Requirements

- 2.1 All *Projects* must be *Verified* at least every 5-years throughout the *Crediting Period*, and there must be a final *Verification* at the end of the *Crediting Period*.
- 2.2 *Projects* that generate *Carbon Benefits* equal to or greater than 10,000 t CO₂e per year must be *Verified* by a *VVB*; *Projects* that generate *Carbon Benefits* of less than 10,000 tCO₂ per year can be *Verified* through the microscale *Verification* process or by a *VVB*.
- 2.3 Any *CARs* or *NIRs* raised in the *Verification* process must be resolved before further issuance of *PVCs*.
- 2.4 Any *FARs* raised in the *Verification* process must be resolved within a timeframe agreed by Plan Vivo and (where applicable) the *VVB*.

Guidance

- *Projects* that expand to generate *Carbon Benefits* over 10,000 t CO₂e/year after *Validation* must contract a *VVB* to carry out the subsequent *Verifications* and will no longer be able to access the microscale *Verification* process.
- *IEs* and *VVBs* that have been approved by Plan Vivo are listed on the Roster of Plan Vivo Approved *VVBs* and *IEs*, available on the [Plan Vivo website](#).

3 VVB Requirements

Requirements

- 3.1 All *VVBs* and their audit teams must be approved by Plan Vivo, prior to entering into contracts for *Validation* or *Verification* services.
- 3.2 Any planned *Validations* and *Verifications* of *Projects* must be approved by Plan Vivo by submitting details of proposed audit teams and declaring any potential conflict of interest.
- 3.3 *VVBs* must follow the *Validation* and *Verification* Terms of Reference when carrying out *Validations* and *Verifications*.
- 3.4 All *Validation* and *Verification* Reports produced by *VVBs* must be approved by Plan Vivo prior to the issuance of *Validation* or *Verification* statements.

4 Microscale Validation and Verification Process

Requirements

- 4.1 *IEs* contracted as part of the microscale *Validation* and *Verification* process must be approved by Plan Vivo.
- 4.2 *IEs* must use the *Validation* or *Verification* Terms of Reference when carrying out *Validation* or *Verification* activities.

Guidance

- Microscale *Validation* and *Verification* processes are undertaken by an audit team comprised of members of the Plan Vivo Secretariat and the Plan Vivo Technical Advisory Committee, with support from an approved *IE*. The *IE* will carry out the site visit. The *IE* must engage with the *Validation* or *Verification* until all *NIRs* have been addressed, all *CARs* have been resolved or converted into *FARs*, and the final *Validation* or *Verification* statement has been issued.

Annex 1 – Version Control

Version Number	Date of release (DD/MM/YYYY)	Changes and additions since previous version
V1.0	24/06/2022	n/a
V1.1	01/11/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rebranded from the “Plan Vivo Standard” to the “Plan Vivo Carbon Standard (PV Climate)”. • Changed the term from “internal validation and verification process” to “microscale validation and verification process”.