



Plan Vivo Verification Report
Document Prepared by Aster Global Environmental Solutions, Inc.

Project Name:	Yaeda Eyasi REDD Project
Plan Vivo Project #	PV_2013_011
Aster Global Project Number:	20092.00
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Date of Review: 30 August 2021 – 4 February 2022

Project Description

The Yaeda-Eyasi Landscape REDD project represents an extension of the previously validated and verified Yaeda REDD project under Plan Vivo. As a result of the extension, the project now includes 12 villages representing two distinct communities, the Hadzabe and Datooga communities. The Executive Summary in the PDD states “The aim of the Yaeda-Eyasi Landscape REDD project is to reduce emissions from deforestation whilst supporting local development and habitat conservation. This project and its associated carbon revenues support anti-poaching, monitoring, education and medical provision ensuring all members of the villages, hunter-gatherer Hadzabe and pastoralist Datooga communities in Domanga, Dumbechand, Endamaghan, Endanyawish, Endesh, Eshkesh, Jobaj, Mbuganyekundu, Mikocheni, Mongo wa Mono, Qangdend and Yaeda Chini villages receive benefits. By working in conjunction with traditional leaders, the elected village, ward and district governments and community members, Carbon Tanzania (CT) and Ujamaa Community Resource Team (UCRT) have created a unique community planned and operated Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) project across the Yaeda-Eyasi landscape. Successful avoided deforestation will be achieved through a series of interventions including reinforcing the implementation of the approved village land use plans and associated village by-laws, improving forest conservation and management activities which address the primary driver of deforestation, shifting agriculture.

Participating communities will benefit from increased income stemming from the PES element of the project. Beyond the surplus revenue from the project's generation and sale of carbon offsets, there are significant, additional livelihood impacts. For these communities there is a very real and substantial overlap between environmental and socioeconomic impacts. As a population whose livelihood depends on the land, the Hadza will benefit from the improved habitat resulting from project activities. Preventing deforestation, thereby preserving the natural habitat on which the

Hadza and Datooga communities depend, will result in a sustained supply of food, grazing and other essential items and ecosystem services. Additionally, project activities related to enforcing the land use plan will serve the purpose of protecting the watershed within the project area for the benefit of the people and wildlife.”

Document	Outstanding Corrective action	Activity against CAR
N/A	<i>There are no Outstanding Corrective Actions.</i>	N/A

Description of field visits (including list of sites visited and individuals/groups interviewed)

Description of field visit: The primary objectives of the site visit as stated in the Plan Vivo Validation ToR are to “Verify that the project’s physical site description and governance structure is as described in the project design document and technical specification(s)

- Identify objective evidence of conformance with each of the requirements in the Plan Vivo Standard by:
 - Interviewing and interacting with the project coordinator (in-country manager)
 - Interviewing relevant stakeholders such as participating householders, community members and leaders, local government officials, government forestry agencies and extension services and other projects working in the same area
 - Identifying and assessing available supplementary project documentation and tools e.g. planning documentation, databases, templates, legal agreements etc.
 - Cross-checking results from interviews with project documentation to ensure that documentation reflects ground realities and staff awareness of project goals and procedures.
- Fully understand the project context and the views of other local stakeholders and experts regarding the project’s likely impact and benefits”

Aster Global Environmental Solutions Inc (herein referred to as Aster Global) developed a site visit plan for the Yaeda Eyasi REDD Project validation/verification as the site visit is a required tool to help the Validation and Verification Body (VVB) reach reasonable assurance. It also allows the VVB to; understand application of the methodology on-site, confirm the implementation of Yaeda Eyasi REDD project activities, and to identify possible sources of error to focus desktop validation/verification efforts.

The site visit was conducted from 9 September to 11 September of 2021. Two Aster Global staff visited the project site. As this is a project expansion the VVB visited both communities that were included in the original project and new communities that are being added during this revalidation. The VVB visited multiple communities who were previously part of the project and communities who are new to the project. The VVB met with village governments, community members, Village Game Scouts (VGS), and Carbon Tanzania staff throughout the site visit. The VVB conducted interviews with community members in groups and individually. Additionally, to ensure an open dialogue with community members the VVB conducted interviews in mixed groups of youth, men, and women but also separated groups by gender, age, leadership position. During the three days on the site visit, the VVB collected primary evidence of the importance of the protected forest areas as we saw numerous Datooga grazing cattle throughout the project area and the Hadzabe demonstrated many of their traditional livelihood activities such as honey collection, hunting, and food gathering activities.

Visited sites: The VVB visited both communities in the Yaeda and Eyasi Valleys. The communities visited include: Yaeda-Chini, Hadza Community at the Mongo wa Mono Camp, Mongo wa Mono, Domanga, Hadza Community in Domanga, Hadza Community in Endamaghan, Endesh, and Endamaghan. In addition to visiting various villages and communities, the VVB also traversed large sections of the project area.

List of individuals interviewed:

Individual	Affiliation	Role	Date
David Beroff	Carbon Tanzania	Project Operations Manager	9 September 2021 – 11 September 2021
Regina Safari	Carbon Tanzania	Hadzabe Community Coordinator	9 September 2021 – 10 September 2021
Isack Bryson	Carbon Tanzania	Yaeda Valley Community Coordinator	9 September 2021 – 11 September 2021
German Qaghay Sedoyeka	Carbon Tanzania	Eyasi Valley Community Coordinator	10 September 2021 – 11 September 2021
	Village Chairman of Yaeda Chini		9 September 2021
	Ward Officer – Yaeda Chini		9 September 2021
Moses Sigiligi	Hadza Community	VGS	9 September 2021
Loveness Aba	Hadza Community	Hadza Secretary	9 September 2021
Leocardia Kampala	Hadza Community	VGS Coordinator	9 September 2021
Samuel Musunya	Hadza Community	VGS	9 September 2021
Moshi Issa	Hadza Community	VGS	9 September 2021
Senero Mathias	Domanga Hadza	VGS	9 September 2021
Salim Mbogo	Hadza Community		9 September 2021
Asman Magandula	Hadza Community	Educational Board	9 September 2021
Moi Asman	Hadza Community	Previous Hadza Chairman	9 September 2021
Milino Zephania	Hadza Community		9 September 2021
Helena Kampala	Hadza Community		9 September 2021
Eliwaza Stephano	Hadza Community		9 September 2021
Maria Marico	Hadza Community		9 September 2021
Elizabeth Mathias	Hadza Community		9 September 2021
Eliwaza Alphonse	Hadza Community		9 September 2021

Socki Issah	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Bertha Jumanne	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Neema Issah	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Bertha Jumapili	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Martha Issah	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Suliana Athuman	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Liliana Philipo	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Evaline Philipo	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Regina Salimu	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Stephano Gimbi	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Gimbi Stephano	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Kitanda Mathias	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Alphonse Mahuzo	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Samuel Myungu	Hadza Community	VGS	9 September 2021	
Baraka Robala	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Athuman Maweshi	Hadza Community	VGS	9 September 2021	
Salim Mgunga	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Adanow Marti	Hadza Community	VGS	9 September 2021	
Simon Moses	Hadza Community	VGS	9 September 2021	
Mathayo Ruben	Hadza Community	VGS	9 September 2021	
Zakayo Martii	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Rajabu Issa	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Mahisa Gineyi	Hadza Community	VGS	9 September 2021	
Kenedy Moshi	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Gimbi Saidi	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	

Joveni Paulo	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Iyilo Sillo	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Aroni Mkalanya	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Harmis Lokola	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Joel Mosses	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Bumanne Makunya	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Shabani	Hadza Community	VGS	9 September 2021	
Eliya John	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Jakaya Mussa	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Maloba Masany	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Kizale Kampala	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Thomas Simon	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Sindamo Davidi	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Emmanuel Moshi	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Adam Diphonce	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Josephat Joseph	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Jones Moshi	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Joshua Onero	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Magadula Juma	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Thomas Madulu	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Magadula Kiral	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Salimu Ugunga	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Amori	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Zephara Moshi	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	
Joseph Yaeda	Hadza Community		9 September 2021	

Issack Mogombe	Hadza Community	VGS	9 September 2021
Yaeda Ahofa	Hadza Community		9 September 2021
Ramadhani Waien	Hadza Community		9 September 2021
Ezekial	Domanga Hadza	VGS/Education Board Chairman	10 September 2021
Emanuel	Domanga Hadza	Student supported by Education Funds	10 September 2021
Pili	Domanga Hadza	Community Coordinator/VGS Coordinator	10 September 2021
Gidabuger	Endesh Village	VGS	10 September 2021 – 11 September 2021
Lazaro Tluway	Endesh Village	Teacher in Endesh Village	10 September 2021
Samwel Yohani	Endesh Village	Teacher in Endesh Village	10 September 2021
Gidongurri	Endesh Village	Member of Village Government	10 September 2021
Geweye	Endesh Village	Village Chairman/Traditional Elder	10 September 2021
Fred	Endesh Village	Member of Village Government/Acting Village Officer/Headmaster of School	10 September 2021
Malombo	Endesh Village	Youth VGS	10 September 2021
Joseph Marco	Endamaghan		11 September 2021
Hadija L. Kaiza	Endamaghan		11 September 2021
Shimba Isaya	Endamaghan		11 September 2021
Dalali Julias	Endamaghan		11 September 2021
Bernardo Murus	Endamaghan		11 September 2021
Emanuel Bura	Endamaghan		11 September 2021
Martin Ciadiye	Endamaghan		11 September 2021
Martha Reginald	Endamaghan		11 September 2021
Juliana Lawi	Endamaghan		11 September 2021
Paulo Oambanyega	Endamaghan		11 September 2021

