Plan Vivo Verification Report

Project Title:

Ecosystem restoration and valorisation by associations of landless farmers in the Tembien Highlands (North Ethiopia)

Project Proponent:
EthioTrees

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Content

Name of Verifier(s)	Role	Involvement in
Dwi Kus Pardianto	Lead Verifier	Desk review and off site
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Birhane Etay	Local Expert	Site visit

Project Description

The EthioTrees: Ecosystem Restoration and Valorization by Associations of Landless Farmers in the Tembien Highlands (North Ethiopia), with eligible exclosure area of 4,151hectare. The EthioTrees project in Degua-tembien district, currently working in three districts which initially were under one district called Dogua-tembien district, employs the concept of exclosure management in consultation to the local community and alien with the regional direction to forest resource management. The project starts implementation of the its activities by developing exclosure management plan which is validated with the local community and government. The plan includes managing the exclosures via limiting livestock and human interference coupled with framework planting, enhancing natural regeneration and protection. The project strives to enhance forest area development with the intention of increasing carbon sequestration and hence reduce the impact of climate change. To address this objective the project, install different soil and water conservation structure, planting of tree seedlings, protecting the existing trees and supporting livelihoods of the local community. Besides, the project tries to create awareness on climate change challenges through investing in rural schools as per the community prioritization and hence work on construction of class rooms in the existing community school.

The project further aims to provide training on different aspects of improving the livelihoods while protecting their environment, which includes training on tree planting, beekeeping, poultry production and non-timber forest product harvesting (frankincense production).

The total net emission reduction or issuance plan vivo certificates (PVCs) from 21 project areas during February 2016 to January 2023 annually as follow:

Vintage	Reporting Year	Type of PVCs (tCO2e)	
		Unit	Reserve/Buffer
2016 -2017	Feb. 2016 - Feb 2017	4,873	664
2017 - 2018	Feb. 2017 - Feb. 2018	5,856	799
2018 - 2019	Feb. 2018 - Feb 2019	9,769	619
	Jul. 2018 - Jul. 2019	5,572	815
2019 - 2020	Feb. 2019 - Feb. 2020	12,530	1,393
2020 - 2021	Feb. 2020 - Feb. 2021	14,819	1,647
2021 - 2022	Feb. 2021 - Feb. 2022	20,259	2,251
2022 - 2023	Feb. 2022 - Jan. 2023	28,595	3,176

Carbon Stock	Baseline		Project	
	Average	Stdev	Average	Stdev
Biomass (tree)	14.36	11.24	22.70	20.66
Soil Organic Carbon (soil) (ton C/ha)	81.24	24.34	88.04	33.04
Total Carbon (ton C/ha)	95.60	27.82	110.74	38.44
Carbon sequestration rate (tCO_2e/ha/year)	11.47			

Document	Outstanding Corrective action	Activity against CAR
N/A	*There are no outstanding corrective actions.*	*N/A*

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

Ecosystem Restoration and Valorization by Associations of Landless Farmers in the Tembien Highlands (North Ethiopia) – Report 2023 was conducted based on validated of EthioTrees Project design document. This verification activity only cover for project period following annual report submitted to Plan Vivo Foundation (February 2016 – February 2017, February 2017 – February 2018, July 2018 – July 2019, February 2018 – February 2019, February 2019 – February 2020, February 2021 – February 2022, and February 2022 – January 2023). Also this verification report covers the validation of the agroforestry intervention approved on 12 September 2024 by the

Technical Reviewer Panel (TRP) – Plan Vivo Secretariat.

Before the site visit conducted by a local expert, the verification team conducted a desk review and had several virtual meetings with the local expert using zoom platform and WhatsApp video call. The verification team decided not to conduct the site visit due to the situation being unsafe to travel and it was also recommended by the Indonesian embassy not to visit the location. To ensure the project was done by project coordinator, the verification team delegated to local expert to conduct site visit. The field visits were conducted between 17 to 19 May 2023. Site visit includes visit into eligible Exclosure area and performing interview with Project Stakeholders, community members, community representatives, members of the watershed team, local government staffs including local government administrators, women community members, project beneficiaries, district administrators and project coordinator. The field visit was conducted as per on-site visit plan dated 17 May 2023. Field visit started with an inception meeting with project coordinator, EthioTrees staffs. Onsite verification process, confidentiality and requirements as per Plan Vivo Terms of reference for project validation were described.

- On 17 May 2023 Field visit at project site conducted in Amanit village Adi lehtsi and Mayhibo
- On 18 May 2023 Field visit at project site conducted in Dawsira, Maybati, and Gemgema, and
- On 19 May 2023 Field visit at project site conducted in Me'am-atali, Gidmi gestet, Maygenet and Afedena. All interviews were done on 17,18, and 19 May 2023. The following table provides details of the interviews.

In the month of May 2024 Plan Vivo found fact discovered after verification activities that project activities in agroforestry interventions added one activities. Therefore, MUTU as LV/V conducted validation activities on its technical specifications. This validation activity was a desk review and remote which was carried out on November 1, 2024.

List of documents reviewed

1. Baseline document for individual plots
2. Legal guiding rule and license
3. Financial statement Jan 01/2022- Dec 31/2022

List of documents reviewed

4. Financial receipt, bill and community payment
5. Letter of willingness for each project site
6. All project Sites PES Agreement
7. Local bylaw for the project site Amanite and maygenet
8. Location map of the Project Site
9. All Quarterly activity report of the project site
10. Annual Report to Plan Vivo
11. SHAMBA document by Plan vivo
12. EthioTrees_PDD_2017
13. EthioTrees Registration Certificate
14. EthioTrees Validation Report
15. VVB V&V training intro presentation for Mutu International
16. LVV-4006 Verifications Plan EthioTrees
17. Yearly report EthioTrees 2022
18. Photo of site locations, photo of permanent plots, photo of constructed class room,
19. photo of water harvesting ponds, photo of community members and representatives
20. Training photos and other additional photos
21. Letter from the interm government of Tigray Bureau of Agriculture & natural resource and food security
22. Registration Certificate Ethiotrees
23. Letter of approval ethio trees
24. Report and interview with communities affected by the Tigray war English version
25. Report and interview with communities affected by the Tigray war Tigray version
26. Carbon calculation agroforestry intervention
27. Carbon calculation project activities homestead intercropping
28. Memorandum of understanding between ethiotress and the woreda dogua tembien
29. Participatory design by communities

List of documents reviewed

30. Report intercropping planting
31. Evidence for PES seedling proposed
32. Evidence sample agroforestry plot

List of Interviewee

Date	Name	Position & Department	Topics
17/05/2023	Hailay Kidanu	Community representative	• Project activities in relation to Support existing school participation in joint planning and implementation • capacity build (trainings and the like)
17/05/2023	Haylemichael Gebreslassie	Members of cooperative	• Household based construction of individual animal feeding • Training on non-timber forest product extraction • Benefit sharing from the exclosure management
17/05/2023	Abadit Gidey	Community representative	• Support existing school • participation in joint planning and implementation • capacity build (trainings and the like) • Exclosure protection • water harvesting pond construction • soil and water harvesting, and PES
17/05/2023	Birhanu Tsegay	Community representative	
17/05/2023	Gebreslassie Gemikael	Community representative	• Support existing school • participation in joint planning and implementation

List of Interviewee

Date	Name	Position & Department	Topics
17/05/2023	Keshi zeray hadush	Community members	• capacity build (trainings and the like)
17/05/2023	Mekonen atsbeha	Community members	• Exclosure protection • water harvesting pond construction • soil and water harvesting, and PES and humanitarian aids
17/05/2023	Letay gebremikael	Community members	• Exclosure protection • water harvesting pond construction • soil and water harvesting, and PES and humanitarian aids
17/05/2023	Hailemariam shiferaw	Community members	
18/05/2023	Mnet Gebrezigibiher	Community representative and women's association chair women	• Project activity • Participatory women in the project
18/05/2023	Mihret Atsbeha	Community members and watershed team member	• Exclosure protection • water harvesting pond construction
18/05/2023	Selomun tsegay	Community members and watershed team member	
18/05/2023	Gebregergis gebru	Office of agriculture and economic sector head	• Project activity • Coordination regarding involvement local government with project coordinator • Benefit of project
18/05/2023	Teame G/slassie	Department of natural resource management and food security head	
18/05/2023	Teklahaimanot G/hiwot	District Administrator head	
18/05/2023	Shishay maaza	Natural resource development agent tabia aynimbirkekin	
18/05/2023	Abreha hagos	Tabia aynimbirkekin Administrator head	

