

THE INTERNATIONAL SMALL GROUP AND TREE PLANTING PROGRAM, INDIA, VCS-001 VERIFICATION REPORT



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Summary:

Environmental Services, Inc., (ESI) was contracted by Clean Air Action Corporation (CAAC) on 07 September 2012 to conduct the project validation of *The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program (TIST), India, VCS-001* [Project Description (PD) dated 08 February 2013].

As stated in the PD, "TIST is a combined reforestation and sustainable development project in India carried out by subsistence farmers. The farmers plant trees on their land and retain ownership of the trees and their products. They receive training from TIST and a share of the carbon revenues from CAAC. Carbon credit sales generate participant income and provide project funding to address agricultural, HIV/AIDS, and nutritional and fuel challenges.

TIST provides an administrative backbone that supplies training in building nurseries, tree planting, conservation farming, building fuel-efficient stoves and malaria and HIV/AIDS prevention. Part of the backbone is a two-way communications network that includes newsletters, weekly meetings at the Small Group level, monthly meetings where groups of Small Groups receive training, periodic seminars at the national level, and an award winning monitoring system based on hand-held computers and Global Positioning Systems (GPS). TIST is available to everyone, and all are considered equal. The rotating leadership and the Small Group rules empower women and the undereducated. Those who are the most successful, regardless of education levels or gender, become mentors and leaders."¹

This PD is for a subset of the TIST project in India and initially applies to 452 of the Small Groups; 2,599 members; 924 project areas; and 671.8 hectares (ha). The main species planted are *Tectona grandis*, *Gmelina arborea*, and *Mangifera indica*.

The verification objective included an assessment of compliance with Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) (Version 3 and associated updates) criteria, the selected methodology (Clean Development Mechanism Methodology AR-AMS0001 Version 06), and the validated PD. The verification process closely followed ESI's procedures for VCS verifications outlined within our Management System Manual. This included utilizing VCS documents and ISO 14064-3 to develop and implement a sampling plan. A total of 8.8% of the project trees and 3.5% of discrete project areas, or groves, within the Grouped Project geographic boundary were sampled.

The scope of the verification included the GHG project and baseline scenarios; physical infrastructure, activities, technologies and processes of the GHG project; GHG sources, sinks and/or reservoirs; types of GHGs; and time periods covered. The geographic verification scope was defined by the project boundary, which included multiple project areas (grouped), the carbon reservoir types, management activities, growth and yield models, inventory program, and contract periods.

The verification criteria followed the guidance documents provided by VCS and included the following: VCS Program Guide (04 October 2012, v3.4), VCS Standard (04 October 2012, v3.3), Program Definitions (04 October 2012, v3.4), Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Requirements (04 October 2012, v3.3), AFOLU Non-Permanence Risk Tool (04 October 2012, v3.2), the grouped project PD entitled *The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program, India, VCS-001* (dated 08 February 2013), and Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Methodology AR-AMS0001 Version 06.

A summary of all findings is included in Appendix A. There are no restrictions of uncertainty.

¹ Clean Air Action Corporation, *The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program, India, VCS-001*, Version 01, 08 February 2013.

ESI confirms all verification activities, including objectives, scope and criteria, level of assurance, monitoring, adherence to the validated PD, and the project documentation are complete and in adherence to the VCS Version 3 and all associated updates as documented in this report. ESI concludes without any qualifications or limiting conditions that *The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program, India, VCS-001* has been implemented in accordance with the validated PD, dated 08 February 2013 and meets the requirements of VCS Version 3 and all associated updates.

The GHG assertion provided by CAAC and verified by ESI has resulted in the GHG emissions reduction or removal of 16,961 tCO₂ equivalents by the project during the verification/reporting period (01 January 2004 to 12 November 2012). As permitted by the methodology, emissions are reported as zero. This does not include the 10% buffer withholding.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Objective

The verification objective included an assessment of compliance with Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) (Version 3 and associated updates) criteria, the selected methodology (Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Methodology AR-AMS0001 Version 06), and the validated Project Description (PD): *The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program, India, VCS-001* (dated 08 February 2013). This verification assessed the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission removals through an Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) project – specifically, an Afforestation, Reforestation and Revegetation (ARR) grouped project.