Dalldi Ero	Endamaghan		11 September 2021	
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Table 1. Summary of major and minor Corrective Actions (Insert CAR Text)

Theme	Major CARs	Minor CARs	Observations	Status
Project's Eligibility	As approved by Plan Vivo, the verification of the pre-expanded Yaeda-Eyasi REDD project was completed simultaneously with the validation of the newly expanded Yaeda-Eyasi REDD project. Annex 1 of this report contains all the CARs that were raised during verification and validation.			
Ecosystem Benefits				
Project Coordination and Management				
Participatory design				
Quantifying and Monitoring Ecosystem Services				
Risk Management				
Livelihoods Impacts				
PES Agreement				

Table 2 - Report Conformance (Delete Yes/No as appropriate)

Theme	Conformance of Draft Report	Conformance of Final Report
Project's Eligibility	Yes	Yes
Ecosystem Benefits	Yes	Yes
Project Coordination and Management	Yes	Yes
Participatory design	Yes	Yes
Quantifying and Monitoring Ecosystem Services	Yes	Yes
Risk Management	Yes	Yes
Livelihoods impacts	Yes	Yes
PES Agreement	Yes	Yes

PROJECT'S ELIGIBILITY

Requirement: Project directly engage and benefit community groups

Verification Question: 1 and 2

- 1.1 Project interventions are still taking on land where smallholders and/or community groups have clear land tenure (1.1)
- 1.2 Land that is not owned by or subject to use rights has included in the project area because (1.2):

- It represents less than a third of the project areas at all times
- No part of the area was acquired by a third party from smallholders or community groups for the purpose of inclusion in the project
- Its inclusion will have clear benefits to the project by creating landscape level ecosystem benefits such as biodiversity corridors.
- There is an executed agreement between owners/mangers of such land and participants regarding the management of the area consistent with these requirements

A. Findings (describe)	<p>1.1 The VVB reviewed the CCRO's and Village Land Use Plans both of which demonstrate ownership under Tanzanian law. During the site visit the VVB interviewed village members, leaders, and Carbon Tanzania staff about if there have been changes in the villages land tenure and if there have been conflicts over land tenure in the project area. Through these interviews the VVB found no evidence that land tenure in the participating villages has changed since the project validation. The VVB is reasonably assured that the project intervention is still taking place on land where the community groups have clear land tenure.</p> <p>1.2 The VVB is reasonably assured that all villages participating in the project have clear land tenure, as a result this is not applicable.</p>		
B. Conformance	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
C. Corrective Actions (describe)	<p>A log of all Corrective Actions is provided in Annex 1.</p>		
D. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response			
E. Status	<p>All CARs are closed.</p>		

ECOSYSTEM BENEFITS

Requirement: Project generates ecosystem service benefits and maintains or enhances biodiversity.

Verification Questions: 1, 3 and 5

- 2.1 Project interventions are maintaining or enhancing biodiversity (2.2)
- 2.2 Project interventions have not led to any negative environmental impacts (2.3)
- 2.3 Any trees being planted to generate ecosystem services are native or naturalised species and are not invasive (2.4)

A. Findings (describe)	<p>2.1 As a REDD project, the project intervention is ensuring the protection of forested areas within the participating villages and these forested areas are critical biodiversity habitat. During the site visit, the VVB interviewed community members, community leaders, Village Game Scouts, and Carbon Tanzania staff about the effects of the project intervention on biodiversity in the project area. No person interviewed indicated that the project intervention was negatively affected biodiversity in the project area. One of the communities involved in the project are the Hadzabe, traditional hunter and gathers, that still to this day maintain their traditional way of life. Critical for</p>
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	<p><i>the maintenance of their culture is access to high quality habitat that allows them to hunt and gather food. Many of these community members spend large periods of time in the project area forests and no community members indicated that the project intervention is negatively affecting biodiversity. Additionally, members of the Datooga community, primarily pastoralists, rely on the abundance of grass in the protected forest areas to graze their cattle. The Datooga community members interviewed did not indicate that the project intervention has hurt the biodiversity in the area but stated that the protection of their forest areas increases biodiversity and provides reliable, high-quality grazing areas.</i></p> <p><i>The VVB saw visible signs of many different types of wildlife including giraffe, elephant, kudu, and many different types of birds.</i></p> <p><i>2.2 During the site visit the VVB found no evidence that the project intervention has led to any negative environmental impacts. Additionally, during the interviews with the communities no response ever indicated that the project intervention negatively affected the environment.</i></p> <p><i>2.3 Tree planting is not a project intervention; therefore, this criterion is not applicable.</i></p>
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B. Conformance	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
C. Corrective Actions (describe)	<i>A log of all Corrective Actions is provided in Annex 1.</i>		
D. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response			
E. Status	<i>All CARs are closed.</i>		

PROJECT COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT
Requirement: Project is managed with transparency and accountability, engagement of relevant stakeholders and in compliance with the law of the Host Country.
Verification Questions: 1, 2 and 6
<p>3.1 The project coordinator still has the capacity to support participants in the design of the project interventions, select appropriate participants for inclusion in the project, and develop effective participatory relationships including providing on-going support to sustain the project (3.4)</p> <p>3.2 The project coordinator still has the legal and administrative capacity to enter into PES Agreements with participants and to manage the disbursement of payments for ecosystem services (3.5)</p> <p>3.3 A transparent mechanism and procedures for the receipt, holding and disbursement of</p>

PES funds is applied, with funds intended for PES earmarked and managed through an account established for this sole purpose, separate to the project coordinator's operational finances. (3.9)

3.4 The project coordinator has accurately described the progress, achievements and problems encountered by the project in the Annual Reports. The Annual Reports transparently report sales figures and demonstrate resource allocation in the interest of target groups (3.10; 3.11)

A. Findings (describe)	<p><i>3.1 Throughout the site visit the VVB spoke with Carbon Tanzania staff to understand how the project coordinator supports the project participants. David Beroff is the Operations Manager for Carbon Tanzania and responsible for supporting the project participants in protecting their community forests. Carbon Tanzania has also hired two full-time additional staff from the local communities that are responsible for supporting the project participants in the project intervention and report directly to Mr. Beroff. Isack Bryson is from the Yaeda-Chini village and his primary responsibilities are to work with the local communities to protect their community forests and ensure the community is receiving the benefits as stated in the PES agreement. Similarly, Regina Safari is a Hadzabe community member from the Domanga village who supports the Hadzabe community to ensure their community forests are protected and that the community is receiving the benefits as described in the PES agreement. As a result of Carbon Tanzania directly employing community members in the project area the VVB saw first-hand the effective participatory support that Carbon Tanzania provides the villages and communities within the project area.</i></p> <p><i>The VVB conducted extensive interviews with Mr. Beroff throughout the course of the site visit to better understand the project design and the cultural context of the participating villages and communities. It was evident to the VVB that Mr. Beroff understands the cultural contexts of these communities which allows Carbon Tanzania to better support the project participants. Additionally, the VVB witnessed the open and participatory relationship that Mr. Beroff had with the project communities. Interviews were conducted with both Mr. Bryson and Ms. Safari and during these interviews the VVB it was evident that there is a clear participatory relationship with the project communities.</i></p> <p><i>During community interviews, it was clear that the communities felt they were able to discuss any project issues and successes with the Carbon Tanzania staff providing more evidence of an effective participatory relationship. The VVB is reasonably assured that the project coordinator still has the capacity to support the participating communities.</i></p> <p><i>3.2 The VVB reviewed evidence that Carbon Tanzania is a registered and incorporated company within Tanzania that it is able to legally operate within Tanzania. During interviews with village and ward level district government officials there was no indication that the standing of Carbon Tanzania to legally operate within Tanzania and enter into PES agreements has changed since validation. The VVB confirmed through interviews with Mr. Beroff that CT's ability to enter into PES has not changed since validation. The communities interviewed have not had issues receiving payments from Carbon Tanzania. Additionally, Carbon Tanzania has a dedicated staff member who is responsible for administering disbursements to communities. The VVB is reasonably</i></p>
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	<p>assured that Carbon Tanzania has the administrative capacity to manage the disbursement of payments for ecosystem services.</p> <p>3.3 During the site visit the VVB interviewed Mr. Beroff regarding the financial reporting capabilities of Carbon Tanzania and confirmed that Carbon Tanzania has staff dedicated to this task. Additionally, as part of the verification of the pre-expanded project, the VVB reviewed the sales figures, receipts, and Annual Reports and confirmed that revenue transfers to the local communities and sales figures are accurately reported. The VVB is reasonably assured that the project coordinator has transparent procedures in place to maintain transparent and auditable financial records. Additionally, the VVB reviewed evidence that a PES funds are managed through an account established for this sole purpose.</p> <p>3.4 Through interviews with participating communities and the project coordinator and a review of project documentation the VVB is reasonably assured that the project coordinator has reported accurately the progress of the project in the annual reports submitted to Plan Vivo. Additionally, the VVB is reasonably assured that the annual reports submitted to Plan Vivo transparently report sales figures and revenues provided to communities.</p>
B. Conformance	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/></p>
C. Corrective Actions (describe)	<p>A log of all Corrective Actions is provided in Annex 1.</p>
D. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response	
E. Status	<p>All CARs are closed.</p>

PARTICIPATORY DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF PLAN VIVO

Requirement: the project has demonstrated community ownership: communities participate meaningfully through the design and implementation of plan vivo that address local needs and priorities.

