

# Natural Forest Standard

## Project Design Document Template

Version 1.2 October 2024

<b>Project Name:</b>	
<b>Location:</b>	
<b>Project Developer:</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Version:</b>	

## NOTES:

- **Project Design Document Template Guidelines:** This template provides a recommended format for creating a comprehensive Project Design Document (PDD), and is not exhaustive. While the format, design, or layout is not mandatory, the Project Developer must ensure that all normative requirements of the Natural Forest Standard are fully and effectively met within this document. Any supporting documentation should be included in an Annex.
- **Purpose and Content of the Project Design Document:** The PDD offers a detailed description of the proposed project, including a management plan and methodologies for quantifying project impacts. It should encompass all necessary documentation and materials required for validating the project against the Natural Forest Standard. The PDD serves as a comprehensive repository of all evidential and supporting materials.
- **Adherence to Normative Requirements:** The Natural Forest Standard outlines specific normative requirements for projects under the NFS. Each of these requirements is clearly numbered and must be thoroughly addressed in the Project Design Document.
- **Utilizing the Guidance Document:** In addition to the Standard, the accompanying Guidance document provides essential insights to assist project developers in meeting the Standard's normative requirements while completing the PDD. This Guidance should be interpreted pragmatically, professionally, and with a balanced approach, focusing on key aspects of project design and management that contribute to effective forest conservation and restoration, benefiting local and indigenous communities.
- **Submission and Public Comment Process:** A fully completed PDD must be submitted to the ECO Governance Board. It should be made available for public comment at least 30 days before the validation process is finalized.

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## A. Project Description

1. Project Title

2. Project Location

3. Project Developer

4. Project Participants/Collaborators: (including the jurisdictional authorities and any other organisations involved in the project)

5. Project team roles and responsibilities

6. Contact Details

7. Project Description (non-technical)

8. Brief Description of the Project Area, including total project area in hectares

**9. Project Period – start and end date of the project crediting period**

**10. Report Date and version number**

**11. Abbreviations (if applicable)**

## B. Eligibility

### 1. Full Description of Project Activities including:

#### a. Carbon, social and biodiversity impacts

#### b. Justification that the area is Natural Forest

#### c. Description of the threats to the forest

#### d. Description of the measures to be taken to address threats

#### e. Description of restoration actions (if any being undertaken)

#### f. Description of measures taken to address leakage

### 2. Fully Defined Project Area and technical description (include images, geospatial data files covering the spatial extent of the project area)

- 3. Legal Status, including partnership agreements and description of the ownership, tenure, user rights or management rights of the project area(s), and how these relate to the carbon rights of project participants.**

- 4. Additionality justification**

- 5. Timescale – project period start and end dates**

- 6. Jurisdictional design and operation including details of the collaboration or partnership with relevant jurisdictional authorities**

## C. Governance, Social and Biodiversity Impacts

### 1. Free, Prior and Informed Consent, including:

#### a. Description and evidence of FPIC process

#### b. Description of the communities included in or affected by the project

#### c. Description of engagement with communities and level of support

#### d. Social Impacts and safeguards

### 2. Description of Benefit Mechanism, including:

#### a. Description of the mechanism being designed in consultation with local communities and relevant organisations

#### b. Description of anticipated benefit types, e.g. programs, training, projects



3. Communication and Engagement Measures

4. Dispute Resolution

a. Summary of process for dealing with grievances

b. Reports on any grievances and how they are addressed

c. If any grievances raised, the status of the grievance and outcomes

5. Biodiversity Maintenance

a. Description of actions being taken to protect and enhance biodiversity

b. Environmental impacts and safeguards



## D. Project Management, Monitoring and Reporting

### 1. Project Management Plan

#### a. Description of project activities

#### b. Area(s) covered including descriptions and spatial extent

#### c. Description of social and biodiversity actions, impacts and safeguards including mitigation measures

#### d. Measures to address threats

#### e. Restoration actions (if any being undertaken)

#### f. Measures to address leakage

#### g. Engagement with Communities

**h. Grievances**

**i. Project Training and Capacity**

**j. Community Training and Capacity**

**k. Biodiversity Enhancement**

**l. Biodiversity Protection**

**m. Summary of Planned Social Outcomes**

**2. Project Monitoring System**

- a. Full description of environmental, social and biodiversity monitoring including impacts and mitigation measures

**3. Project Implementation Reporting**

- a. Environmental and Social impacts and safeguards

- b. Community Engagement

- c. Monitoring Activities

- d. Project Activities

- e. Non-Permanence

- f. Carbon Calculations

**g. Biodiversity Assessment (NBM self assessment)**

## E. Quantification of Carbon Benefits

### 1. Factors Assumptions and Data, including:

- a. Clear identification of the approved NFS methodology applied

- b. Clear identification of applied and associated maps

- c. Applicable risk-map

- d. Carbon Pools

### 2. Quantification of Emission Reductions, including

- a. Baseline assessment

- b. Applicable deductions

- c. Leakage deductions

**d. Non-permanence Risk**

**e. Risk Buffer Deduction**



## Supporting Documentation

### Annex

- a. All additional documentation, evidence and further information to be supplied. A full list of documentation should be included in the Annex.

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