1.2 Scope and Criteria

The scope of the verification included:

- the GHG project and baseline scenarios
- physical infrastructure, activities, technologies and processes of the GHG project
- GHG sources, sinks, and/or reservoirs
- types of GHGs
- time periods covered

The geographic verification scope was defined by the project boundary, which will include multiple project areas (grouped), the carbon reservoir types, management activities, growth and yield models, inventory program, and contract periods. The scope of *The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program, India, VCS-001* was outlined by the project developer prior to the verification initiation and is re-defined as follows:

Baseline Scenario	The baseline field observation as detailed in the "Grove Summary" worksheet indicates the project areas are grassland and cropland prior to implementation of the project activity
Activities/Technologies/Processes	ARR Grouped Project
Sources/Sinks/Reservoirs	Above- and below-ground living tree biomass
GHG Type	CO ₂
Time Period	30 years, beginning on 01 January 2004 and ending on 31 December 2033
Project Boundary	Kancheepuram, Tiruvannamalai, Thiruvallur, Vellore and Villupuram Districts of Tamil Nadu State - India Small Groups: 452 Members: 2,599 Groves: 924 Hectares (ha): 671.8

1.3 Level of assurance

The level of assurance was used to determine the depth of detail that the verifier placed in the Verification and Sampling Plan to determine if there are any errors, omissions, or misrepresentations (ISO 14064-3:2006). Environmental Services, Inc., (ESI) assessed the project (general principles, data, sampling descriptions, documentation, calculations, etc.) to provide reasonable assurance to meet the project level requirements of the VCS Program. The evidence used to achieve a reasonable level of assurance is specified in the following sections.

1.4 Summary Description of the Project

As stated in the Project Description (PD), “The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program (TIST) is a combined reforestation and sustainable development project in India carried out by subsistence farmers. The farmers plant trees on their land and retain ownership of the trees and their products. They receive training from TIST and a share of the carbon revenues from CAAC.

TIST empowers Small Groups of 6-to-12 subsistence farmers in India, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda to combat the devastating effects of deforestation, poverty and drought. Combining sustainable development with carbon sequestration, TIST already supports the reforestation and biodiversity efforts of over 64,000 subsistence farmers. Carbon credit sales generate participant income and provide project funding to address agricultural, HIV/AIDS, and nutritional and fuel challenges. As TIST expands to more groups and more areas, it ensures more trees, more biodiversity, more climate change benefit and more income for more people.

TIST provides an administrative backbone that supplies training in building nurseries, tree planting, conservation farming, building fuel-efficient stoves and malaria and HIV/AIDS prevention. Part of the backbone is a two-way communications network that includes newsletters, weekly meetings at the Small Group level, monthly meetings where groups of Small Groups receive training, periodic seminars at the national level, and an award winning monitoring system based on hand-held computers and Global Positioning Systems (GPS). TIST is available to everyone, and all are considered equal. The rotating leadership and the Small Group rules empower women and the undereducated. Those who are the most successful, regardless of education levels or gender, become mentors and leaders.”²

This PD is for a subset of the TIST project in India and initially applies to 452 of the Small Groups; 2,599 members; 924 project areas; and 671.8 hectares (ha). The main species planted are *Tectona grandis*, *Gmelina arborea*, and *Mangifera indica*.

2 VALIDATION PROCESS, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

2.1 Validation Process

² Clean Air Action Corporation, The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program, India, VCS-001, 08 February 2013.

Please refer to Section 2 of the VCS Validation Report (Report ID VO12058.00val) dated 07 March 2013 prepared by ESI and submitted to Verified Carbon Standard Association (VCSA).

2.2 Validation Findings

2.2.1 Gap Validation

Not Applicable.

2.2.2 Methodology Deviations

The PD and Monitoring Plan meet all of the requirements of the methodology and does not deviate from the baseline scenario, additionality determination, or inclusion of project GHG sources, sinks and reservoirs.

2.2.3 Project Description Deviations

The Monitoring Report meets all of the requirements of the methodology and does not deviate from the baseline scenario, additionality determination or inclusion of project GHG sources, sinks and reservoirs defined in the PD.

2.2.4 New Project Activity Instances

Although this is a grouped project, this is the initial group of instances.