Verification Questions: 1, 2 and 6

- 4.1 A voluntary and participatory planning that address local needs and inform the development of technical specification is taking place (4.1; 4.6; 7.1.). Barriers to participation are being identified and measures taken to encourage participation (4.3)
- 4.2 Smallholders or communities are not being excluded from participation in the project on the basis of gender, age, income or social status, ethnicity or religion, or any other discriminatory basis (4.2)
- 4.3 The project is not undermining the livelihood needs and priorities or reduce the food security of the participants (4.7; 7.1; 7.5)

4.4 There exist a system for accurately recording and verifying location, boundary and size of each plan vivo (4.8). Participants have access to their *plan vivos* in an appropriate language and format (4.9)

4.5 Participants are being provided with a forum to periodically discuss the design and running of the project with other participants and raise any issuance or grievances with the project coordinator (4.12). A robust grievance redressal system is in place (4.14)

A. Findings (describe)	<p>4.1 During the site visit the audit confirmed via interviews that a voluntary and participatory planning process was used to design the project as the project intervention is based on the enforcement of the community developed VLUPs in which the community owned land is allocated to different uses. Importantly, the project will protect the local livelihoods, local customs, and land tenure of the participating groups by strengthening the enforcement of the VLUPs. The Hadzabe and Datooga tribes are two of the most important communities in the project area and their livelihoods are directly tied to the preservation of the forest protected through the project. The Datooga are traditional pastoralists which use the the protected areas for grazing. These forests (primarily Acacia Commifora-Beobob) have an extensive grass understory that sustains the Datooga's traditional livelihood. As discussed prior, the Hadzabe are primarily hunters and gatherers and rely on large, contiguous forest preserves to maintain their traditional customs and food security. The remaining community members come from different tribal groups but are generally agriculturalists. Each village's VLUP has set side land for agriculture expansion (not included in the project area) that considers future population growth. In interviews with the village members and leaders, the VVB found no evidence that the project would negatively impact local livelihood needs, local customs, land availability, food security, or land tenure.</p> <p>4.2 During the site visit and desktop review the VVB found no evidence that communities are being excluded from the project and associated benefits based on gender, age, income, social status, ethnicity or religion as confirmed at validation.</p> <p>4.3 The Village Land Use Plans (VLUPs) which were developed through a participatory community process prior to the start of the project form the basis for which areas are included in the project area. Specifically, forest reserves and grazing areas (as determined by the communities prior to project implementation) are included in the project area. Although this was confirmed at validation it is important to reiterate that the VLUPs were developed by the communities before the carbon project was discussed with the participating communities. In this way, the community allocated <i>a priori</i> sufficient land to accommodate agriculture expansion and residential expansion. During the site visit extensive interviews were conducted with a wide range of community participants and the VVB found no evidence that the project intervention was undermining the livelihood needs or food security of the communities. The project communities are predominantly Hadza (hunter and gatherers) and Datooga (traditional pastoralists); therefore, protection of these community forests is critical to sustain the livelihoods of these communities. Through the community interviews the VVB learned that one of the ways the community is further ensuring food security is using revenue from the project to purchase food staples during times when food may be scarce.</p> <p>4.4 Prior to the start of the project each individual village worked with</p>
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	<p><i>an NGO called Ujaama Community Resource Team (UCRT) to develop their VLUPs. The official boundaries of the VLUP and the VLUP itself is held by the central government of Tanzania and a copy of each VLUP is maintained in each village government office. During the site visit, the VVB confirmed that boundary markers have been installed as described in the Annual Reports. Additionally, during interviews with community members the VVB confirmed that the community members are aware of the VLUPs and the boundaries of each designated area within the VLUPs. During the desktop review the VVB confirmed that the VLUPs are available in the Swahili.</i></p> <p><i>4.5 During the site visit in which the VVB conducted interviews with a large cross-section of community members and leaders and confirmed that both the formal and informal grievance structures are understood. All community members interviewed generally responded that they would speak with village leaders if there were issues with the project after which the leaders would contact the Community Coordinator or they would go directly to the Mr. Beroff of Carbon Tanzania. Additionally, biannual meetings are held throughout the project area with participating villages to discuss the running of the project, problems that may arise, and monitoring results.</i></p>
B. Conformance	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/></p>
C. Corrective Actions (describe)	<p><i>A log of all Corrective Actions is provided in Annex 1.</i></p>
D. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response	
E. Status	<p><i>All CARs are closed.</i></p>

QUANTIFYING AND MONITORING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Requirement: project generates real and additional ecosystem service benefits that are demonstrated with credible quantification and monitoring

Verification Questions: 2, 3 and 4

- 5.1 Sources of data used to quantify ecosystem services, including all assumptions and default factors, have been specified and updated when possible, with a justification why they are appropriate (5.1; 5.2)
- 5.2 The project coordinator has been conducting ground-truthing activities in order to collect real data and field measurements from the project sites that have been or will be used to update the project's PDD and technical specifications, including the quantification of climate benefits (5.3)
- 5.3 A clear and consistent Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), or equivalent, for remote sensing analysis has been elaborated by the project coordinator.
- 5.4 The results of the remote sensing analysis are not in stark conflict with the results of Activity-Based Monitoring and there is a high level of correlation between the two

monitoring methods. Reasons for any discrepancy have been accurately justified.

5.5 Ecosystem services forming the basis of the Plan Vivo project are still additional (5.4).

5.6 To avoid double counting of ecosystem services, the project interventions are not being used for any other project or initiative (5.14)

5.7 A monitoring plan has been correctly implemented and a system for checking its robustness is in place, where (5.9; 7.2.; 7.3):

- The Activity-Based Monitoring indicators and performance targets directly or indirectly linked to the delivery of ecosystem services. ABM provides sufficient evidence that the project is on track to deliver the expected impacts and to reduce the drivers of deforestation.
- Corrective actions and contingency plans are described when performance targets have not been met
- The validity and assumptions of the technical specifications have been correctly tested
- Communities have been actively participating in monitoring activities
- Monitoring has been regularly shared and discussed it with the participants

A. Findings (describe)	<p>5.1 <i>The sources of data used to quantify ecosystem services were confirmed appropriate at validation. As a result of the expanded project, the quantification of ecosystem services has been updated but was explicitly excluded from the scope of the validation and verification by Plan Vivo.</i></p> <p>5.2 <i>Through interviews with Carbon Tanzania staff the VVB confirmed that ground-truthing of monitoring data is conducted in line with the requirements of the PDD and Plan Vivo Standard, 2013. Additionally, the VVB reviewed the SMART data collected by VGS to confirm that patrols are actively conducted throughout the project area. The VVB is reasonably assured that has conducted ground-truthing activities in-line with the PDD.</i></p> <p>5.3 <i>This criterion was confirmed at validation.</i></p> <p>5.4 <i>The PDD requires that a remote sensing analysis be conducted every 5 years. This verification took place in year 4 of the monitoring period, therefore no remote sensing analysis has been conducted. However, as a result of the newly expanded project the project has gone through validation in which the baseline and project scenarios based on historical deforestation in the project area were conducted. As stated previously, the technical specifications for the newly expanded project have been explicitly excluded from the scope of the validation by Plan Vivo.</i></p> <p>5.5 <i>Additionality was confirmed at validation of pre-expanded project. The VVB found no evidence that the project is no longer additional.</i></p> <p>5.6 <i>The VVB found no evidence that the project intervention is being used to generate emission reductions outside of this project. The VVB is reasonably assured double counting is not occurring for this project.</i></p> <p>5.7 <i>Through primary evidence collected in the form of interviews and data from the SMART system and evidence provided by Carbon Tanzania the VVB is reasonably assured that monitoring plan has been implemented in accordance with the validated PDD and that the system for checking the robustness of the monitoring results is being implemented as described in the validated PDD. The VVB confirmed</i></p>
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	<p>through interviews that community members are actively participating in the monitoring process, understand their obligations to continuously monitor under the ABM System, and meet biannually to discuss monitoring results. The ABM System was approved at validation and the VVB found no evidence to suggest that the validated ABM System failed to provide sufficient evidence to reduce deforestation in the project area.</p>		
B. Conformance	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
C. Corrective Actions (describe)	<p>A log of all Corrective Actions is provided in Annex 1.</p>		
D. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response			
E. Status	<p>All CARs are closed.</p>		