List of Interviewee

Date	Name	Position & Department	Topics
19/05/2023	Atsbeha gebreyesus	Tabia Debrenaziret Administrator head	• Project activity • Coordination regarding involvement local government with project coordinator • Benefit of project
19/05/2023	Letechal hailu	Local court and community representative for Debrenaziret	
19/05/2023	Balga Tesfay	Community member Debrenaziret	
19/05/2023	Yalem lilay	Woman association head and community representative for Debrenaziret	• Project activity • Participatory women in the project
19/05/2023	Yemane abreha	Rural development Head for Debrenaziret	• Confirmation of project activity. • Impact of project activity and involvement from administrator.
19/05/2023	Welday areaya	Tabia amanit Administrator head	
19/05/2023	Tuemutu welay	Tabia amanit crop production development agent	
19/05/2023	Seyfu G/slassie	EthioTrees Project coordinator	PES, integration plan preparation and integration, stakeholder participation and community engagement, livelihood improvement and exclosure management
01/11/2024	Sill Lanckriet	EthioTrees Project Owner	• Technical specification agroforestry interventions

Summary of major and minor Corrective Actions (Insert CAR Text)

Theme	Major CARs	Minor CARs	Observations	Status
Project's Eligibility	-	The legal evidence regarding land ownership registered with	-	Completed

Theme	Major CARs	Minor CARs	Observations	Status
		the project is unavailable.		
Ecosystem Benefits	-	-	-	Completed
Project Coordination and Management	-	The project coordinator should be able to prove: - The employment contract between EthioTrees and Mr. Seifu. - The implementation of trainings documents	-	Completed
Participatory design	-	-	-	Completed
Quantifying and Monitoring Ecosystem Services	-	-	To ensure all the results of carbon stock and emission reduction calculation fulfill the principle of accurate and consistent, the project coordinator should be considered the consistency of decimal number in the spreadsheet file to minimize the risk of misstatement. Moreover, to ensure all the monitoring data are accurate. The project coordinator should consider all the paper-based raw data are back-up digitally and available following	Completed

Theme	Major CARs	Minor CARs	Observations	Status
			the duration of project.	
Risk Management	-	-	-	Completed
Livelihoods Impacts	-	-	-	Completed
PES Agreement	-	-	-	Completed
Carbon benefit	1. The Ethio trees have not been able to show reference references for each formula used in the calculation of the homestead intercropping project activities. Such as, DSH, AGB, AGC, BGC calculations. 2. The Ethio trees have not been able to show reference references for each default value or assumption used for carbon calculations 3. The Ethio trees have not provided any evidence regarding geolocation for project activities	The project does not provide a clear justification for statement in new technical specification for not calculating the project activity baseline was provided, nor were any supporting references. Furthermore, it is unclear whether the eight tree species to be planted have been approved by the community. Potential risks to carbon transfer were not identified, and mitigation measures that could be implemented were not included for each activity. The project also failed to provide an annual emission reduction table for the intercropping program and a transparent	-	Completed

Theme	Major CARs	Minor CARs	Observations	Status
	homestead intercropping	procedure for maintaining carbon sales records.		

Report Conformance

Theme	Conformance of Draft Report	Conformance of Final Report
Project's Eligibility	No	Yes
Ecosystem Benefits	Yes	Yes
Project Coordination and Management	No	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)	Ownership of all land and all natural resources in Ethiopia become 'monopolized' by the federal state, while farmers received usufruct rights of the croplands, formalized by a land certificate. Common access rights are granted for grazing lands, wastelands, forests and exclosures (typically lands on sloping terrains of about 100 hectares) to the communities. In practice, these lands are directly controlled by the tabia administration and are managed on a daily basis by associations of landless farmers. In our project, we agreed on a Memorandum of Understanding between (i) the organisation and project structure; (ii) the councils of the 'woreda', the 'tabia' and the 'kushet'; and (iii) all members of the associations. Based on the results of the desk review, legal evidence is required regarding land ownership registered with the project. However, the proof of evidence unavailable at this time (**Minor CAR**). At the verification time, the project coordinator can show the evidence in the form of explanatory evidence in Tigray Land Administration and Use Proclamation (resourceequity.org) and the Forest Development, Conservation and Utilization Proclamation No. 1065/2018 (https://www.ffic.gov.et/Portals/0/ 1065-2010.pdf) of the country stated that the forest area is classified into three main categories i.e. State Forest, Community owned forest and private owned forest". That's why it legalized to own community forest. It is also confirmed by the interview with the participants, information gathered from the community interview and documents shows they do not have land certificates. And they justify it because of the proclamation land administration and use of the region it legalized to own community forest. Based on the explanation above, the Minor CARs regarding the land ownership is closed. The project is located in the Tigray Region (Northern Ethiopia), specifically in the district (district) of Dogua Tembien. In this PDD, three project locations are presented: Adi Lehtsi, Gidmi Gestet and Meam Atali. A detailed map of

	the project location is presented in the Appendix. The exclosure area (project zone) in Adi Lehtsi is 412 ha; in Gidmi Gestet 46 ha and in Meam Atali 83 ha. EthioTrees has expanded the number of exclusions as follows: ➢ 3 new sites in January 2017 : May Getnet, May Huwo and Afedena. ➢ 9 new sites in July 2018. These include May Baeti, Lafa, Daero Hidag, Togul, Sesemat, Adi Meles, Chele Quot, Katna Ruba, and Gojam Sefra. The additional exclosure is still in the project area, namely the Degua Tembien District. FPIC documentation is proven only through a PES Agreement signed by community representatives before the project begins. In addition, the community was involved in making project design maps. There is a draft statement of initial community interest before the PES Agreement in the FPIC process at the beginning before validation activities in 2017. Based on the completed interview summary (record documents), the communities have been participating freely and voluntarily in the preparation and implementation of Plan Vivo. Based on the interview with the community, no disputes were occurring in the project sites. Every individual farmer has been well informed at the beginning of the project and during project activities. Project activities are going with community interest needs and so that no disputes were found. In case if any farmer made dispute through lack of awareness or any other, there is local bylaw. The community members were invited to give their general impressions of the project, including its benefits to the community, and to explain how the community viewed the project and how to identify the local community needs. Restoration projects also have clear benefits for the wider community living around the project site. The most important factors include reduction of erosion and gully erosion, conservation of soil nutrients and soil air. For example, local forest restoration will benefit water availability for communities on the upper slopes. The expected benefits are in the form of net benefits in water (land) availability, also for communities on the upper slopes. This was confirmed by the community based on the results of interviews.		
B. Conformance	Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐
C. Corrective Action (describe)	The legal evidence regarding land ownership registered with the project is unavailable.		
D. EthioTress Response	the evidence in the form of explanatory evidence in Tigray Land Administration and Use Proclamation (resourceequity.org) and the Forest Development, Conservation and Utilization Proclamation No. 1065/2018 (https://www.ffic.gov.et/Portals/0/ 1065-2010.pdf) of the country stated that the forest area is classified into three main categories i.e. State Forest,		

	Community owned forest and private owned forest". That's why it legalized to own community forest.
E. Status	Closed

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)	In the PDD it is explained that based on vegetation surveys, the Shannon diversity index is a strong indicator for the status of biodiversity in the project area. The average diversity index in the project area is 1.4 (it can be said that the degradation status in the exclosures is below the baseline condition). As an effort to enhancing biodiversity, the plantation has been undertaken like in Miam atali and Maygenet. The planted species at the project sites are *Olea europaea L. subsp. cuspidata (Wall. ex G. Don) Cif., Parkinsonia aculeata and Acacia saligna (Labill.) H.L.Wendl. Cordia Africana*, *Leucaena leucocephala.* The number of seedlings planted are; *1. Olea europaea L. subsp. Cuspidate (Wall. ex G. Don) Cif. = 11573* *2. Parkinsonia aculeate= 5797* 3. *Acacia saligna (Labill.) H.L.Wendl.= 33970* *4. Cordia Africana* = 950 5. *Leucaena leucocephala* = 3500 The total number of planted species in the project site were =55790. The growth of the planted species in the project sites shows outstanding performance. The project intervention by EthioTrees has clear benefits for the wider community living around the exclosures project. The most important factors include reduction of erosion and gully erosion, conservation of soil nutrients and groundwater. For example, local forest restoration will benefit water availability for communities on the upper slopes. The expected benefits are in the form of net benefits in water (land) availability, also for communities on the upper slopes. This is clearly visible in May Genet. The types of species planted are species that have benefits and are important for meeting community needs (e.g. firewood, building materials, animal feed, medicine, food, etc.). Referring to the explanation above, the types planted

	have benefits such as: Acacia salegna (important for environmental protection, fixing nitrogen, encouraging grass growth, firewood), Cordia Africana (furniture, construction, firewood), and Leucaena (fodder). livestock) planted in open fields. Discussions with local project coordinators and key informants confirmed that selection of native species was based primarily on the livelihood benefits of the trees/shrubs. The criteria used to select plant types include ecological benefits, economic benefits, adaptability/performance and meeting community needs. Based on a review from all of documentation and interview with relevant stakeholders, the verifier team assure and conclude that the benefit from this project to the ecosystem are increasing diversity index and percentage of survival rate from planted seedling range between 40% to 90%. Moreover, from the construction of water ponds in several places like Meam Atal, Gidmi Gestat, may Genet and May Hibo it reserve water that can be utilize by wild animal and trigger new small vegetation nearby water ponds		
B. Conformance	Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐
C. Corrective Action (describe)	The verifier team did not ask corrective action to project coordinator since the implementation of the project conforms with the project design documents and annual report.		
D. EthioTress Response			
E. Status	CLOSED		