2.3 Validation Conclusion

ESI confirmed all validation activities including objectives, scope and criteria, level of assurance and the PD are complete and in adherence to the VCS Version 3 and all associated updates as documented in ESI's Validation Report (dated 07 March 2013). ESI concluded without any qualifications or limiting conditions that the PD *The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program, India, VCS-001* (dated 08 February 2013) meets the requirements of VCS Version 3 and all associated updates.

3 VERIFICATION PROCESS

3.1 Method and Criteria

The verification process closely followed ISO 14064-3, ISO 14065, and ESI's procedures for VCS verifications outlined within our Management System Manual. In addition, the verification process was detailed in a separate Verification and Sampling Plan, which was approved by the Project Proponent on 21 November 2012. As defined by ISO 14064-3:2006 (E), "verification is the systematic, independent and documented process for the evaluation of a greenhouse gas assertion against agreed verification criteria verification criteria".

For this verification, the sample size for the desktop portion of the verification included a complete review of the PD and supporting documents.

The field verification included an onsite review of a sample of groves³, or initial instances, within the Grouped Project geographic boundary. A risk-based approach was used to select the groves in order to review multiple small groups and TIST members across a wide geographic range of sites sufficient to provide the necessary sample size to meet a reasonable level of assurance, as directed by the professional judgment of the Lead Verifier.

Thirty-two (32) groves were selected for field verification during the site visit⁴. These groves contained a total of 57,658 trees, which is an 8.8% sample. This exceeded our established minimum field verification sampling threshold of 5% of the stated number of trees planted by the project developer in the PD. Each grove was visited and photographed to ensure tree planting activities occurred as stated in the PD

The verification criteria followed ISO 14064-3, the guidance documents provided by VCS, and included the following:

- VCS Program Guide (04 October 2012, v3.4)
- VCS Requirements Document (04 October 2012, v3.3)
- Program Definitions (04 October 2012, v3.4)
- AFOLU Requirements (04 October 2012, v3.3)
- AFOLU Non-Permanence Risk Tool (04 October 2012, v3.2)
- Grouped Project Description (PD) entitled *The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program (TIST), India, VCS-001* (dated 08 February 2013)
- Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Methodology AR-AMS0001 Version 06 (17 September 2010)

3.2 Document Review

A detailed review of all project documentation was conducted to ensure consistency with, and identify any deviation from, VCS program requirements, the methodology (CDM AR-AMS0001 Version 06: Simplified baseline and monitoring methodologies for small-scale A/R CDM project activities implemented on grasslands or croplands with limited displacement of pre-project activities), and the validated PD. Initial review focused on the validated PD and monitoring report and included an examination of the project details, implementation status, data and parameters, and quantification of GHG emission reductions and removals. Along with a review of the monitoring report, documentation for the selected sample was requested, provided and subsequently reviewed for consistency, accuracy, and appropriateness with regard to VCS program requirements, methodological requirements, and the PD. Documents reviewed include, but are not limited to, land ownership documentation, legal support for customary tenure, carbon rights contracts, property boundaries, maps and aerials, data from monitoring, biomass and carbon calculation spreadsheets, and responses to corrective action/clarification requests. Please see Appendix C for a complete list of documents received and reviewed by ESI.

The verification also included a review of the validated Project Description (PD) and Monitoring Report, relative to the field conditions observed and interviews with project management staff.

³ Note that groves can be either plantations or widely spaced plantings.

⁴ See Appendix B for a list of groves sampled during the field validation.

3.3 Interviews

Interviews were conducted at multiple levels of the TIST program to assess understanding of program requirements and to determine if monitoring conducted in the field was implemented in accordance with the validated PD. Interviews included discussions with CAAC senior management, TIST field managers, trainers, auditors, quantifiers and program members, and local stakeholders affected by the project. The following is a list of the main interviewees:

Name	Title
Charlie Williams	CAAC vice president and project developer
Christine Yankel	TIST field manager
Joseph Rixon	TIST India Director
A.V. Venkatachalam	Tamil Nadu, Conservator of Forests
R. Rajendran	Tiruvannamalai, District Forest Officer
M. Thiyagarajan	Vellore, Forestry Extension Officer
Ravajel	TIST Quantifier
Dhanasekar	TIST Quantifier
Janakairaman	TIST Assistant Program Coordinator
Johnson	TIST Quantifier
S. Raj	TIST Coordinator
Senthalkumar	TIST Quantifier
Ramkumar	TIST Quantifier
A. Jananikumar	TIST Coordinator
K. Palani	TIST Quantifier