RISK MANAGEMENT	
Requirement: The project manages risks effectively throughout its design and implementation.	
Verification Questions: 2 and 4	
6.1 Where leakage is likely to be significant, i.e. likely to reduce climate services by more than 5%, an approved approach has been used to monitor leakage and subtract actual leakage from climate services claimed, or as a minimum, a conservative estimation of likely leakage has been made and subsequently deducted from the climate services claimed (6.1; 6.2)	
6.2 The level of risk buffer that has been determined using an approved approach is adequate and is a minimum of 10% of climate services expected (6.3)	
6.3 Does the project maintain a buffer account and is the cumulative total of credits deposited in the account equal to the total reported in the latest annual report? (6.3)	
A. Findings (describe)	<p>6.1 Leakage is monitored through remote sensing analysis that is required to be conducted every 5 years. This verification period only includes 4 years and no remote sensing analysis has been conducted. However, the project applies a leakage deduction of 10% as stated in the validated PDD.</p> <p>6.2 The project applies a 20% risk buffer deduction as required by the validated PDD. The VVB found no evidence to suggest the validated risk assessment and associated risk buffer was no longer relevant.</p> <p>6.3 The VVB confirmed that the project maintains a risk buffer account with Plan Vivo and the Annual Reports submitted to Plan Vivo correctly state the PVCs allocated to the Plan Vivo Risk buffer.</p>

B. Conformance	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
C. Corrective Actions (describe)	<i>A log of all Corrective Actions is provided in Annex 1.</i>		
D. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response			
E. Status	<i>All CARs are closed.</i>		

PES AGREEMENT AND BENEFIT SHARING

Requirement: **project shares benefits equitably and transact ecosystem services benefits through clear PES Agreements with performance-based incentives.**

Verification Questions: 1, 2 and 6

- 7.1. Procedures for entering into a PES Agreement with participants are being applied correctly **(8.2)**
- 7.2. Participants are entering into PES agreement voluntarily and according to the principle of free, prior, informed consent, in an appropriate language and format **(8.3)**
- 7.3. PES Agreements are not removing, diminishing or threatening participant's land tenure **(8.4)**
- 7.4. A fair and equitable benefit-sharing mechanism is in place and has been agreed with the participation of communities involved, identifying how PES funding will be distributed among participants **(8.8; 8.9; 8.10)**
- 7.5. The project has committed to deliver at least 60% on average of the proceeds of the sales of Plan Vivo Certificates. Where less than 60% has been delivered, the project has justified why this was not possible **(8.12)**

A. Findings (describe)	<p>7.1 <i>No new PES agreements have been signed during this verification period. This criterion was confirmed at validation.</i></p> <p>7.2 <i>No new PES agreements have been signed during this verification period. This criterion was confirmed at validation.</i></p> <p>7.3 <i>During the desktop review and site visit the VVB found no evidence that the PES Agreements are removing, diminishing, or threatening participant's land tenure.</i></p> <p>7.4 <i>The PES Agreements clearly state the revenue division between villages in the project. The VVB reviewed financial statements from Carbon Tanzania to ensure the revision division is being implemented as stated in the validated PDD.</i></p> <p>7.5 <i>The VVB reviewed financial records to ensure the revenue has been allocated to communities in line with the validated and agreed on revenue division. The PDD states that 60% of the revenue from the sale of PVCs will go to the community. Based on a review of detailed financial records, the VVB is reasonably assured that 60% of the revenue (net issuance fees) have been delivered to the participating communities.</i></p>
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B. Conformance	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
C. Corrective Actions (describe)	<i>A log of all Corrective Actions is provided in Annex 1.</i>		
D. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response			
E. Status	<i>All CARs are closed.</i>		

The Verifier: (Shawn McMahon)

Signature: (Shawn McMahon) 

Date: 15/February/2022

Annex 1 Corrective Actions Issued during the Joint Validation and Verification

Finding Number	1
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection Description)	3.9. A transparent mechanism and procedures for the receipt, holding and disbursement of PES funds must be defined and applied, with funds intended for PES earmarked and managed through an account established for this sole purpose, separate to the project coordinator's general operational finances.

Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	I5 of the PDD
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	<p>Each of the 12 participating villages has their own PES agreement that has been signed by the Village leadership and Carbon Tanzania(CT).</p> <p>The PDD states "The PES contracts, which are signed with each of these 12 villages, and ratified by the respective District Government authorities, require that each village hold biannual payment and grievance meetings during which questions can be raised about the project, its activities and impacts, and about the use of funds derived from the sale of PVCs from the project. One or more CT representatives attend the meeting (the Project Manager(s) and the finance manager, plus any other company representative who may need to attend) and these representatives provide detailed information to the assembled members regarding the amount of revenue available for distribution in that village, based on sales of PVCs in the preceding six-month period."</p> <p>However, the audit team was unable to confirm that a separate fund is established in line with this criteria.</p>
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please provide verifiable evidence that a an account has been established that satisfies this requirement.
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	The project maintains an account (Yaeda Project Account - 0102014910801) established for the sole purpose of holding and disbursement of PES funds, separate to the project coordinator's general operational finances. Verifiable evidence (Yaeda Project Account - Bank Statement and Transaction Report) is provided that an account that satisfies this requirement exists.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	The audit team reviewed the bank statements provided for Account and confirms that the project has established a separate account for maintaining and distributing PES funds. This criteria is satisfied.

Finding Number	2
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	3.10. A project budget and financial plan must be developed by the project coordinator and updated at least every three months, including documentation of operational costs and PES disbursed, and funding received, demonstrating how adequate funds to sustain the project have been or will be secured.
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	Table 15 in PDD
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	<p>A project budget and financial plan is developed and included in Table 15 of the PDD.</p> <p>However for the verification, the audit team was unable to locate "A project budget and financial plan must be developed by the project coordinator and update"</p>

Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please clarify how this criteria is satisfied and provide verifiable evidence to demonstrate this.
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	Provided is project budget and financial plan developed by the project coordinator and updated every three months, including operational costs, PES disbursed, and funding received, demonstrating how adequate funds to sustain the project are secured.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	The audit team reviewed the budget and financial plan titled: "Project Budget_Financial Plan 2017-2020.pdf" but notes it is updated annually and not every three months as required.
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 2 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please provide a budget and financial plan that is updated at least every three months.
Round 2 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	Project budget and financial plan updated every three months provided
Aster Global Round 3 Findings	The project proponents have provide a budget that clearly shows the projects budget is appropriately updated every quarter. This criteria is satisfied, no further action is needed.

Finding Number	3
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	3.13. Community members, including women and members of marginalised groups, must be given an equal opportunity to fill employment positions in the project where job requirements are met or for roles where they can be cost-effectively trained.
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	Section I3 of PDD
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	The audit team confirms that all community members are given equal opportunity of employment for positions funded by CT such as project managers and Community Managers. However, it is unclear how this criteria is satisfied in relation to the hiring of VGS. During the site visit the audit team interviewed numerous VGS, none of which were women.
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please clarify how this criteria is satisfied in relationship to the employment of the VGS.

Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	While it is true that the majority of, though not all VGS, are men, this is a result of very few women applying to be VGS, which is in turn a result of the cultural operating environment. VGS are chosen and employed by the communities themselves in a democratic process where everyone is encouraged to apply if they desire. Other community chosen and supported positions like community coordinators, who coordinate the VGS, are all female, also a result of underlying circumstances and not bias. Furthermore, to ensure youth and continuity in the patrol teams both Hadzabe communities in Domanga and Mongo wa Mono have an apprenticeship program where every 6 months a youth VGS is added to the team, they also require that at least half added yearly are female. Carbon Tanzania has company and project policies to ensure that when unequal outcomes arise they are not the result of unequal opportunity. Language added in PDD I3 to clarify that policies apply to projects and project generated employment as well.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	Thank you for the clarification. The audit team understands that women tend to not apply for VGS positions. Additionally, during the site visit it was clear in all the communities that were visited that there tended to be a cultural division of labor between men and women. As additional evidence to this, the audit team met with community coordinators in different communities who tended to the women. The audit team also confirmed that youth are actively employed in this project. The VVB is reasonably assured this criterion is satisfied.

Finding Number	4
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	4.8. There must be a system for accurately recording and verifying the location, boundary and size of each plan vivo using GPS, where boundary coordinates are recorded for all plan vivos above 5 hectares, and at least a central point coordinate recorded for plan vivos under 5 hectares.
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	PDD, Shapefiles
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	<p>The audit team reviewed the shapefiles provided by the project proponent and confirms that each boundary and size of each plan vivo is included in the shapefile. However, the audit team found discrepancies in the size of some of the VLUPs.</p> <p>Also, during the site visit Mr. Beroff indicated that the VLUPs and associated shapefiles are registered with the Tanzanian government. If this is the case, please also provide documentation showing the size of each VLUP registered with the Tanzanian government.</p>
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	<p>MCAR: Please clarify for the audit team what projection is used for the shapefiles.</p> <p>MCAR: Please clarify which areas in the shapefiles from the VLUPs are included in the project area.</p>

Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	<p>The projection used for the shapefiles is WGS84 (in R: +proj=longlat +datum=WGS84 +no_defs +ellps=WGS84 +towgs84=0,0,0).</p> <p>The discrepancies may be because the project area shapefile is not consistent with the village land use shapefiles, as it follows the actual forest area within the designated conserved areas of the land use plans of the 12 villages and not the land use designation boundaries themselves. Though the land-use plan and associated maps are legally recognized in Tanzania (and provided as evidence) it was prudent to use the forest boundary within those areas as the project area boundary. The project area is made of all forest area within the recognized grazing areas and Hadzabe traditional use areas within the 12 villages' land use plans.</p> <p>As requested here is a chart showing the size of each Village Land Use Plan registered with the Tanzanian government. Figures come from the official Land Use Plan documents (provided as evidence) and may not be consistent with figures from the shape files used to make the official maps (provided as evidence), due to error in the official government process.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="530 714 1414 1123"> <thead> <tr> <th>Village</th><th>Size of Village in VLUP Document (Ha)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Endanyawish</td><td>17029</td></tr> <tr> <td>Endesh</td><td>40, 237</td></tr> <tr> <td>Endamaghan</td><td>6631.048</td></tr> <tr> <td>Mbuga</td><td>4551</td></tr> <tr> <td>Qangdend</td><td>15,505</td></tr> <tr> <td>Eshkesh</td><td>17,541</td></tr> <tr> <td>Jobaj</td><td>4110</td></tr> <tr> <td>Dumbechand</td><td>37,742.25</td></tr> <tr> <td>Yaeda</td><td>Chini</td></tr> <tr> <td>Domanga</td><td>24,530</td></tr> <tr> <td>Mikocheni</td><td>17,880</td></tr> <tr> <td>Mongo wa Mono</td><td>5926.394</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>47,070</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Village	Size of Village in VLUP Document (Ha)	Endanyawish	17029	Endesh	40, 237	Endamaghan	6631.048	Mbuga	4551	Qangdend	15,505	Eshkesh	17,541	Jobaj	4110	Dumbechand	37,742.25	Yaeda	Chini	Domanga	24,530	Mikocheni	17,880	Mongo wa Mono	5926.394		47,070
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Aster Global Round 2 Findings	<p>The audit team reviewed the Domanga VLUP and according to the table at the bottom of page and found that the Hifadhi na Malisho ya Mifugo area is 16,645.78 hectares, whereas the shapefile is 18018, and according to the PP's response 17,880. Although the VVB translated the VLUPs, there may still be confusion as to where the size of the area is listed in this document. The VVB is requesting this finding be discussed with Carbon Tanzania via a phone call.</p>																												
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 2 (DD Month YYYY)	<p>MCAR: Please clarify where hectare totals are in the respective VLUPs and clarify the difference between the three sources cited in the finding.</p>																												
Round 2 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	<p>As discussed there is often inconsistency between 1.official shape files (due to human error and or surveys using straight lines etc) 2. Figures in official documents (due to same) 3. Actual areas as understood by the community or by environmental condition. To be transparent CT provides these shape files and to respect government processes cites figures as found in official land use documents. However, for actual emission reduction calculations the project is much more conservative using only the forested area (as determined from remote sensing) found within those village boundaries. The official figure for the size of Domanga village is 17,880 as per previous response. This is found on page 3 (provided) of the Domanga Land use plan document under basic village information.</p>																												

Aster Global Round 3 Findings	<p>Thank you for the clarification. The audit team confirms that the project area is a forested area subset of the total area from each VLUP that has been set aside to remain forest, generally either Hadzabe General Use area, Forest Reserves, or grazing areas. As the analysis of forest area that makes up the actual GHG accounting area is included in the Tech Specs, which has already been determined to be outside the scope of the VVB this item is closed.</p> <p>However, Table J2 of the PDD shows the areas included in the project area for each village based on land use for a total of 99,312 ha. The sum of the areas in Table J2 (99,312 ha) does not match the project area of 105,970 ha stated in section B2.1. Additionally, we were unable to confirm these areas based on the shapefiles provided.</p> <p>Additionally, Section B2.1 of the PDD states that the project villages occupy 208,768 ha, however, we calculated the sum of the areas from the VLUPs to be 238,531.59 ha. Additionally, the areas calculated using the shapefiles provided do not match either of these totals.</p> <p>The audit team has provided an excel workbook to complement these findings and has sent this excel workbook to the Project team.</p>
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 3 (DD Month YYYY)	<p>MCAR: Please clearly describe how the area for each village in Table J2 is determined and specifically which set of shapefiles is necessary to confirm this acreage.</p> <p>MCAR: Please clearly describe how the amount of land described in Section B2.1 of the PDD was determined. Additionally, please clarify why the sum of the areas of the VLUPs does not match this section.</p>
Round 3 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	<p>Project area for each village in Table J2 has been changed to reflect the contributed amounts of eligible areas (110,526.54) on the CCROs (title deeds). The Shp files for this are the village boundaries and PLU set (with caveat about PLU Domanga and small discrepancies especially that areas considered reserve that fall on swamp land are not considered part of the project area). An outer project boundary shp file has also been provided for clarity. The Amount of village land (238,752.44 ha) is quoted directly from the offical village land use plan documents and the PDD now reflects this.</p>
Aster Global Round 3 Findings	<p>The audit team reviewed the updated PDD and shapefiles. Although there are small discrepancies in the shapefiles and CCROs it is clear that the VVB that the CCROs are a government files that are unable to be changed and have been confirmed to not be perfectly accurate. The audit team also noted that the PES agreement revenue share table no longer matches the Table J2 of the PDD (the revenue table. The audit team is concerned this will cause confusion throughout the lifetime of the project as it is unclear which table will be used to allocate the revenue share.</p>

Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 3 (DD Month YYYY)	<p>FAR: The VVB is issuing a FAR in regards to this discrepancy.</p> <p>As a result of the validation in which the VVB reviewed the accuracy of the Revenue Division between communities, the VVB found discrepancies between the updated Revenue Division in the PDD and the signed PES agreement.</p> <p>To resolve this FAR, Carbon Tanzania is required to implement a process to update the PES agreement, specifically the revenue division in the PES agreement. The process must satisfy all FPIC requirements within the Plan Vivo Standard, 2013 and Carbon Tanzania must ensure that a participatory process is used. In order to close this FAR, a new PES agreement with the participating villages must be signed and the process of doing this must be participatory and comply with all FPIC principles. The closing of this FAR will be completed by Plan Vivo.</p> <p>This FAR must be closed prior to the issuance of any PVCs from Plan Vivo.</p>
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Finding Number	5
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection Description)	<p>4.14. A robust grievance redressal system should be part of project design, and should ensure that participants are able to raise grievances with the project coordinator at any given point within the project cycle, and that these grievances are dealt with in a transparent, fair, and timely manner. A summary of grievances received, the manner in which these are dealt with, and details of outstanding grievances must be reported to the Plan Vivo Foundation through the periodic reporting process.</p>
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	It is unclear to the audit team where the grievance redressal system is described in the PDD.
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please clarify for the audit team where the grievance redressal system is described in the PDD.

Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	<p>I5 states that biannual finance and grievance meetings will be held throughout the project lifetime and are stipulated in the PES Agreement. In these meetings a recurring item agenda is a formal inquiry to the community and leadership if there are any grievances.</p> <p>F2 also mentions the existence of a grievance mechanism.</p> <p>Section 2.3 of the PES agreement which is an annex to the PDD describes the mechanism for conflict resolution which is somewhat analogous to a grievance mechanism.</p> <p>Annex 3 of the PES agreement states "Address any specific grievance logged directly with CT through relevant company and contract mechanisms. The CT company grievance is provided for reference.</p> <p>No grievances have been logged throughout the previous project stages and development process.</p>
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	<p>The audit team reviewed the updates made to the PDD and notes multiple statements that a clear grievance mechanism exists. The document "CT Grievance Policy" was provided and demonstrates that there are structures in place to deal with grievances as they are received. This criteria is satisfied.</p>

Finding Number	6
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	5.2. Sources of data used to quantify ecosystem services, including all assumptions and default factors, must be specified and as up-to-date as possible, with a justification for why they are appropriate.
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	PDD Part G
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	<p>The project technical specifications are described in Part G of the PDD. These have already been approved Plan Vivo and in an email from Caroline Stillman of Plan Vivo on the October 7th 2021 the only part of the Technical Specifications that is within the scope of the VVB is whether the inventory plots are representative of the newly expanded project area.</p> <p>In section G4 the PD States "Whilst the original sample plots were randomly chosen from the Yaeda I project area, which is representative of the complete project area due to the homogenous nature of the forest. All plots and representative non-forest areas that did not meet the forest criteria defined by this project (see section G4) were removed to provide a more accurate initial carbon stock estimate for forest within the project area (see G4b). The result of this is a sample size of 40 plots (shown in Figure G4a)."</p> <p>The audit team was unable to find verifiable evidence that the plots from Yaeda I are representative of the expanded (new) project area.</p> <p>Additionally, considering only forest plots were used for the carbon quantification, it is unclear to the audit team how it is appropriate to include non-forested area in the project area.</p>

Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	<p>MCAR: Please provide verifiable evidence that the plots from Yaeda I are representative of the new, expanded, project area.</p> <p>MCAR: Please clarify why it is appropriate to include non-forest area in the project area when the non-forest area was excluded from the inventory measurements.</p>
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	<p>Plan Vivo's policy on data sources (https://www.planvivo.org/faqs/data-sources) states the following:</p> <p>"Approved approaches require the use of data and assumptions to estimate emissions and removals from the baseline scenario and project interventions.</p> <p>Potential data sources include:</p> <p>Surveys or research conducted within the project area or other representative areas</p> <p>Analysis of maps and remote sensing data</p> <p>Published and unpublished papers and reports from the region</p> <p>Default values from national or global studies.</p> <p>Data sources used must contribute to a credible and conservative estimation of climate benefits, and projects are encouraged to make use of available sources of information where possible, to reduce the cost of data collection, and increase the speed of approval.</p> <p>Where appropriate data is not available, or the cost of data collection is prohibitive, conservative assumptions can be used."</p> <p>In "Plan Vivo Guidance Document for Reducing Locally-Driven Deforestation (2015)" Global Forest Watch is mentioned at a recognized data source.</p> <p>According the Global Forest Watch all plots from Yaeda I are in the terrestrial ecoregion "Southern Acacia-Commiphora bushland and thickets" likewise the entire expanded area is within the "Southern Acacia-Commiphora bushland and thickets" terrestrial ecoregion.</p> <p>In this context where national data and unpublished papers are potentially acceptable, using plot data from a validated plan vivo project, which is contiguous to the expanded area and is classified as within the same terrestrial ecoregion (named for the dominant 2 genus of tree species in the landscape is reasonably representative. Language added in PDD section G4 to adress this.</p> <p>The representative and relevant nature of the original Yaeda plot data was implied at multiple points during the process of Carbon Tanzania seeking guidance from Plan Vivo on how to potentially expand the Yaeda project to the Eyasi Landscape.</p> <p>Non-forest area was not included in any of the quantification of emissions reductions in the project area. Within the shapefile there are indeed small patches of less-dense tree cover dispersed amongst the forest. It would not have been reasonable to exclude these areas from project activities and the project area outline shapefile, however they are excluded from the quantification of emissions reductions. The script that deals with this is the 'ChangeDetection.R' script. From row 109, it calculates how much of the larger project area is actually forest in the most recent forest classification image. It retrieves ~52k hectares out of the ~95k hectare area. These figures are then reflected in the 'Yaeda Deforestation Calculations' spreadsheet.</p>

Aster Global Round 2 Findings	The audit team referenced the Global Forest Watch terrestrial ecoregion map and confirms that the Yaeda project boundaries are within the "Southern Acacia-Commiphora bushland and thickets" terrestrial ecoregion. This item is addressed.
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Finding Number	7
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	5.9.2. Monitoring approaches (methods)
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	PDD, Smart Data
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	The monitoring approaches are accurately described in the PDD. However, the audit team was unable to find the SMART/Cybertracker data for the verification spanning the period 2017-2020.
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please provide the Cybertracker data from the previous monitoring period.
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	Evidence provided in folder "Yaeda SMART 2020 Shp & CSV"
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	The audit team confirmed that the SMART data tracking system is being used via a review of the SMART data. It is clear based on discussions with rangers and CT staff that the system is not perfect; however, the VVB is reasonably assured that the SMART system is working to verify community monitoring reports. This item is closed.

Finding Number	8
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	5.9.4. Duration of monitoring
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	The audit team understands that the monitoring is required every 1 for the entire crediting period. However, in Review of the PDD and PES Agreement it is unclear where this is clearly stated.
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please clarify the duration of monitoring for the ABMS and monitoring plan. Additionally, please clarify where this is stated within the monitoring plan.

Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	<p>The duration of the monitoring for the ABMS and monitoring plan is once yearly for the entire crediting period/project lifetime.</p> <p>In the PDD</p> <p>F1 states; “Annual issuance of PVCs is based on annual activity-based monitoring”</p> <p>K1 states “The monitoring plan uses activity-based monitoring indicators to trigger annual issuance of PVCs and deforestation analysis to verify the project on a 5-year basis. Activity-based monitoring is used to demonstrate whether the project is on course to achieve the expected climate benefits and non-carbon benefits outlined in Part G. Each indicator has annual performance thresholds throughout the monitoring period (see Table K1).”</p> <p>The PES Agreement states, “All parties shall commit to monitoring how much carbon has been stored or lost within the project area” and “All parties shall commit to monitoring the socioeconomic changes in The Village/Community and surrounding areas as a result of the initiative.” and commits to this for the project lifetime of 20 years which is outlined in the PES.</p> <p>The PES in “Annex 1: Forest Management Activity Timeline” breaks down some of the activities that are collated at a sub-annual level for annual reporting. In Annex 3 the PES again refers to the annual nature of the reporting structure.</p> <p>Language has been added to the PDD in K1 to clarify explicitly “Monitoring frameworks work on an annual schedule, in line with annual reporting to Plan Vivo, and are expected to function through the entire crediting period of the project.”</p>
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	<p>Thank you for clarifying the during of monitoring. The PDD has been updated and now clearly states that monitoring occurs annually. This item is addressed.</p>

Finding Number	9
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	5.9.8. How results of monitoring will be shared and discussed with participants
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y

Aster Global Round 1 Findings	<p>Section E3 of the PDD states "To ensure an ongoing iterative process throughout the implementation of the project, the contract stipulates that all community members are to be provided with the opportunity to participate in the project and that Carbon Tanzania must provide reports every six months on the development of the project through the relevant committees and meetings."</p> <p>Additionally, Section I5 of the PDD states "The PES contracts, which are signed with each of these 12 villages, and ratified by the respective District Government authorities, require that each village hold biannual payment and grievance meetings during which questions can be raised about the project, its activities and impacts, and about the use of funds derived from the sale of PVCs from the project. One or more Carbon Tanzania representatives attend the meeting (the Project Manager(s) and the finance manager, plus any other company representative who may need to attend) and these representatives provide detailed information to the assembled members regarding the amount of revenue available for distribution in that village, based on sales of PVCs in the preceding six-month period."</p> <p>Although it is not explicitly stated, the audit team understands based on previous discussions with the project coordinator that the monitoring results will be shared with the communities during these Biannual meetings and reports.</p>
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please clarify for the audit team how results of the monitoring will be shared and discussed with participants. Additionally, please clearly state in the PDD how the monitoring results will be shared, if this clear language is not already within the PDD>
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	<p>The results of the monitoring will primarily be shared and discussed with participants through the forum of the biannual finance and grievance meeting which also has a recurring agenda around project updates and monitoring results. These meetings are convened by the democratically elected and geographically representative leadership of the community, who are broadly mandated to be an information conduit for the community across a range of governance and development spheres. The project manager and community coordinators also make frequent visits to community dwelling areas and hold informal discussions around project updates, benefits, developments, and monitoring results. This is likewise true for the community leadership and representatives.</p> <p>Language has been added in E3 and I5 of the PDD to explicitly state that the monitoring results will be shared with the communities during these previously referenced biannual meetings and reports.</p>
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	Thank you for clarifying how results of the monitoring will be shared with project participants. The PDD has been updated and now clearly states that results of monitoring will be shared and discussed during the biannual meetings and reports. This item is addressed.

Finding Number	10
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	5.10. Where participants are involved in monitoring, a system for checking the robustness of monitoring results must be in place, e.g. checking a random sample of monitoring results by the project coordinator.
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	PDD, Smart Data

Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	<p>Table K1a of the PDD describes the means of verification for each indicator in the ABMS system.</p> <p>The audit team is requesting the SMART/CyberTracker data for the verification period to ensure this data is robust enough to provide a means to verify VGS coverage and ensure that the coverage reported during the verification period is accurate.</p>
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please provide the Cybertracker data from the previous monitoring period.
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	Evidence provided in folder "Yaeda SMART 2020 Shp & CSV"
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	The audit team confirmed that the SMART data tracking system is being used via a review of the SMART data. It is clear based on discussions with rangers and CT staff that the system is not perfect; however, the VVB is reasonably assured that the SMART system is working to verify community monitoring reports. This item is closed.

Finding Number	11
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	7.2.1. Demographics and population groups
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	PDD C1 and C2
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	The demographics and population of the project participants is described in the PDD; however, there is no description of "how these conditions are likely to continue or change in the absence of the project"
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please add additional language to the PDD to describe how the demographics and population groups might change in the absence of the project in line with criterion 7.2 of the Plan Vivo Standard.
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	Language added in Section F2 of PDD to describe how the demographics and population groups might change in the absence of the project in line with criterion 7.2 of the Plan Vivo Standard.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	The PDD has been updated to describe how the demographics and population groups might change in the absence of the project. This criteria is satisfied.

Finding Number	12
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	7.2.6. Local governance structures and decision-making mechanisms
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	Table F2, C1, C2 and F2 of the PDD

Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	The local governance structures and decision -making mechanisms of the project participants is described in the PDD; however, there is no description of "how these conditions are likely to continue or change in the absence of the project"
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please add additional language to the PDD to describe how the local governance structures and decision -making mechanisms might change in the absence of the project in line with criterion 7.2 of the Plan Vivo Standard.
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	Language added in Section F2 of PDD to describe how the local governance structures and decision -making mechanisms might change in the absence of the project in line with criterion 7.2 of the Plan Vivo Standard.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	The PDD has been updated to describe how local governance structures and decision-making mechanisms might change in the absence of the project. This criteria is satisfied.

Finding Number	13
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	7.2.7. Cultural, religious and ethnic groups present
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	Table F2, C1, C2 and F2 of the PDD
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	The cultural, religious and ethnic groups present is described in the PDD; however, there is no description of "how these conditions are likely to continue or change in the absence of the project"
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please add additional language to the PDD to describe how the cultural, religious and ethnic groups might change in the absence of the project in line with criterion 7.2 of the Plan Vivo Standard.
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	Language added in Section F2 to describe how the cultural, religious and ethnic groups might change in the absence of the project in line with criterion 7.2 of the Plan Vivo Standard.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	The PDD has been updated to describe how cultural, religious, and ethnic groups might change in the absence of the project. This criteria is satisfied.