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

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)**

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)**

3.3 A transparent mechanism and procedures for the receipt, holding and disbursement of 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)	EthioTrees (Belgium) is a non-profit organization ("vereniging zonder winstoogmerk" or vzw) based in Belgium (5 formal members). EthioTrees vzw is based at Rooigemlaan 473 Gent, Belgium, with legal number 0665.724.163. EthioTrees (Belgium) acted as Plan Vivo's 'project coordinator'. The members

	of EthioTrees are Sil Lanckriet, Miro Jacob, Koen Lepoutre, Tasha Moens and Jan Nyssen. Most of them have long-standing scientific and development cooperation in regional studies. More information about EthioTrees can be found at: www.ethiotrees.com. EthioTrees is responsible for registration and recording of 'plan vivos' and sales agreements, managing the use of project finances in plan vivo and making payments to producers, coordinating and recording monitoring, negotiating the sale of Plan vivo Certificates, reporting to the Plan Vivo Foundation and contract validation and project verification. EthioTrees provides technical support, discussing and unifying vivo's plans. EthioTrees Ethiopia is a partner in Ethiopia (i.e. an official Ethiopian association with 10 members). EthioTrees is thus a joint Belgian-Ethiopian organization that aims to promote ecosystem restoration and non-timber forest production in the Ethiopian Highlands, by supporting the natural regeneration of forests and the development of frankincense production. EthioTrees members in Ethiopia include the coordinator, Mr Seifu Gebreselassie, and 9 farmers from all over Dogua Tembien. Legal project coordination (including administration) is handled by EthioTrees' local coordinator (Mr. Seifu Gebreselassie). Following the public announcement of the vacancy, he is now officially employed by the EthioTrees (Ethiopia) legal association. EthioTrees Ethiopia is a legal association and all contracts comply with federal or regional (labor) laws. Based on the result of desk review, the project coordinator should be able to prove the employment contract between EthioTrees and Mr. Seifu (**Minor CAR**). At the time of verification, the project coordinator has shown proof of the contract contained in MoU between Ethiotrees Belgium and Ethiotrees ethiophia signed by both parties. Minor CARs regarding the project coordination and management is closed. Mr Seifu Gebreselassie is an experienced forester with an extensive social network in the Dogua Tembien region. He collaborates with members of EthioTrees as well as members of exclosure associations, and with 'woreda'. The coordinator is responsible for coordinating the planning and implementation of natural resource management (NRM) interventions, leading water resource development (e.g., hand-dug well construction, spring development and energy production), and managing financial resources specific to the implementation mentioned in on. on development activities. The Association (i.e., EthioTrees) has partnerships with national, regional and district level government bodies as well as with local communities. Strong partnerships between EthioTrees associations and government organizations and local communities can help guide project interventions and activities into government plans and ensure wider implementation of project interventions and activities in the future. Based on the result of desk review, the project coordinator should be able to prove the trainings documents was held (**Minor CAR**). Based on the findings, the project coordinators showed the documents of capacity building like

	training on maintaining project awareness, maintaining sustainable management of the exclosures and management, grass management for cut-and-carry purposes and non-timber forest production by landless farmers are some training which held by the project coordinator. It is also confirmed based on the interview with several participants that the trainings and awareness was held. The project coordinator also held the monitoring activities such as : - Follow up and supervision of field visit activities - Consultation meeting leading - Budget plan preparation - Coaching and leading the experts and supervisors The appointed person to conduct monitoring activities in the program are Project coordinator, experts, and site supervisor, site watershed team, members of community representatives and District Experts. Those technical groups of experts and Community representatives are cross checking observing monitoring and evaluating field level and financial flow of the project activities. The bank account was opened with the name of EthioTrees project and managed by the EthioTrees project coordinator and two representative community members. Financial plans were made by project coordinator based on the communities need assessment. The project budget and financial plan is updated every year based on the PV standards requirement. Based on the community interest and ground problem prioritizing by the community and the EthioTrees project coordinator together prepared a financial and activities plan.		
B. Conformance	Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐
C. Corrective Action (describe)	The project coordinator should be able to prove : - The employment contract between EthioTrees and Mr. Seifu. - The implementation of trainings documents		
D. EthioTress Response	- The contract (MoU) between Ethiotrees Belgium and Ethiotrees Ethiopia signed by both parties - The documents of capacity building are show to verifier team like training on maintaining project awareness, maintaining sustainable management of the exclosures and management, grass management for cut-and-carry purposes and non-timber forest production by landless farmers are some training which held by the project coordinator. It is also provided through the interview with several participants that the trainings and awareness was held.		
E. Status	CLOSED		

PARTICIPATORY DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF PLAN VIVO

Requirement: the project has demonstrated community ownership: communities participate meaningfully through the design and implementation of plan vivos 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)	The planning process to identify local needs was voluntary and participatory by all members of community in each project site, it's verified in project design and plan vivo's mapping document. Thus, these plan vivos are handwritten spatial land management plans, voluntarily produced and owned by the community or community sub-group or smallholder farmer, which form the basis of a project agreement. This voluntary and participatory mapping/planning process addressed the following local socio-ecological needs and priorities: • Local livelihood needs and opportunities to improve or diversify livelihoods and incomes • Reduce pressure on the ecosystem by introducing zonal planning (plan vivo mapping) • Land availability and land tenure • Food security • Practical and resource implications for participation of women • Application of honey or frankincense production • Opportunities to enhance biodiversity through planting native species In the new technical specification, community members are generally interested in planting in combination with their millet, sorghum, wheat and maize cultivation. The planting density is preferably low (around 300 trees per ha), because the community members want to reconcile tree planting with crop production – and therefore need to avoid excessive shading, it's verified in document PES PES seedling proposed. Therefore, the project coordinator makes new project activities called Homestead intercropping.

	The community members were invited to give their general impressions of the project, including its benefits to the community, and to explain how the community viewed the project and how to identify the local community needs. The community leaders, community members, the community beneficiary and local government staff were asked to explain their roles and responsibilities with respect to the project, specifically, in problem prioritizing, in identifying the needs of the community, in preparation of plans and in organizing for mobilization were determined by preparation consultation meetings and discussions. The local community watershed management Committee and expert team were organized the community need prepared necessary activities plans to implement at the ground. I have confirmed this by interviewing the community representatives, members of the communities, local community leaders and local experts. All members of the community are participating voluntarily and actively in any way project activities. Based on interviews with the community and responsible stakeholders in the project area, active participation in all activities of the project has been implemented in problem identification and prioritizing, plan preparation soil and water conservation, water harvesting pond construction, school construction, plantation, moisture harvesting and protection of the exclosure. The verifier team found no evidence that communities are being excluded from participating in the project as a result of discrimination. Additionally, the project has put specific measures in place to ensure that youth and women are included in the project and receive benefits from the project. Moreover, the project is not undermining the livelihood needs and priorities of the Tigray community. The system in place for accurately recording the size and location of each plan vivo and that the communities have access to their plan vivos in an appropriate language and picture for project maps. Since the annual reports are publicly accessible, the verifier team has reviewed them together with supporting evidence provided by the project coordinator including the details of meetings that were held by the project coordinator with community members during the monitoring period. There is no evidence that the interviewees have not been provided a forum to discuss the running of the project and grievance mechanisms following with PES agreement.		
B. Conformance	Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐
C. Corrective Action (describe)	The verification team did not ask corrective action to project coordinator since the implementation of the project conforms with the project design documents and annual report.		

D. EthioTress Response	N/A
E. Status	Closed

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 interviews and field-site 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)	The project has developed intervention listen in PDD part D and it's verified in technical specification. The project has two interventions: 1. Ecosystem intervention: a. Implement soil and water conservation b. Enrichment planting c. Support improved management techniques 2. Agroforestry intervention a. Establish agroforestry nurseries b. Planting in woodlots, plot boundaries and home gardens.

In the verification activities carried out in the field, the project proposed that verification be carried out only for ecosystem interventions. Overall, the ecosystem impacts of ecosystem interventions are increasing carbon storage and survival rates in seedlings. It's verified in annual report 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Explanation of table 5.1 Summary of project activities implemented as part of the assisted natural regeneration project strategy and performance related to the progress indicators in the document annex 6. Verified in document annual report and interviews that have been conducted with the community.

Tabel 5.1 Summary minimum target and actual implement per each project activities.

Project activities	**Period (2016-2022)**	**Minimum target of progress indicators (2016-2022)**
Trainings on sustainable forest management and awareness	116 trainings	95 trainings
Percolation ponds and trenches for soil and water conservation	924 percolation ponds and trenches	190 percolation ponds or trenches
Construction of stone bunds for soil and water conservation	13 676 m stone bunds by community labour and even more by food for work	Not a progress indicator
Enrichment planting with native tree species	49 710 seedlings planted	28 000 seedlings planted
Monitoring of the survival rate of seedlings	50% average survival rate	30% average survival rate

Technical specifications have been updated within a period of 5 years. The update is related to project activities in agroforestry interventions. Previously there were four activities, namely boundary planting, low-density home garden planting, high-density home garden and woodlot planting. In 2024 has five project activities with the addition of homestead intercropping. In addition, the agroforestry intervention start date has changed to 1 August 2023 until 31 July 2058. It's confirmed by an interview with the project coordinator.