M. Moharaj	TIST Quantifier
M. Elumelon	TIST Quantifier
P. Thangapandi	TIST Quantifier
Angamuthu	TIST Member
Kumaresan	TIST Member
Arunachalam	TIST Member
Dhinakaraha	TIST Member
Imachalraj	TIST Member
Ravikumar	TIST Member
Chanthirasekar	TIST Member
Seshadri	TIST Member
Admuenda Diran	TIST Member
M. Manikandan	TIST Member
P. Saram	TIST Member
Thongvel	TIST Member
Arumugam	TIST Member
Sundaram	TIST Member

3.4 Site Inspections

Site inspections were performed to verify existence of sites, confirm boundaries, corroborate baseline, and confirm tree age, species, density of plantings, and confirmation of application of SOPs. Site inspections were also conducted to assess the consistency of the quantifiers sampling technique with the PD. When possible, on-site interviews were conducted with landowners to confirm ownership, substantiate their support for the project and assess their comprehension of project requirements. GPS was utilized to confirm project location and boundaries. Inventory data (both digital and hard copy) were utilized to confirm the age, species, and density of plantings. As indicated previously, a total of 8.8% of the project trees and 3.5% of discrete project areas, or groves, within the Grouped Project geographic boundary were sampled/ visited during the field verification.

3.5 Resolution of Any Material Discrepancy

During the verification process, there was a risk that potential errors, omissions, and misrepresentations would be found. The actions taken when errors, omissions, and misrepresentations were found included: notifying the client of the issue(s) identified, and expanding our review/sample to the extent that satisfied the Lead Verifier's professional judgment.

During the course of the verification (combined validation/verification), thirty-two (32) Non-conformance Reports (NCRs) /Clarifications (CLs) were identified. All NCRs/CLs were satisfactorily addressed. The NCRs/CLs provided necessary clarity to ensure the project was in compliance with the requirements of the VCS for GHG projects. For a complete list of all NCRs/CLs and their resolutions, please refer to Appendix A.

4 VERIFICATION FINDINGS

4.1 Project Implementation Status

The project activities and monitoring plan, as described in the validated PD, have been fully implemented. There are no remaining issues from the previous validation, and this is the initial verification.

4.2 Accuracy of GHG Emission Reduction or Removal Calculations

ESI conducted an intensive review all input data, parameters, formulas, connections, conversions, statistics and resulting uncertainties and output data to ensure consistency with the VCS standard, the project PD and the methodology. Further, ESI reproduced calculations for selected samples to ensure accuracy of the results. All data, conversion factors, formulas, and calculations were provided by the project proponent in spreadsheet format to ensure all formulas were accessible for review. The project proponent also provided a step-by-step overview of calculations to ensure ESI understood the approach and could confirm its consistency with the methodology and PD.

ESI also conducted a comprehensive assessment of all data collection and storage procedures to ensure all opportunities for error in transposition of data between data were minimized.

Uncertainty was assessed as required. ESI recalculated the statistics independently to confirm the accuracy of the reported precision.

Field data collection utilized appropriate principles of forestry data collection, including appropriate tools and methods. Collected data was handled appropriately, including a structured process for quality check. Analysis of collected data used appropriate formulas, conversions, and parameters, supported by scientific literature. Where ranges of parameters exist, or other types of formulaic uncertainty, appropriately conservative values were used in data analysis.

4.3 Quality of Evidence to Determine GHG Emission Reductions or Removals

During ESI’s verification the evidence provided by the project proponent was more than sufficient in both quantity and quality to support the determination of GHG emission removals reported by the project. Throughout the verification, Clean Air Action Corporation demonstrated a strong commitment toward conservativeness and took all measures appropriate to ensure the reliability of all evidence provided. Interviews conducted (oral evidence) are outlined in Section 3.3, and the final documents received from Clean Air Action Corporation are outlined in Appendix C.