Finding Number	14
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	7.2.8. Gender and age equity
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	Table F2, C1, C2 and F2 of the PDD
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y

Aster Global Round 1 Findings	The gender and age equity of the project participants is described in the PDD; however, there is no description of "how these conditions are likely to continue or change in the absence of the project"
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please add additional language to the PDD to describe how the gender and age equity might change in the absence of the project in line with criterion 7.2 of the Plan Vivo Standard.
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	Language added in Section F2 of PDD to describe how the gender and age equity might change in the absence of the project in line with criterion 7.2 of the Plan Vivo Standard.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	The PDD has been updated to describe how the gender and age equity might change in the absence of the project. This criteria is satisfied.

Finding Number	15
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	7.3. The expected socioeconomic impacts of the project must be described in comparison with the socioeconomic baseline scenario, including consideration of expected impacts on participants, and consideration of any likely 'knock-on effects' on nonparticipating communities living in surrounding areas.
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	Table F2, C1, C2 and F2 of the PDD
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	The audit team was unable to find a description of the impact of the project on 1. Demographics and population groups, 2. Local governance structures and decision-making mechanisms, 3. Cultural, religious and ethnic groups present, and 4. Gender and age equity in line with criterion 7.3 of the PV Standard.
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please add additional language to the PDD to describe how each item in the socioeconomic baseline is expected to change as a result of the project.
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	Language added in Section F2 of PDD to describe how each item in the socioeconomic baseline is expected to change as a result of the project.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	The PDD has been updated to describe how the socioeconomic baseline is expected to change as a result of the project. This criteria is satisfied.

Finding Number	16
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	7.4. A socioeconomic impact assessment/monitoring plan must be developed in a participatory manner to measure advances against the baseline scenario, within one year of the project validation, that:
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	Section K2 of the PDD
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	The audit team confirms that a monitoring plan of socio-economic impacts is described in the PDD. However, it is unclear to the audit team how this monitoring plan was developed in a participatory manner.
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1	MCAR: Please clarify for the audit team and provide verifiable evidence that the socio-economic monitoring plan was developed in a participatory manner.

(DD Month YYYY)	
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	The standard says the project must have a participatory socioeconomic impact plan to measure advances against the baseline scenario. The projects socioeconomic impact plan is comprised of 3 parts, all of which came from the process of FPIC and PES agreement meetings with the community. All 3 aspects are community centered and generated assessments. During the community meetings it was made clear that the community's priority from the project was 1. Understanding and Awareness 2. Financial Gain 3. Improved Community Capacity and Opportunity. The plan was built from these priorities raised during the various rounds of community meetings. The request for the anonymous nature of some community level data and the explicit encouragement of community questions around revenue included directly in the plan come from and evidence the participatory process that resulted in the project's socioeconomic monitoring plan and procedures. (FPIC meetings minutes provided as evidence). Language added in PDD section K2.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	Section K2 of the PDD states that socioeconomic monitoring plans were developed in a participatory manner and FPIC meeting meetings were provided as evidence. This criteria is satisfied.

Finding Number	17
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	8.2.8. Any impacts of the agreement on rights to harvest food, fuel, timber or other products
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	PES Agreement
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	It is unclear where the impacts of the agreement on rights to harvest food, fuel, timber or other products is stated in the PES Agreement.
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please clarify how this criteria is satisfied.
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	The PES agreement has no direct impact on rights to harvest food, fuel, timber or other products, the agreement instead makes repeated references to the Village Land Use Plan and its associated by-laws. The Village Land Use Plan is a participatory and legally recognized document, independent to the project, which in fact enshrines the communities' rights and land use desires on their land. The PES agreement itself imposes no restrictions on the communities and only allows them to transact on the emissions reductions potentially generated by the successful implementation of these participatorily created legal land use frameworks.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	The audit team reviewed the PES agreement and confirms that there are no direct impacts on rights to harvest food, fuel, timber, or other products included in the agreement. This item is addressed.

Finding Number	18
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and	8.2.9. Deduction of a risk buffer where applicable

Description)	
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	PES Agreement
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	The PES agreement states that 20% of the eligible carbon credits will be held in a risk buffer; however, at another point it states that 15% will be held within the risk buffer. Based on the PDD which states 20% will be held in the risk buffer however it is unclear to the audit team why two different risk buffer percentages are stated in the PES Agreement.
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	<p>MCAR: Please clarify in line with the finding.</p> <p>MCAR: Please provide copies of all the signed PES Agreements in both English and Swahili. To clarify the audit team understands that the English version may not be signed but we would like to review the full PES agreement in English.</p>
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	The Risk Buffer is 20%. The 15% figure is a legacy typo found in the english draft version of the PES agreement that was used for context to the PES sign pages the PDD. In the signed and official PES agreement in Swahili this was corrected during the process however it seems it was left in the english draft translation. 20% is the appropriate risk buffer figure and is represented both in the PDD and PES, and is the community understanding and expectation for project risk buffer deduction. Scanned signed PES agreement (swahili) is provided for evidence as well as a Draft English Version, this is not signed nor regarded as an official document in Tanzania, however it is an accurate translation of the final signed PES agreement into the english language and serves as a reference.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	<p>Thank you for clarifying that the risk buffer is 20%. This item is addressed.</p> <p>An English version of the full PES agreement as well as the signed Swahili agreement were provided and reviewed by the audit team. This item is addressed.</p>

Finding Number	19
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	8.6. Where a greater number of smallholders or community groups wish to enter PES agreements than the project coordinator is able to engage, e.g. because of lack of resources, a fair process for selecting participants must be defined. The process should take into consideration the potential for tensions or disputes being created within or between communities.
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	The audit team understands that the new communities for the expanded project all wanted to participate in the project as evidenced in interviews with the communities that the VVB conducted. However, it is unclear to the audit team if there were other villages within the landscape that wanted to participate. If there were it is unclear what the process was to not select these communities.

Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please clarify in line with the finding.
Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	Carbon Tanzania is committed to allowing as many communities as possible to access climate finance for the important landscape work they do. In the case of the Yaeda-Eyasi project expansion there were no eligible communities identified in the landscape that were excluded from the project. While planning the expansion Carbon Tanzania worked with multiple stakeholders at various levels, foremost the district governments of both Mbulu and Karatu which encompass the project villages and have jurisdiction of upwards of 100 surrounding villages in the landscape. Ujamaa Community Resource Team, a preeminent community rights and land use organization in the landscape was also integral to the process that resulted in the eventual expansion to the new project villages. All the villages added also had independent participatory land planning process that conferred rights to the communities and allowed for the carbon project which is contingent on the implementation of these plans. All villages with legal status that expressed interest, when exposed to the project by their district governments and proximity to the original project, were successfully included in the expansion and no further process was required. Carbon Tanzania also does not work in areas with active land or rights conflicts; however, this did not prove to be a concern during this process.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	Based on the explanation provided, the audit team is reasonably assured that all communities that were eligible to participate in the project were able to do so. This item is addressed.

Finding Number	20
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	8.7. Where the project coordinator enters into PES Agreements in advance of securing the necessary buyers or resources to fund payments, any risk of non-payment must be communicated to, and agreed by, participants.
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	It is unclear to the audit team where this was communicated to the project participants.
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please clarify how this criteria is satisfied.

Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	Risk of non-payment and all the financial structures and mechanisms around payments for ecosystem services were communicated discussed and agreed to by the communities during both the FPIC round of meetings and PES Agreement round of meetings. This was particularly pertinent during the discussions around the 60% revenue share in the PES. We acknowledge that the concept of percentage is not always understood by communities and community members at a local level and take time to thoroughly explain its meaning, including that if there are no sales and the project and company receive no revenue, then due to the percentage revenue-based agreement the communities will also see zero revenue. The communities who are aware of local agricultural businesses models and their risks, have a frame of reference to comprehend the joint venture they are being offered to partner in. The added communities are in close proximity to the original Yaeda project where in the early years revenue was extremely limited, and are aware of that situation, furthermore during the expansion process leadership from all villages were brought to Yaeda Chini village for a learning visit which included discussion and questions around the financial model with communities that had themselves experienced and engaged in the same structures. Lastly one of the major drivers of the project expansion was market interest, and prior to the PES agreement, a buyer had already agreed and signed to provide significant forward finance for project development and the purchase of project generated VERs, therefore in this case risk of non-payment is negligible.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	Based on the evidence provided, the audit team is reasonably assured that participants were aware of any risk of non-payment and that this risk is low for the project. This item is addressed.

Finding Number	21
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection Description) and	8.8. A fair and equitable benefit-sharing mechanism must be applied that has been agreed with the participation of communities involved, identifying how PES funding will be distributed among participants and other stakeholders, including the project coordinator. This should include consideration of how benefit-sharing might change over time as the project progresses.
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	PDD Part J
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	<p>The audit team understands that 60% of the revenue will be distributed to the participating communities based on the size of the land their village/community has contributed to the project area. Each village/community will distribute 10% of their share is given to the district.</p> <p>However, the audit team was unable to find where in the PES agreement that it states that 10% of the revenue allocated to each village/community.</p>
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please clarify where in the PES agreement the participating communities/villages have agreed to distribute 10% of their revenue share to the district level government.

Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	<p>In Subsection F of Section 1.2 (Responsibilities of Carbon Tanzania) on page 3 of the signed Swahili PES agreement it reads:</p> <p>Kulipa Vijiji/Jamii 60% ya mapato kutokana na uuzaji wa kaboni, ikiwa Vijiji/Jamii vitafuata mipango yao ya matumizi ya ardhi ya kijiji na sheria hivyo kupunguza uharibifu wa miti. Kutoka hii 60% ya Vijiji/Jamii, Vijiji/Jamii vinakubali kukata 10% iende wilayani.</p> <p>This translates to: Pay The Villages/Communities 60% of total revenue from the sale of verified emission reductions, if The Villages/Communities follow their land use plans and village by laws thus reducing deforestation. From this 60% The Villages/Communities agree to pay 10% to the District.</p>
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	Thank you for clarifying where this statement is located in the PES agreement. This criteria is satisfied.

Finding Number	22
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	8.10. The project coordinator must provide justification for any payments for ecosystem services delivered in kind or in the form of equipment or resources other than money.
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	PDD
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	Although the audit team found no evidence that payments have been made in-kind in the form of equipment or resources. The audit team is requesting clarification from CT on this issue. For instance, was VGS training paid for by CT and then taken out of the villages allocation of revenue?
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please clarify in line with the finding.

Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	Communities are never asked, required, or expected to receive any payments for ecosystem services delivered in kind or in the form of equipment or resources other than money. The communities have full authority on the spending of at least 60% of project revenue, and decisions on this spending are done through the participatory annual finance and grievance meetings held with the community representative bodies twice a year. It should be noted that Carbon Tanzania, when instructed by the community, regularly disperses money, and makes purchases on their behalf. In the case of VGS training throughout the project history, trainings that were asked for by Carbon Tanzania were covered by Carbon Tanzania as a project cost. In other instances, for example the communities deciding to send VGS to the Pasiansi training center to level up on protection duties core to their carbon business, this was paid by Carbon Tanzania on the instruction of the communities with funds from their community revenue. Due to the practical and operating environment in the rural communities we work, the communities often ask us to perform financial tasks on their behalf, to lessen the administrate burden and cost and any safety risks associated with these processes. Other examples of this include payment of fees for community university students, payment for medical services at local health clinics, or auxiliary VGS gear. Again, communities are not required to use or accept any payments for ecosystem services delivered in kind or in the form of equipment or resources other than money. The PES agreement clearly outlines the terms for both parties including The Villages/Communities claim to 60% of total revenue from the sale of verified emission reductions.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	Thank you for providing clarification on this item. This criteria is satisfied.

Finding Number	23
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection Description)	8.12. Projects selling Plan Vivo Certificates should aim to deliver at least 60% of the proceeds of sales on average to communities as PES, meaning project coordinators should not draw on more than 40% of sales income for ongoing coordination, administration and monitoring costs. Where less than 60% is delivered projects must justify why this is not possible, why the benefits delivered to communities are fair and that they are able to effectively incentivise activities.
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	PDD
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	Both the PES Agreement and PDD clearly state that 60% of the revenue from the project will go to the villages. For the verification aspect of the review the audit team reviewed Annex 2 of the Annual Reports. However, from the information provided in the annual reports the audit team is unable to confirm this criteria. The audit team is requesting a detailed accounting of PVC sales revenue, revenue disbursements, and documents that support these figures.
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please provide a detailed accounting of the PVC sale revenue, revenue disbursements, and documents that support this accounting for the verification period.

Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	Provided is a detailed accounting of PVC sales revenue (Quickbook Ledger) and Revenue Disbursements (Quickbook Ledger). Any entry in the revenue ledger can be backed with a sales invoice and any entry in the revenue disbursement ledger can be backed with a bank transfer statement. A sample of these are provided for backing evidence. Also provided is a calculation sheet that shows the 60% of sales revenue which has been disbursed as PES. Any discrepancy is based on difference from financial year, annual reporting year, and verification/monitoring period.
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	The audit team reviewed the Calculataion sheet_2017-2020 workbook and noted that there is still money owed to the community in order to meet this 60% target. It is unclear why there is still money owed to the communities.
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 2 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please clarify in line with the finding.
Round 2 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	Inconsistency comes from differences in reporting, sales, and revenue transfer, schedules. Evidence provided showing subsequent financial transfers to the community exceeding the outstanding amount of \$24,960 cited in the previous evidence.
Aster Global Round 3 Findings	The audit team provided evidence that the pending disbursement noted in the finding has since been paid out to the project communities. The project proponent explained that the budget had not been updated to reflect the additional disbursements that occurred during the verification. This finding is closed, no further action is needed.

Finding Number	24
Plan Vivo Standard 2013 (Subsection and Description)	8.13. The process by which the benefit-sharing mechanism is decided must be recorded including a record of any concerns or objections raised.
Location in PDD or Supporting Documents	PDD
Requirement Met (Y, N, or NA)	Y
Aster Global Round 1 Findings	The audit team understands that the benefit-sharing mechanism is described in the PES agreement which was discussed with each village during meetings prior to the signing of the agreement. However, it is unclear to the audit team if objections were raised by community members and/or leaders.
Aster Global Requests CAR/FAR/OBS - Round 1 (DD Month YYYY)	MCAR: Please clarify for the audit team if there were objections raised during the process for deciding what the benefit-sharing mechanism would be and if there were objections please provide the record showing these objections.

Round 1 Response from Project Coordinator (DD Month YYYY)	<p>There were no objections raised during the process for deciding about the projects benefit-sharing mechanism. Discussions around benefit sharing were included in the FPIC round of meetings and PES Agreement round of meetings. Land and resource ownership in the project areas is very clearly assigned to the village government through the village land use plan and Tanzanian law. The village government is a democratically elected and geographically representative body legally entrusted to deliver on development outcomes and benefits for the community. The community were also aware of the project's proposed benefit sharing mechanism due to the proximity to and local influence of the existing project, this was compounded by the learning visit and interaction that was provided by the project for the leadership of the expanded villages to the existing project communities and leadership. The community had a clear understanding that no independent restrictions were being placed on them by entering into the PES agreement and understood the clear revenue sharing framework outlined in the agreement. As a result of this process and discussions there were not any objections raised around the project's proposed benefit sharing mechanism.</p>
Aster Global Round 2 Findings	<p>Thank you for the clarification. The audit team is reasonably assured that there were no objections raised about the benefit sharing mechanism. This criteria is satisfied.</p>

Annex 2: Documents Received and Reviewed by the VVB

Documents	Date Received
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Yaeda-Eyasi PDD Submit.docx	August 14, 2021
Yaeda_Eyasi_Project Area Sept2020.kml.kmz	August 30, 2021
AGB waypoints.kmz	September 2, 2021
Change Detection Doc_Historical Maps.pdf	September 2, 2021
Dubachand Makazi - not project area.kml	September 2, 2021
Yaeda Deforestation Calculations.xlsx	September 2, 2021
Yaeda_Eyasi_Project Area Sept2020.kml	September 2, 2021
Domanga_boundary.cpg	September 2, 2021
Domanga_boundary.dbf	September 2, 2021
Domanga_boundary.prj	September 2, 2021
Domanga_boundary.sbn	September 2, 2021
Domanga_boundary.sbx	September 2, 2021
Domanga_boundary.shp	September 2, 2021
Domanga_boundary.shx	September 2, 2021
Domanga_LUP.dbf	September 2, 2021
Domanga_LUP.prj	September 2, 2021
Domanga_LUP.sbn	September 2, 2021
Domanga_LUP.sbx	September 2, 2021
Domanga_LUP.shp	September 2, 2021
Domanga_LUP.shx	September 2, 2021
Dumbe_village.cpg	September 2, 2021
Dumbe_village.dbf	September 2, 2021
Dumbe_village.shp.xml	September 2, 2021
Dumbe_village.shx	September 2, 2021
Dumbe_villageCopy.CPG	September 2, 2021
Dumbe_villageCopy.dbf	September 2, 2021
Dumbe_villageCopy.prj	September 2, 2021
Dumbe_villageCopy.sbn	September 2, 2021
Dumbe_villageCopy.sbx	September 2, 2021
Dumbe_villageCopy.shp	September 2, 2021
Dumbe_villageCopy.shp.xml	September 2, 2021
Dumbe_villageCopy.shx	September 2, 2021
Vill_boundary.cpg	September 2, 2021
Vill_boundary.dbf	September 2, 2021
Vill_boundary.prj	September 2, 2021
Vill_boundary.sbn	September 2, 2021
Vill_boundary.sbx	September 2, 2021
Vill_boundary.shp	September 2, 2021
Vill_boundary.shx	September 2, 2021
Barabara.CPG	September 2, 2021
Barabara.dbf	September 2, 2021
Barabara.prj	September 2, 2021
Barabara.sbn	September 2, 2021
Barabara.sbx	September 2, 2021
Barabara.shp	September 2, 2021
Barabara.shp.xml	September 2, 2021

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70 Plot AGB R Output.csv	September 2, 2021
70 Plot Carbon Content AGB & BGB with Coordinates - Copy.csv	September 2, 2021
70 Plot Carbon Content AGB & BGB with Coordinates - Copy.xls	September 2, 2021
70 Plot Carbon Content AGB & BGB with Coordinates.xls	September 2, 2021
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1011Classification.txt	September 2, 2021
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SamplePlots.txt	September 2, 2021
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