The project has been continuously conducting ground-truthing activities to ensure that ongoing monitoring requirements are conducted as required in the project's monitoring plan. Based on the desk review and local expert site visit, the verifier team confirmed that the monitoring was conducted in line with the requirements of the project design document. The procedures for monitoring are documented and well-understood by the project coordinator and members of the community.

The appointed persons to conduct monitoring activities in the program are the Project coordinator, experts, site supervisor, site watershed team, members of community representatives and District Experts. Those technical group of experts

and Community representative are cross checking observing monitoring and evaluating field level and financial flow of the project activities.

The verifier team is reasonably assured that the results of the monitoring activities based on desk review and local expert site visit are correctly true following monitoring plan in the project design document.

To ensure that the project in Tigray is not registered under other carbon programs and to avoid double counting, the verifier team do the due diligence through desk review. The results are the project entitled Ecosystem restoration and valorisation by associations of landless farmers in the Tembien Highlands (North Ethiopia) is only registered under the Plan Vivo program.

The results of monitoring from restoration activities if fully achieved. The activity indicator is area of each exclosure undergoing active restoration activities is more than 10%. Furthermore, the target of tree planting is 4000 seedlings per year with survival rate is more than 30%. The results are total number of seedlings planted reach more than 10,000 (ten thousand) per year with survival rate is more than 50% it has also mentioned in table 5.1.

The other monitoring activities such soil organic carbon, biomass, biodiversity, water (hydrological and hydrogeological), and socio-economic are also well implemented and have been verified through desk review, local expert site visit and document annual report.

The project coordinator is using a MS. Excel file to compile all the monitoring data. The monitoring specification the performance-based milestones that are based on the growth rates in the SHAMBA model. Based on this, performance adjustments are based on milestones in the third measurement year of at least 65% of the planted trees surviving. Additionally, in the same fixed plots the project also monitors the Shannon biodiversity indexes every 5 years, and the project customized a Q Field application to oversee and manage the large amount of data that is generated. Regarding result on field and Q field monitoring, the project also makes a formulation in the file to calculate the carbon stock and the emission reduction to become carbon unit or Plan Vivo Certificate (PVC). Through desk review, the verifier team conducting the recalculation. Afterwards, in the virtual meeting with the representative of project coordinator. The verifier team asking them to re-performance the calculation process from the way they input the data from the field until they get the number of emission reduction and carbon stock. All the process are fairly presentation by the project coordinator and the number of emission reduction or PVCs are match with the submitted annual report. The details of number of PVCs as follow:

Vintage	Reporting Year	Type of PVCs (tCO_2e)	
		Unit	Reserve/Buffer
2016 -2017	Feb. 2016 - Feb 2017	4,873	664

2017 – 2018	Feb. 2017 - Feb. 2018	5,856	799
2018 – 2019	Feb. 2018 - Feb 2019	9,769	619
	Jul. 2018 - Jul. 2019	5,572	815
2019 – 2020	Feb. 2019 - Feb. 2020	12,530	1,393
2020 – 2021	Feb. 2020 - Feb. 2021	14,819	1,647
2021 – 2022	Feb. 2021 - Feb. 2022	20,259	2,251
2022 – 2023	Feb. 2022 - Jan. 2023	28,595	3,176

Meanwhile, from the results of desk review assessment and discussion with project coordinator, verifier team assure that the emission reduction calculation has been calculated in accordance with the adopted Ethiotrees methodology. The average of emission reduction from these projects is 11.47 tCO_2e/ha/year.

Carbon Stock	**Baseline**		**Project**	
	Average	Stdev	Average	Stdev
Biomass (tree)	14,36	11,24	22,70	20,66
Soil Organic Carbon (soil) (ton C/ha)	81,24	24,34	88,04	33,04
Total Carbon (ton C/ha)	95,60	27,82	110,74	38,44
Carbon sequestration rate (tCO_2e/ha/year)	11,47			

During project period within this verification activities, the project coordinator has been sale 73,678 PVCs to the market. After review from financial data for saleable PVCs compared with sold PVC, the verifier team assure and conclude that the number of PVCs sold by each year as follow:

i. 2018: 10,000 PVCs
ii. 2019: 15,612 PVCs
iii. 2020: 12,906 PVCs
iv. 2021: 14,900 PVCs
v. 2022: 20,260 PVCs

To ensure all the results of carbon stock and emission reduction calculation fulfill the principle of accurate and consistent, the project coordinator should be considered the consistency of decimal number in the spreadsheet file to minimize the risk of misstatement. Moreover, to ensure all the monitoring data are accurate. The project coordinator should consider all the paper-based raw data are back-up digitally and available following the duration of project.

B. Conformance	Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐
C. Corrective Action (describe)	The verifier team did not ask corrective action to project coordinator since the implementation of the project conforms with the project design documents and annual report.		
D. EthioTrees Response	N/A		

E. Status	Closed

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 that 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 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, if yes, 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)	Risks to the delivery of ecosystem services and sustainability areas identified and appropriate mitigation measures are described in Part H of the project design document. The risk assessment was conducted and evaluated during validation in August 2017. Then the risk assessment was updated by the project in 2022, because the war in Tigray was verified in the record of grievance document. The total risk impact is 4. However, Climate Lab has mitigated it by working closely with local agencies verified in the MoU document between Climate Lab and the Woreda Dogua Tembien. The proportion of expected climate services has been appropriately held in a risk buffer to protect the project from unexpected reductions in carbon stocks or increases in emissions and leakage due to the survival rate of the trees planted. The project coordinator allocated 12% is for buffer from emission reduction achieved. Since this approach was used in the validated project documents, which the project was achieved during initial registration. Then the project coordinator changed the allocation for the buffer by 10% in 2018 because this risk had been mitigated verified in Annual report 2018. The Verifier team is convinced that the changed approach used for the verification is appropriate and therefore accepted. i.e., An equivalent proportion of carbon credits will not be sold each year. Anticipated carbon credits 10% of these will be deducted as a risk buffer. As the overall level of risk is low in all the analyzed risk areas, and as this project is based on 'ex-post' issuance, the risk buffer that will be foreseen is 10%.		
B. Conformance	Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐

C. Corrective Action (describe)	The verifier team did not ask for corrective action to project coordinator since the implementation of the project conforms with the project design documents and annual report.
D. EthioTrees Response	N/A
E. Status	Closed

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)	The verifier assessed participants entered into PES agreements voluntarily according to the principle of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC), where sufficient information, in an appropriate format and language, was available to potential participants to enable them to make informed decisions about whether to enter into a PES Agreement. In the PES agreements did not remove, diminish or threaten community members' land tenure. This is verified by the participants in the project area has signed the PES Agreement which describes transaction of ecosystem services, where participants agree to follow their plan vivo in return for staged, performance-related payments or benefits. Regarding the land tenure, based on the information gathered from the community interview and documents shows they do not have land certificates. As all participating farmers are 'landless', they are relatively young (20-40 years old). The landless farmers are often organised in exclosure associations. The associations elect a representative through a democratic election. The members of the association are 'under rotation' responsible for managing a part of the exclosure (including the patrolling process and the daily management) and can benefit from ecosystem services from the exclosure. It's verified in EthioTrees Quarterly Activity Report 2019.

	There to be a fair and equitable benefit-sharing mechanism in place and has been agreed with the community members involved, identifying how PES funding will be distributed among the community members. The results of the benefit sharing reported in the annual report, Ms. Excel calculation for monitoring benefit-sharing and the PES agreement are in accordance and verified. The bank account was opened with the name of EthioTrees project and managed by the EthioTrees project coordinator and two representative community members. And therefore, communities received payment benefits through cash for work, direct payment, infrastructure construction (school, water harvesting pond) and necessary structural maintenance was done. The verifier team reviewed bank transfer statements and showed an allocation of 60% of sales revenue to the project participants. The PES agreement is in place and valid for 20 years and was confirmed to meet all the requirements of the Plan Vivo Standard during the project's validation. Benefits are delivered to participants through payments that are distributed and reinvested by the EthioTrees Association Ethiopia.		
B. Conformance	Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐
C. Corrective Action (describe)	The verifier team did not ask corrective action to project coordinator since the implementation of the project conforms with the project design documents and annual report.		
D. EthioTrees Response	N/A		
E. Status	Closed		