4.4 Management and Operational System

The management system employed by Clean Air Action Corporation utilizes appropriate field measurement methods (systematic, appropriate measurement tools and techniques), high quality data collection and management techniques (web-based, controlled data entry system; clearly identified responsibilities for data accuracy; appropriate data quality control), and data analysis (web-based calculation system). Staff is thoroughly familiar with their responsibilities and is appropriately trained for these responsibilities. Accordingly, in the process of the verification, ESI confirmed the suitability and appropriateness of Clean Air Action Corporation’s management system for monitoring and reporting.



5 VERIFICATION CONCLUSION

After review of all project information, procedures, calculations, and supporting documentation and selected site visits, ESI confirms that the monitoring conducted by Clean Air Action Corporation, along with the supporting Monitoring Report, are accurate and consistent with all aforementioned VCS criteria, the validated PD, and the selected methodology. ESI confirms that *The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program, India, VCS-001* has been implemented in accordance with the validated PD, dated 08 February 2013.

ESI confirms all verification activities, including objectives, scope and criteria, level of assurance, monitoring, adherence to the validated PD, and the project documentation are complete and in adherence to the VCS Version 3 and all associated updates as documented in this report. ESI concludes without any qualifications or limiting conditions that *The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program, India, VCS-001* has been implemented in accordance with the validated PD, dated 08 February 2013 and meets the requirements of VCS Version 3 and all associated updates.

The GHG assertion provided by CAAC and verified by ESI has resulted in the GHG emissions reduction or removal of 16,961 tCO₂ equivalents by the project during the verification/reporting period (01 January 2004 to 12 November 2012). As permitted by the methodology, emissions are reported as zero. This does not include the 10% buffer withholding.

GHG Emission Reductions or Removals	tCO ₂ e
Baseline Emissions	0
Project Emissions	0
Leakage	0
Net GHG emission reductions or removals	16,961

Report Submitted to:	Voluntary Carbon Standard Association 1730 Rhode Island Ave. NW, Suite 803, Washington, D.C. 20036 Clean Air Action Corporation 7134 South Yale Avenue, Suite 310 Tulsa, OK 74136
Report Submitted by:	Environmental Services, Inc. -Corporate Office 7220 Financial Way, Suite 100 Jacksonville, Florida 32257
ESI Lead Verifier Name and Signature	 Shawn McMahon Lead Verifier
ESI Division Regional Technical Manager Name and Signature	 Janice McMahon Vice President and Forestry, Carbon and GHG Division Regional Technical Manager
Date:	7 March 2013

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APPENDIX A – NCR/CL/OFI SUMMARY

Summary - Project Validation/Verification - Non-Conformity Reports (NCR) / Clarification (CL) Requests

1. Clarification

VCS Criteria:	
3.7.1 The project start date is the date on which the project began generating GHG emission reductions or removals (see VCS document AFOLU Requirements for further specification for AFOLU projects). The rules and requirements on project start date, as well as validation and verification dates, are set out in the sections below. For projects registered under both the VCS Program and an approved GHG program, further specification with respect to the validation deadline is set out in Section 3.11	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance:	
Section 1.5 of PDD; TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121027.xlsx	
Clarification (CL):	
CL: Please ensure consistency between the project start date in PD text, tables, and Appendix 04	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date:	
The project start date is 01-January-2004. The referenced documents have been corrected to reflect this date.	
Evidence used to close NCR:	
TIST IN PD-VCS-001a PD Text 130208.doc: Confirmed that PD Section 1.5 has been corrected to indicate the appropriate project start date (01 January 2004). This correlates with Appendix 04. This item has been satisfactorily addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

2. Non-Conformity Report

VCS Criteria:	
3.8.3 Projects registered under other GHG programs are not eligible for VCU issuance beyond the end of the total project crediting period under those programs. For example, a CDM project with a seven year twice renewable project crediting period is not eligible for VCU issuance beyond the end of those 21 years. Where projects have been registered under more than one other GHG program, they are not eligible for VCU issuance after the date that is the earliest end date of all applicable project crediting periods.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance:	
Section 1.12.3 and Exhibit 05	
Non-conformity report (NCR):	
NCR: Exhibit 05 is BLANK. Please provide evidence of the withdrawal and that no credits were claimed previously.	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date:	
Although the TIST India CDM project (#3000) was verified, it was never verified and no credits have been claimed. See TIST IN PD-VCS-001 NCR Round 1 Ap 130208.docx. The section “Requests for Issuance and related documentation” is blank indicating no verification or issuance. We have requested that the India CDM office withdraw the TIST CDM project 3000. See TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 05 CDM Withdrawal.pdf	
Evidence used to close NCR:	
http://cdm.unfccc.int/Projects/DB/TUEV-SUED1253867373.9/view : Confirmed through CDM Registry that Project was registered (and validated) but there was no request for issuance and no credits have been issued	
TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 05 CDM Withdrawal.pdf: Document serves as sufficient evidence that TIST/CAAC has requested this project to be withdrawn from the CDM Registry. Project proponent is awaiting response from the CDM National Authority regarding withdrawal request.	

This item has been satisfactorily addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

3. Non-Conformity Report

VCS Criteria: 3.16.6 The monitoring report shall include all the data and information as set out in the monitoring requirements of the project description and the applied methodology. It shall be prepared using the VCS Monitoring Report Template and shall include the following:	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: NA	
Non-conformity report (NCR): NCR: Please provide a monitoring report meeting the requirements of the VCS Standard Section 3.16.6	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: To be determined The monitoring report and monitoring data sheet has been provided.	
Evidence used to close NCR: TIST IN PD-VCS-001h App07 Monitoring Rpt 130208.doc and TIST IN PD-VCS-001i App08 Monitoring Data 130208.xlsx: The monitoring report has been prepared using the VCS Monitoring Report Template and meets the requirements of the VCS Standard Section 3.16.6. Further, the monitoring data is accurate and in conformance with AR-AMS0001 and the VCS Standard. Upon review of the monitoring report, a discrepancy was found between the Monitoring report and the PD: Section 3.3.2 of monitoring report included calculation assumptions that were not included in the Monitoring Plan of the PD (the circumference of all one-year-old trees was set at zero). The project proponent was informed of this via email on 27 February 2013. The project proponent immediately revised Section 3.3.2 of the monitoring report to indicate that this assumption may change in subsequent monitoring reports if any one year old trees are over breast height. This item has been adequately addressed.	
Date closed:	28 February 2013

4. Clarification

VCS Criteria: 3.1.1 As set out in the VCS Standard, standards and factors used to derive GHG emissions data as well as any supporting data for establishing baseline scenarios and demonstrating additionality shall be publicly available and derived from a reputable and recognized source, such as IPCC 2006 Guidelines for National GHG Inventories or the IPCC Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: TIST IN PD 001 and supporting documents	
Clarification (CL): CL: Please indicate the source of the baseline increment growth factor of .5 cm per year as stated in the assumptions on page 31, section 3.1.3 Assumptions.	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: The following footnote has been added to the PD: "David Shoch, TerraCarbon LLC, personal communication, 2009."	
Evidence used to close NCR: TIST IN PD-VCS-001a PD Text 130208.doc (Section 3.1.3): Confirmed the footnote was added to PD Section 3.1.3 as indicated. This reference is consistent with previously verified projects and Mr. Shoch is a reputable source. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

5. Clarification

VCS Criteria:

3.1.2 Where projects are located within a jurisdiction covered by a jurisdictional REDD+ program, project proponents shall follow the requirements in this document and the requirements related to nested projects set out in VCS document Jurisdictional and Nested REDD+ Requirements.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: This is not addressed in the PDD	
Clarification (CL): CL: Please indicate if India is implementing a jurisdictional REDD + program	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: India is not currently implementing a jurisdictional REDD+ program. At present there are only 3 pilot areas: Costa Rica, Chile and Acre State of Brazil. http://v-c-s.org/news-events/news/costa-rica-joins-growing-list-nations-pilot-jnr-program .	
Evidence used to close NCR: http://v-c-s.org/news-events/news/costa-rica-joins-growing-list-nations-pilot-jnr-program : Confirmed that India is not currently implementing a jurisdictional REDD+ program. VCS Jurisdictional and Nested REDD+ Requirements are not applicable to this project. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