Annex 1. Validation Technical Specification due to additional project activities

Theme	1. **Carbon Benefits**
Ensuring that the project meets requirements 5.1-5.20 and 6.1-6.4 of the Plan Vivo Standard (2013)	
A. Requirement	**1.1 Accounting methodology and applicability conditions** • Have the carbon benefits been calculated using recognised carbon accounting methodologies and/or approved approaches and are the estimates of carbon uptake/storage conservative and credible enough to take into account risks of leakage and reversibility? • Are the applicability conditions appropriate for the planned intervention? • Have the project activities for each intervention been adequately described? • Are the activities likely to result in achievement of the intervention?
B. Guidance Notes for Validators	Check the carbon accounting methodology used including: • The level of understanding of the methodology used amongst technical project staff • Whether all references and sources of information are available (include copies with the validation report if possible) • Whether the carbon accounting models are clear and transparent i.e. are the spreadsheets available and readily understandable? Can project staff answer and explain any technical questions about these? • Are local experts able to comment on the accounting methodology and on the sources of information used?
C. Findings (describe)	Based on the latest technical specification, the validator team assessed the methodology used for agroforestry intervention, project activities homestead intercropping is PM0001. The validator assessed the methodology used is appropriate. The validator assessed the methodology used was appropriate because after being reviewed, PM0001 is a methodology published by Plan Vivo. Spreadsheets available related to carbon accounting homestead intercropping models are clear and transparent. But the Ethio trees have not been able to show reference references for each formula used in the calculation of the homestead intercropping project activities. Such as, DSH, AGB, AGC, BGC calculations. Therefore, this is raised to **CAR Major**. In addition, the Ethio trees have not been able to show reference references for each default value or assumption used for carbon calculations. Therefore, this is raised to **CAR Major**. The validator team has also not been able to assess the applicability conditions appropriate for the planned intervention because the Ethio trees have not

	provided any evidence regarding geolocation for project activities homestead intercropping. Therefore, this is raised to **CAR Major**.

D. Conformance	Yes ☐	No ☑	N/A ☐

E. Corrective Actions (describe)

CAR ID	CAR raised	Corrective actions
CAR 01	The Ethio trees have not been able to show reference references for each formula used in the calculation of the homestead intercropping project activities. Such as, DSH, AGB, AGC, BGC calculations.	We added in the homestead intercropping Excel: - DSH: diameter at stump height (cm), i.e. the diameter of the woody stem at 0.3 cm above the ground level. Values measured in the field: see PDD P80 for reference. - AGB: above-ground biomass (kg), i.e. the weight of the woody vegetation that lives above the ground. Values calculated based on allometric equation: see PDD P84 for reference. - AGC: above-ground carbon content (kg carbon), i.e. the part of the weight of the woody vegetation that lives above the ground that is composed of carbon. Values calculated based on carbon-to-biomass fraction: see PDD P84 for reference. - BGC: below-ground carbon content (kg carbon), i.e. the part of the weight of the woody vegetation that lives below the ground (e.g. roots) that is composed of carbon. Values calculated based on root-shoot ratio and carbon-to-biomass fraction: see PDD P38 for reference.
CAR 02	The Ethio trees have not been able to show reference references for each default value or assumption used for carbon calculations.	We added in the homestead intercropping Excel: - Carbon-to-biomass fraction: default value set at ratio 0.55. See PDD P38 for reference. - Molar conversion factor to derive tCO2e from tC: default value set at 3.667. See PDD P39 for reference. - Soil organic carbon (SOC) sequestration: default rate set at 0.8 tC ha-1. Conservative value based on AR-tool16 Version 01.1.
CAR 03	The Ethio trees have not provided any evidence	We attach the agroforestry intercropping shapefiles here in annex.

		regarding geolocation for project activities homestead intercropping.	

F. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response

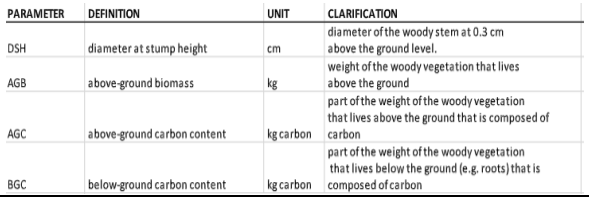
(To be filled out by the Project Coordinator)

G. Forward Actions (describe, if applicable

(Please, delete table and write "None" if there were no Corrective Actions were identified or all Corrective Actions were closed)

Forward Action	Why Unresolved	How to resolve

H. Status

CAR ID	VVB Assessment	Status
CAR 01	Ethiotress has been added in excel reference and assumption in each parameter to be calculated in project activities homestead intercropping.	Closed
CAR 02		
CAR 03	Ethiotrees has been provided evidence agroforestry intercropping shapefiles	Closed

PARAMETER	DEFINITION	UNIT	CLARIFICATION
DSH	diameter at stump height	cm	diameter of the woody stem at 0.3 cm above the ground level.
AGB	above-ground biomass	kg	weight of the woody vegetation that lives above the ground
AGC	above-ground carbon content	kg carbon	part of the weight of the woody vegetation that lives above the ground that is composed of carbon
BGC	below-ground carbon content	kg carbon	part of the weight of the woody vegetation that lives below the ground (e.g. roots) that is composed of carbon

A. **Requirement**

2.2 Project Period

- Have the project starting date, project period and crediting period been clearly described and are they fully justified?

B. **Guidance Notes for Validators**

Check the crediting period using the following documents: Schedule of the project, contract of the start date and/or implementation plan.

C. **Findings (describe)**

In the PDD it is explained that the project started on February 1, 2016. While in the technical specification agroforestry intervention the project started on August 1, 2023. Due to inconsistencies and not clearly explained description between the project starting date, project period and crediting period in the PDD or technical specification. So, this is raised as a finding **CAR Minor**.

D. Conformance

Yes	No	N/A
☐	V	☐

<table>
<tr><td>D. Corrective Actions (describe)</td><td>
<table>
<tr><th>CAR ID</th><th>CAR raised</th><th>Corrective actions</th></tr>
<tr><td>CAR 04</td><td>The Ethio trees to inconsistencies and not clearly explained description between the project starting date, project period and crediting period in the PDD or technical specification.</td><td>We here attach evidence that seedling planting activities have been carried out in July 2024 (short photo report intercropping attached).</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>E. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response</td><td>(To be filled out by the Project Coordinator)</td></tr>
<tr><td>F. Forward Actions (describe, if applicable</td><td>(Please, delete table and write "None" if there were no Corrective Actions were identified or all Corrective Actions were closed)
<table>
<tr><th>Forward Action</th><th>Why Unresolved</th><th>How to resolve</th></tr>
<tr><td>1.2</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
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<tr><td>G. Status</td><td>
<table>
<tr><th>CAR ID</th><th>VVB Assessment</th><th>Status</th></tr>
<tr><td>CAR 04</td><td>Ethiotrees has been provided evidence seedling planting activities have been carried out in July 2024</td><td>Closed</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>A. Requirement</td><td>1.3 Baseline

• Are the carbon benefits of the project measured against a clear and credible carbon baseline (for each project intervention)?
• Has evidence been provided to show that the project area has not been negatively altered prior to the project for the purposes of claiming PES payments?
• Are baseline conditions adequately described?
• Are the estimates of carbon stocks under baseline conditions reasonable?
• Have all data sources used been identified? If not, indicate other available data sources could improve the baseline estimates of carbon stocks?</td></tr>
<tr><td>B. Guidance Notes for Validators</td><td>Check the baseline scenario in the technical specifications of the PDD:

• Check that baseline measurements have been carried out and information properly recorded
• Check that the information from the baseline matches that in the PDD/Technical specifications and corresponds to the situation on the ground (by discussing with local experts and others)</td></tr>
</table>

	• Check for evidence of recent disturbance on sites and compare against conversations with landowner and neighbours to determine if sites have recently been altered.
C. Findings (describe)	The baseline measurement in the homestead intercropping project activities described in the technical specification has not been clearly explained. In addition, the Ethio trees have not clearly explained the justification for why the baseline for project activities is not calculated. As well as references that support this statement. So, this is raised as a **CAR Minor**. The validation team assesses that the baseline scenario described in the PDD, and technical specifications are appropriate. The validator team also assessed based on Ghent University, 2022 that the conflict may have been the deadliest of the 21st century, with around 600,000 civilians killed (about one tenth of the Tigrayan population). Most are starvation deaths, but there are also 50,000 to 100,000 victims of direct killings, and more than 100,000 additional deaths due to lack of health care. The validation team also assessed satellite imagery and confirmed to the committee evidence that shows that there is no land change when the homestead intercropping intervention project will be applied.
D. Conformance	Yes ☐ No ☑ N/A ☐

E. Corrective Actions (describe)

CAR ID	CAR raised	Corrective actions
CAR 05	The Ethio trees have not clearly explained the justification for why the baseline for project activities is not calculated. As well as references that support this statement.	We added the following text in the homestead intercropping note (see new section Applicability Conditions in yellow op P35 of techspec): The baseline calculation for homestead intercropping is based on PU001, since PU001 was approved by late 2023. PU001 assumes no change in the baseline removals in woody vegetation if the conditions of AR-Tool14 v4.2 section 5 apply. Homestead intercropping can only be applied on fields under the following conditions: - The pre-project trees are neither harvested, nor cleared, nor removed throughout the

			crediting period of the project activity. - The pre-project trees do not suffer mortality because of competition from trees planted in the project, or damage because of implementation of the project activity, at any time during the crediting period of the project activity. - The pre-project trees are not inventoried along with the project trees in monitoring of carbon stocks, but their continued existence consistent with the baseline scenario, is monitored throughout the crediting period. - The land is subject to period grazing, i.e. the dry season open field grazing. Overall, the PU001 baseline approach is more conservative that SHAMBA (given that SHAMBA models a declining baseline).

F. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response

(To be filled out by the Project Coordinator)

G. Forward Actions (describe, if applicable)

(Please, delete table and write "None" if there were no Corrective Actions were identified or all Corrective Actions were closed)

Forward Action	Why Unresolved	How to resolve

H. Status

CAR ID	VVB Assessment	Status
CAR 05	The justification has been added in technical specification and validation team accepted so that this finding can be closed	Closed

A. **Requirement**

1.4 Additionality

- Are the carbon benefits additional to those that would anyway be required under law or regulations?
- Does generation of the ecosystem service benefits (carbon benefits) depend solely on implementation of the activities by the project or would these benefits have been generated anyway?

	• Will activities supported by the project happen without the availability of carbon finance?		
B. **Guidance Notes for Validators**	Assess whether the project simply owes its existence to legislative decrees or to commercial land-use initiatives that are likely to be economically viable in their own right i.e. without payments for ecosystem services. Also, assess whether without project funding there are social, cultural, technical, ecological or institutional barriers that would prevent project activities from taking place.		
C. **Findings (describe)**	Additional carbon benefits that wouldn't be required under law or regulations of the relevant country. Ethio Trees agroforestry interventions exceed current laws and regulations for forestry and land management. To date, there are no laws and regulations directly applicable to agroforestry interventions in Tigray. Besides, this project is not the product of a legislative decree, or a commercial land-use initiative likely to have been economically viable in its own right. And this is verified in the confirmation letter document from the interim government of Tigray that agroforestry activities are not legally mandated, there may be certain regulations or guidelines in place to ensure that these practices are carried out sustainably and do not negatively impact the environment or neighboring communities. The project activities cannot be run without the availability of carbon finance. This is listed in the technical specification that the main barriers from financial are limited funds and limited private credit availability. The validator team also assess that this barrier was acceptable and clear because after reviewing the evidence of funding sources for interventions in Ethio trees using external funding.		
D. **Conformance**	Yes [V]	No [ ]	N/A [ ]
E. **Corrective Actions (describe)**	*(Please, write "None" if Corrective Actions were not identified)*		
F. **(Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response**	*(To be filled out by the Project Coordinator)*		
G. **Forward Actions (describe, if applicable)**	*(Please, delete table and write "None" if there were no Corrective Actions were identified or all Corrective Actions were closed)*		

	Forward Action	**Why Unresolved**	**How to resolve**
H. **Status**	*(CLOSED, OUTSTANDING, or CONVERTED TO FORWARD ACTION)*		
A. **Requirement**	**1.5 Ecosystem Service Benefits calculations** • Have all the carbon pools been identified and has justification been given for those that will be accounted for? • Has the project used an approved approach to calculate estimated ecosystem service benefits? • Are the calculations used for estimating the carbon benefits available e.g. in attached spreadsheets? • Have any potential negative impacts on carbon pools been accounted for in the calculations? • For tree afforestation/reforestation projects only: Are the allometric equations and growth rates used for modelling tree growth appropriate? • For forest conservation/avoided deforestation projects only: Is the baseline deforestation/degradation rate defined and reasonable based on the evidence provided? Is the expected reduction in deforestation/degradation or enhancement in carbon stocks reasonable based on the activities proposed?		
B. **Guidance Notes for Validators**	Assess whether the estimations of the carbon benefits align with best practice, are conservative and the correct evidence is provided. Compare the outputs of the carbon benefit calculations against what you can observe on the ground. Is there an approximate agreement? Check that the excel spreadsheet provide is in accordance with the Plan Vivo Standard.		
C. **Findings (describe)**	Ethio trees explains in the technical specification that carbon pools in agroforestry intervention are: a. Above ground woody biomass. b. Below ground woody biomass. c. Soil organic carbon. This identification is appropriate because the reference used is the SHAMBA methodology. The validator team also assessed that the carbon benefit calculation had considered the carbon pools explained in the technical specification. In the GHG removal from carbon pools project spreadsheet, it was referred to as PM0001. However, each parameter in the carbon benefit calculation has not been explained, so this is a finding that has been raised in CAR 01. In the technical specifications and in the document spreadsheet, it is explained that the plants that will be planted in the project activities are: a. Mangifera		

b. Grevillea
c. Polycantha &Faidherbia
d. Zizizphus
e. Moringa
f. Persea
g. Cordia

The eight species of trees to be planted have not been confirmed whether they have received approval from the community. So, this is raised to **CAR Minor**. Therefore, the PES agreement also signed by per house yard that join in project activities homestead intercropping. Regarding interview with project coordinator, PES is currently has been signed by communities. And it's validated by document PES agreement.

The trees to be planted should not experience any potential negative impacts on carbon pools to be accounted for in the calculations. Because it is explained and has been validated based on the 2023 Kew plant database. As listed in the technical specification, the trees to be planted are native Ethiopian species.

Species	**Other names**	**General**
Mangifera indica	Mango	The native range of this species is Assam to China (S. Yunnan). It is a tree and grows primarily in the seasonally dry tropical biome.
Grevillea robusta	Silky oak	The native range of this species is Australia. It is a tree and grows primarily in the subtropical biome. It is used as animal food, a poison, a medicine and invertebrate food, has environmental uses and for fuel and food
Faidherbia albida	Acacia albida	Shrub or tree, growing primarily in the seasonally dry tropical biome
Ziziphus spina-christi	Christ's Thorn	The native range of this species is Mauritania to Pakistan. It is a shrub or tree and grows primarily in the desert or dry shrubland biome.
Moringa oleifera	Drumstick tree	The moringa plant is native to northern India, where it was first described around 2000 BC as a plant with many medicinal values.
Persea americana	Avocado	The native range of this species is Central Mexico to Costa Rica. It is a tree and grows primarily in the seasonally dry tropical biome. It is used as animal food, a poison, a medicine and invertebrate food, has environmental uses and social uses and for fuel and food.
Cordia africana	Sudan teak	The native range of this species is Tropical & S. Africa, SW. Arabian Peninsula, Comoros, Central Madagascar. It is a shrub or tree and grows primarily in the seasonally dry tropical biome.

	To ensure the growth rate of each tree species to be planted, it is not yet certain whether the assumptions used are appropriate. Because Ethio trees have not been able to show evidence of references used in growth rates used for modelling tree growth. This has also been raised as a non-conformity in CAR Major.		
D. **Conformance**	Yes ☐	No **V**	N/A ☐

E. **Corrective Actions (describe)**

CAR ID	CAR raised	Corrective actions
CAR 06	The eight species of trees to be planted have not been confirmed whether they have received approval from the community.	We only plant the species that are specifically requested by the farmers. For instance, every farmer can add in the smallholder PES agreement which trees he/she would like to receive (for free). We attach some translated PES agreements as evidence.

F. **(Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response**

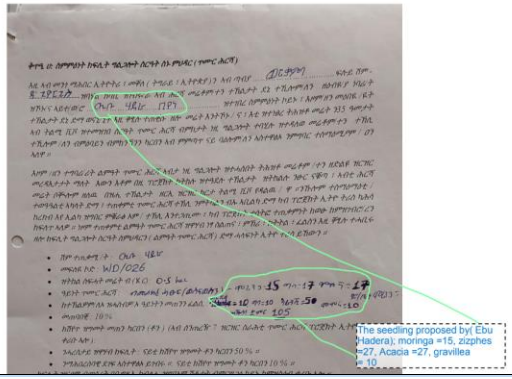
(To be filled out by the Project Coordinator)

G. **Forward Actions (describe, if applicable)**

(Please, delete table and write "None" if there were no Corrective Actions were identified or all Corrective Actions were closed)

Forward Action	Why Unresolved	How to resolve

H. **Status**

CAR ID	VVB Assessment	Status
CAR 06	Ethiotrees has been provided evidence in the form of a PES seedling proposed document. The document states that the plants to be planted are proposed by each area ID. 	Closed

A. Requirement	**1.6 Permanence and Risk Management** • Are potential risks to the permanence of carbon stocks identified in the project technical specifications and are effective and feasible mitigation measures included in the project design? • Has the risk buffer level suggested and reflective of the level of risk outlined? • Has the defined risk buffer been used in the calculation of carbon benefits in Table F1 of the PDD? • Has the minimum risk level met?
B. Guidance Notes for Validators	Assess whether members of the community/producers are aware that they will enter into formal sale agreements with the project coordinator and that they therefore need to comply with the monitoring and mitigation requirements of the project. Assess all assumptions made in levels of risk implied in the project's risk assessment and whether they are appropriate given the project's baseline, interventions and the socio-economic and environmental context visible in the project areas. Check whether the risk buffer proposed in the PDD and technical specifications for each intervention (that will be deducted from the saleable carbon of each producer) conforms to the recommended percentages in the Plan Vivo Standard or other Plan Vivo documentation. Check with Plan Vivo if this is unclear.
C. Findings (describe)	Significant potential impact based on table H3 PDD is social political. It is explained that social political is a significant potential because in 2020-2021 there was a war in Tigray, and this is also explained and validated in the grievance mechanism document. Meanwhile, after being confirmed through an interview with the project coordinator that the risk management written in the PDD is used for all project activities, the overall level of risk is low in all the analyzed risk areas, and as this project is based on 'ex-post' issuance, the risk buffer that will be foreseen is 10%. However, Ethio tress still explain about potential risks to the permanence of carbon stocks doesn't identify in the project technical specifications and feasible mitigation measures aren't included for project activities homestead intercropping. So, this is raised to **CAR Minor**. The buffer calculation explained in the F1 PDD table related to the homestead intercropping project activities is not appropriate. Although the reduction in risk buffer has been included in the table by 10%, the net carbon becomes 131.9 tCO2e/ha without any value that can be used as a reduction is uncertain. See details in the table below. In the other hand, due to Ethio trees has not been able to show a table of annual emission reductions include defined risk buffer

been used in the calculation project activities homestead intercropping. So, this is raised to **CAR Minor**.

Intervention type	Baseline carbon/ha	Carbon uptake/ha	Expected losses from leakage/ha	Deduction of risk buffer/ha	Net carbon benefit/ha
Homestead intercropping	*		0	-10%	131.9

D. Conformance

Yes		No	V	N/A	

E. Corrective Actions (describe)

CAR ID	CAR raised	Corrective actions
CAR 07	Potential risks to the permanence of carbon stocks doesn't identify in the project technical specifications and feasible mitigation measures aren't included for each project activities.	According to the Plan Vivo V4 standard and PDD template, the Potential Risks should not be analysed in the Technical Specifications (Part §G of the PDD) but should be analysed in the Risk Management chapter of the PDD (Part §H of the PDD). The potential risks to the permanence of carbon stocks under agroforestry are already presented under Part §H of the approved PDD on page 67. The chapter presents social and political risks, economic risks, environmental risks, leakage risks, and administrative risks for the agroforestry interventions, and presents mitigation measures for each risk group.
CAR 08	Ethio trees has not been able to show a table of annual emission reductions in the homestead intercropping project activities.	This was now added in the Excel file as a new Tab: Annual Emission Reductions in the homestead intercropping project activities.

F. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response

(To be filled out by the Project Coordinator)

G. Forward Actions (describe, if applicable)

(Please, delete table and write "None" if there were no Corrective Actions were identified or all Corrective Actions were closed)

Forward Action	Why Unresolved	How to resolve

H. Status

CAR ID	VVB Assessment	Status
CAR 07	The justification submitted is accepted so that this finding can be closed	Closed

	CAR 08	Ethiotress has been added in the Excel file as a new Tab: Annual Emission Reductions in the homestead intercropping project activities. **Year** | **Annual Emission Reduction (tCO2e)** 1 | 3.7699 2 | 3.7699 3 | 3.7699 4 | 3.7699 5 | 3.7699 6 | 3.7699 7 | 3.7699 8 | 3.7699 9 | 3.7699 10 | 3.7699	Closed
A. **Requirement**	**1.7 Leakage and uncertainty** • Have uncertainty been identified in the project? • Have potential sources of leakage been identified and are effective and feasible mitigation measures in place for implementation? • Where leakage is likely to be significant, is there appropriate monitoring methods planned and is the project making a conservative deduction from the estimated carbon benefits to compensate? • Are the assumptions used in the methodology and calculation justified and appropriate for the project? • Have measures been described to validate these assumptions over the course of the project?		
B. **Guidance Notes for Validators**	Check the sources of leakage and the effectiveness of mitigation measures: • By discussions with local experts, the project coordinator and others. • Assess whether there is a good understanding of the importance of addressing leakage amongst project participants • Assess whether the mitigation measures proposed are really effective and likely to be implemented. Have they already started?		
C. **Findings (describe)**	Listen in technical specification that uncertainty under application of SHAMBA is assumed to be zero, and the value Ux in PU005 is set to zero. Validation team assess in document AR TOOL14. 4.2 on P17 (section 8.2). When using models (e.g. SHAMBA) the ex-ante estimation (projection) of biomass is not subjected to uncertainty control. Ex-ante estimation (projection) of carbon stock in tree biomass is not subjected to uncertainty control, although the project participants should use the best available data and models that apply to the project site and the tree species.		

<table>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="3">Also listen in technical specification that leakage under AR-TOOL15 version 2.0 to estimate leakage significance: A/R Methodological tool – Estimation of the increase in GHG emissions attributable to displacement of pre-project agricultural activities in A/R CDM project activity, that Leakage emission attributable to the displacement of grazing activities is considered insignificant and hence accounted as zero. Feasible mitigation measures in place fodder-producing trees are part of the planting mix while livestock feeding in the stable (e.g. through feed boxes) will be stimulated through trainings. It's explained and validated in document PES Agreement, that the exclosure associates will monitor in cooperation with village council potential grazing displacement and actively promote cut and carry to discourage potential grazing displacement.</td></tr>
<tr><td>D. Conformance</td><td>Yes [V]</td><td>No [ ]</td><td>N/A [ ]</td></tr>
<tr><td>E. Corrective Actions (describe)</td><td colspan="3">(Please, write "None" if Corrective Actions were not identified)</td></tr>
<tr><td>F. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response</td><td colspan="3">(To be filled out by the Project Coordinator)</td></tr>
<tr><td>G. Forward Actions (describe, if applicable)</td><td colspan="3">(Please, delete table and write "None" if there were no Corrective Actions were identified or all Corrective Actions were closed)

<table><tr><th>Forward Action</th><th>Why Unresolved</th><th>How to resolve</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table></td></tr>
<tr><td>H. Status</td><td colspan="3">(CLOSED, OUTSTANDING, or CONVERTED TO FORWARD ACTION)</td></tr>
<tr><td>A. Requirement</td><td colspan="3">1.8 Traceability and double counting

• Are carbon sales from the project traceable and recorded in a database?
• Are the project intervention areas covered by any other projects or initiatives (including regional or national initiatives)?
• Have sufficient steps been taken to avoid double counting of carbon benefits with any other initiatives in place in the project area?</td></tr>
<tr><td>B. Guidance Notes for Validators</td><td colspan="3">Check the possibility of double counting and whether the carbon sales are traceable by:</td></tr>
</table>

<table>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="3">

- By discussions with local experts, the project coordinator and other projects (including any national or regional level GHG coordination unit)
- Understanding the project system for maintaining records of carbon sales and keeping records and determining whether this is sufficiently robust and transparent (through discussions with project staff and local participants)

</td></tr>
<tr><td>C. Findings (describe)</td><td colspan="3">So far, based on the interview conducted with the carbon sales project coordinator, the project coordinator will submit it to the communities during the annual meeting and the data will be stored in the database. However, to ensure that the process can run consistently if there is a change in the personnel in charge, a procedure is needed. Because Ethio trees has not been able to show the procedure for maintaining records of carbon sales and keeping records and determining whether this is sufficiently robust and transparent (through discussions with project staff and local participants). This issue has been raised in CAR Minor.</td></tr>
<tr><td>D. Conformance</td><td>Yes ☐</td><td>No ☑ V</td><td>N/A ☐</td></tr>
<tr><td>E. Corrective Actions (describe)</td><td colspan="3">
<table>
<tr><th>CAR ID</th><th>CAR raised</th><th>Corrective actions</th></tr>
<tr><td>CAR 09</td><td>Ethio trees has not been able to show the procedure for maintaining records of carbon sales and keeping records and determining whether this is sufficiently robust and transparent (through discussions with project staff and local participants).</td><td>All carbon sales are tracked and recorded by Climate Lab (myVDL financial application) and checked by independent accountant Vandelanotte. In line with the Plan Vivo annual report template, every year the project coordinator has to report to the Plan Vivo Foundation on every dollar of carbon sales revenue. The annual reports are publicly available.

Data on the carbon prices and revenues are available to all participants in the homestead intercropping project activities, upon their simple request. In addition, results of monitoring and pricing are shared and discussed with the smallholders during every annual monitoring visit. Upon the discussion with the smallholder, the data are on-the-spot included in the QField application.