6. Clarification

VCS Criteria: 4) Total size of the project area.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: TIST IN PD 001 Section 1.1 and 1.9, also see TIST website	
Clarification (CL): CL: Please explain the discrepancies in small group and member numbers reported in PD and those found on the TIST website	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: The TIST website shows all TIST Small Groups and their activities in India. Only a subset of these were included in this PD.	
Evidence used to close NCR: TIST.org; communication with project managers; PD Section 4.3.2: Client and PD sufficiently described how the TIST Data System is dynamic and real time. Data collected in the field by quantifiers are transferred to TIST's main database server via the Internet and a synchronization process, where it is incorporated with historical project data. Small group and member numbers reported on the website will not match those in any given PD. The PD only contains a subset of small groups and their project areas. This item was addressed in satisfactory detail that allows this issue to be closed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

7. Non-Conformity Report

VCS Criteria: 3.4.2 The project proponent shall demonstrate control over the entire project area with proof of title with respect to one or more rights of use accorded to the project proponent as set out in the VCS Standard, noting the following:	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: TIST IN PD 001 Section 1.12	
Non-conformity report (NCR): NCR: Information Request: Please provide individual completed contract samples for the following small groups as demonstration of control over right to use project areas for carbon sequestration: Hari Mukeshkanna The Woods Ganga	

Amman	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date:	
Hari (2009IN134, Thani): http://www.tist.org/i2/blobs/bin_contract/1F/1F37.PDF	
Mukeshkanna (2008IN616, Vellor): http://www.tist.org/i2/blobs/bin_contract/1D/1DED.PDF	
The Woods (2009IN175, Gingee): http://www.tist.org/i2/blobs/bin_contract/1E/1E88.PDF	
Ganga (2009IN161, Chepet): http://www.tist.org/i2/blobs/bin_contract/1E/1E65.PDF	
Amman (2010IN97, Vellor): http://www.tist.org/i2/blobs/bin_contract/1D/1DF4.PDF	
Evidence used to close NCR:	
Completed contract samples were reviewed and found to be adequate and satisfactory. The documents grant the rights to all carbon associated with the project trees from Small Groups to TIST. TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 04 CAAC TIST India Contract 090309.pdf grants the rights to all carbon associated with the project trees from TIST to CAAC. The documents adequately demonstrate control over right to use project areas for carbon sequestration. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

8. Non-Conformity Report

VCS Criteria:	
Management team does not include individuals with significant experience in all skills necessary to successfully undertake all project activities (i.e., any area of required experience is not covered by at least one individual with at least 5 years' experience in the area).	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance:	
Appendix 05	
Non-conformity report (NCR):	
NCR: Please provide additional documentation (referred to in Risk Report) demonstrating that all areas of required experience is covered by at least one individual with at least 5 years' experience in the project area	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date:	
The project proponent is TIST Tree Planting India Private Limited (TIST India) a subsidiary of Clean Air Action Corporation (CAAC). As such, TIST India is managed by CAAC. The management resumes are found in TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 25 Mgt Resumes 110215.doc. The management experience is presented in TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 26 Mgt Experience 110215.doc. Said documents are referenced in the risk report.	
Evidence used to close NCR:	
TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 25 Mgt Resumes 110215.doc and TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 26 Mgt Experience 110215.doc: Both documents confirm that the management team includes individuals with at least five years' experience in all skills necessary to successfully undertake the project activities. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

9. Clarification

VCS Criteria:	
Project cash flow breakeven point is less than 4 years from the current risk assessment	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance:	
Appendix 05; TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 07 Financial Plan.xls	
Clarification (CL):	
CL: Please indicate what is included in project management costs	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date:	
These are costs not incurred in the host country and include the US staff, rent, international travel, hosting and maintaining the TIST website, programming and technical support for the monitoring system, purchase of the monitoring system equipment, phone, internet, legal, accounting, rent, cost of validation and verification (both internal and external), development to training curricula.	
Evidence used to close NCR:	

Response above and TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 07 Financial Plan.xls: The items identified as project management cost appear to be reasonable. Further, their values, as shown in the TIST Financial Plan, also appear to be reasonable. Issue addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