Overall Climate Lab is responsible for the tracking and recording of the carbon sales. Vandelanotte is responsible for the evaluation.</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
</table>

<table>
<tr><td>F. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response</td><td>(To be filled out by the Project Coordinator)</td></tr>
<tr><td>G. Forward Actions (describe, if applicable)</td><td>(Please, delete table and write "None" if there were no Corrective Actions were identified or all Corrective Actions were closed)
<table>
<tr><th>Forward Action</th><th>Why Unresolved</th><th>How to resolve</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td>H. Status</td><td>
<table>
<tr><th>CAR ID</th><th>VVB Assessment</th><th>Status</th></tr>
<tr><td>CAR 09</td><td>Ethiotrees explained that when communities ask to show carbon sales updates, Ethiotrees will organize an annual monitoring visit which contains of monitoring and pricing are shared and discussed with the smallholders during every</td><td>Closed</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td>A. Requirement</td><td>1.9 Monitoring

• Does the project have an appropriate monitoring plan for each project intervention that they are implementing?
• Does the project have a monitoring and data management system in place? Is it being implemented and does it seem to be an effective system for monitoring the continued delivery of the ecosystem services?
• Will the monitoring management system enable the assumptions to be validated and tested by year 5 of the project?
• Does the project coordinator prescribe and record corrective actions where monitoring targets are not met and are these effectively followed up in subsequent monitoring?
• Is a process defined for updating the technical specifications as monitoring data becomes available?</td></tr>
<tr><td>B. Guidance Notes for Validators</td><td>All monitoring plans should have the following:

• Performance indicators and targets to be used and how they demonstrate if ecosystem services are being delivered. Performance targets may be directly or indirectly linked to the delivery of ecosystem services, e.g. based on successful implementation of management activities or other improvements but must serve to motivate participants to sustain the project intervention
• Monitoring approaches (methods)
• Frequency of monitoring</td></tr>
</table>

	• Duration of monitoring • How the validity of any assumptions used in *technical specifications* are to be tested • Resources and capacity required • How communities will participate in monitoring, e.g. by training community members and gradually delegating monitoring activities over the duration of the project How results of monitoring will be shared and discussed with participants Check whether the monitoring plan is effective and likely to be fully implemented: • Assess the level of understanding of project staff and participating communities of the monitoring system and ensure that there are responsibilities for monitoring are matched by sufficient capacity • Are the selected indicators (covering all aspects of monitoring) SMART? I.e. Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound? • Do the selected indicators properly measure impacts of the project or are they only able to measure inputs/activities? • Are communities effectively involved in monitoring and do they understand their role?
C. **Findings (describe)**	All monitoring plans homestead intercropping project activities listen in technical specification has been include: • Performance indicators and targets to be used and how they demonstrate if ecosystem services are being delivered. Performance targets directly linked to the delivery of ecosystem services, e.g. based on successful implementation of management activities or other improvements but must serve to motivate participants to sustain the project intervention. But the project coordinator not yet prescribe and record corrective actions where monitoring targets are not met and are these effectively followed up in subsequent monitoring. This issue has been raised in **CAR Minor**. • Monitoring approaches (methods) In agroforestry intervention method of measurement have three method monitoring, following: a. Physical counting of all new trees planted by smallholder. This method is used for the first year of measurement. b. Physical counting of all the surviving trees. This method is used for the third year of measurement. c. DBH measurements, based on a representative sample of at least 10% of the trees concerned. This method is used for the fifth to tenth year of measurement.

But in the technical specification, there is no explanation regarding monitoring approach related to buffers, such as using monitoring with Qfield. Based on this, this issue was raised as a **CAR Minor.**

- Frequency of monitoring
  The frequency of monitoring measurement on the homestead monitoring project activities has been explained in the technical specification. It is carried out once every 2 years, namely in the first year, third year, fifth year, seventh year and tenth year. Based on interviews conducted with the project coordinator, the frequency reference is in accordance with the SHAMBA model.
- Duration of monitoring
  The monitoring duration is the project period. It has been explained in the technical specification document and confirmed in an interview with the project coordinator that the duration is 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2058.
- Resources and capacity required
  Regarding resources and capacity required, Ethiopia has not explained the responsible person and capacity required in the technical specification and PDD documents. Although, Ethiotress hasn't explained communities will participate in monitoring. Based on this, this issue was raised as a **CAR Major.**

The results of the monitoring form carried out by the Community will be stored by whom and where has not been explained in the technical specification. And when the results of monitoring will be shared and discussed with participants, suggestions or comments how the suggestions will be followed up has not been explained. Based on this, this issue was raised as a **CAR Minor**.

D. **Conformance**

Yes	No	N/A
☐	V	☐

E. **Corrective Actions (describe)**

CAR ID	CAR raised	Corrective actions
CAR 10	The Ethiotrees not yet prescribe and record corrective actions where monitoring targets are not met and are these effectively followed up in subsequent monitoring	We added the following text in the Technical Specification on P37: Where monitoring targets are not met, seedling replanting is performed to obtain the target number again. Replanting is effectively followed up in subsequent monitoring, it is even an obligatory step in the QField application.
CAR 11	Ethiopia has not explained the responsible person and capacity required in the technical specification and PDD documents.	In the Target Table (in the Technical Specification on P37), we clarified this by adding two columns: (i) Resources/Capacity, and (ii) Responsibility.

	CAR 12	The results of the monitoring form carried out by the Community will be stored by whom and where has not been explained in the technical specification. And when the results of monitoring will be shared and discussed with participants, suggestions or comments how the suggestions will be followed up has not been explained.	We added the following text in the Technical Specification on P37: a. Results of monitoring are shared and discussed with the smallholders during every annual monitoring visit. Upon the discussion with the smallholder, the monitoring data are on-the-spot included in the QField application. *b.* All data from monitoring results are gathered using our customized QField application. Upon entering a WiFi zone, the QField tablets automatically store all field data in the Climate Lab Google Drive (cloud).

F. **(Insert Project Coordinator' Name) Response**

(To be filled out by the Project Coordinator)

G. **Forward Actions (describe, if applicable)**

(Please, delete table and write "Non.e" if there were no Corrective Actions were identified or all Corrective Actions were closed)

Forward Action	Why Unresolved	How to resolve

H. **Status**

CAR ID	VVB Assessment	Status
CAR 10	The justification has been added in technical specification and validation team accepted so that this finding can be closed.	Closed
CAR 11	Ethiotress has been added coloum (i) Resources/Capacity, and (ii) Responsibility in in the Technical Specification on P37.	Closed

		Table 8b Milestone-based monitoring scheme for intercropping for each participating smallholder Time of mea-suremen t (yr) | Performance-based milestone | Method of measurement | % of payment per ha to smallholde r (ex ante) | Resource s | Responsibl e 0 (within one year of planting) | At least 50% of the planned number of trees is planted and protected against grazing | Physical counting of all new trees planted by smallholder | 20% | 1 FTE, manual count after July, QFIELD | ETA 1 | 100% of the planned number of trees planted, protected against grazing and micro-irrigation happened | Physical counting of all new trees planted by smallholder | 20% | 1 FTE, manual count after July, QFIELD | ETA 3 | At least 70% of the planted trees surviving | Physical counting of all the surviving trees | 20% | 1 FTE, manual survival count, QFIELD | ETA	
	CAR 12	Ethiotress has been added justification in technical specification that results of monitoring are shared and discussed with the smallholders during every annual monitoring visit. Upon the discussion with the smallholder, the monitoring data are on-the-spot included in the QField application. And also, all data from monitoring results are gathered using our customized QField application. Upon entering a WiFi zone, the QField tablets automatically store all field data in the Climate Lab Google Drive (cloud).	Closed
A. **Requirement**	***1.10 Plan Vivos*** • Are the *plan vivos* (or land management plans) clear, appropriate and consistent with approved technical specifications for the project? • Will the implementation of the plans cause producers' overall agricultural production or revenue potential to become unsustainable or unviable? • Are the plan vivos above 5 hectares accurately recording using GPS? • Are the plan vivos above 50 hectares have a GIS version? • Do the participants have access to their plan vivo in an appropriate format and language? • Is there a robust grievance redressal system part of the project design?		
B. **Guidance Notes for Validators**	Where small-holder farmers have prepared individual *plan vivos*, check a sample of these on the ground (in the company of the farmer) to determine whether they have really been prepared by the farmer and what the farmer expects to be the results of implementation. For community-projects managing a common (forest) resource, check the management plan for the forest area and assess the extent to which target groups within the community have been involved in preparing it (especially women and disadvantaged groups) and the extent to which its future impacts have been discussed and agreed.		
C. **Findings (describe)**	The validation team reviewed the plan vivo and confirms that it is clear and consistent with the validated Technical Specification for the project activities homestead intercropping. The validation team confirmed through interviews		

	with members of the community that the plan vivo was developed in a participatory manner. The validation team reviewed evidence demonstrating the numerous ways the community was integrated into the planning of the project. It is clearly the wish of the household to plan seedling in homegarden. There were no specific Corrective Actions requested by validation team related to 1.10 Plan Vivos.		
D. **Conformance**	Yes [V]	No [ ]	N/A [ ]
E. **Corrective Actions (describe)**	*(Please, write "none" if Corrective Actions were not identified)*		
F. **(Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response**	*(To be filled out by the Project Coordinator)*		
G. **Forward Actions (describe, if applicable)**	*(Please, delete table and write "None" if there were no Corrective Actions were identified or all Corrective Actions were closed)*		
H. **Status**	*(CLOSED, OUTSTANDING, or CONVERTED TO FORWARD ACTION)*		

Forward Action	**Why Unresolved**	**How to resolve**

The Verifier

Signature:

Dwi Kus Pardianto (Lead Verifier) **Date**: 11 December 2024

---------- **End of Report** ----------