10. Non-Conformity Report

VCS Criteria: Project has secured 80% or more of funding needed to cover the total cash out before the project reaches breakeven	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: Appendix 05; TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 07 Financial Plan.xls	
Non-conformity report (NCR): NCR: Please provide evidence that the funding is secured as per VCS AFOLU Risk tool Section 2.2.2.4. Also, please document carbon credit pricing assumptions.	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: Note: The project financial plan is for the entire TIST program, all countries, all PDs and all project areas whether in a PD or not. Revenues are shared to operate the program. Funding: Confidential. (text removed for publication of PD) Attached is the Modification 4 from USAID indicating an aggregate award of \$7.4 million under the current award (Mar 2009 to Mar 2014). Pricing Assumptions: See row 15, Finance worksheet.	
Evidence used to close NCR: USAID KE Award 2009-2014 Mod 04 120109.pdf: This document was reviewed and suffices as appropriate evidence showing that the project has secured 80% or more of funding needed to cover the total cash out before the project reaches breakeven. TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 07 Financial Plan.xls: The TIST financial plan was revisited and it is confirmed that carbon credit pricing assumptions are documented in row 15 of the "Finance Worksheet." Further, they are conservative considering projected market conditions.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

11. Non-Conformity Report

VCS Criteria: Mitigation: Project has available as callable financial resources at least 50% of total cash out before project reaches breakeven	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: Appendix 05	
Non-conformity report (NCR): NCR: Please identify callable financial resources and provide evidence of access to such resources as per VCS AFOLU Risk Tool Section 2.2.2.5.	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: Note: The project financial plan is for the entire TIST program, all countries, all PDs and all project areas whether in a PD or not. Revenues are shared to operate the program. Confidential: See NCR 10. The most recent \$1,460,000 shown in 13.A (Funding History) exceeds the 50% level.	
Evidence used to close NCR: USAID KE Award 2009-2014 Mod 04 120109.pdf: This document was reviewed and suffices as appropriate evidence showing that the project has available as callable financial resources at least 50% of total cash out before project reaches breakeven as identified in TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 07 Financial Plan.xls. The project has already reached breakeven (2009) and the funding award from USAID exhibits callable financial resources available to expand the TIST program. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

12. Non-Conformity Report

VCS Criteria: Ownership and resource access/use rights are held by same entity(s)	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: Appendix 05	
Non-conformity report (NCR): NCR: Information Request: Please provide individual deed/title samples for the following farms as demonstration of control over ownership and resource access/use: 2007IN456-Shamundisvari; 2007IN234-Sanathi; 2010IN159-Vijayarman; 2008IN482-Sambathkumar; 2010IN170- Dhandapani	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: As per VCS rules, this request can be fulfilled by demonstrating the “right to use.” As with 10 previous PDs for TIST, the right to use is demonstrated by the Small Group GhG contract as per NCR number 78, above. The contracts are available at www.TIST.org . See Project Area, India, and the details as follows: 2007IN456-Shamundisvari (Tamil Nadu, Tindivanam, Ganabathi): http://www.tist.org/i2/blobs/bin_contract/05/05B4.PDF 2007IN234-Sanathi (Tamil Nadu, Placepalayam, Prides Green): This group is no longer active with TIST and was inadvertently included with the PD. 2010IN159-Vijayarman (Tamil Nadu, Chetpet, Kamarajar): http://www.tist.org/i2/blobs/bin_contract/1E/1E70.PDF 2008IN482-Sambathkumar (Tamil Nadu, Vellore, Rajuvganthi): This contract is available as “TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 33 GhG Rajuvganthi 34.pdf” 2010IN170- Dhandapani (Tamil Nadu, Thirupathur, Ragavan): http://www.tist.org/i2/blobs/bin_contract/1E/1ED0.PDF	
Evidence used to close NCR: Completed contract samples were reviewed and found to be adequate and satisfactory. The documents adequately demonstrate control over right to use project areas for carbon sequestration and ownership. Further, it is confirmed that 2007IN234-Sanathi has been removed from the PD, ex ante data (Appendix 04), the Monitoring Report, and ex post data (Appendix 08) Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

13. Clarification

VCS Criteria: Fire Risk	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: Appendix 05	
Clarification (CL): CL: Please identify/provide the baseline data used to justify the likelihood category chosen for Risk of Fire	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: TIST collects baseline data going back to 1990. None indicate any issues relating to fire in the project areas, and consequently, we are conservatively using a likelihood category of “every 10 to less than 25 years. Reference has been made in the risk report to “Appendix 1, Land Sat 1990 imagery.”	
Evidence used to close NCR: TIST IN PD-VCS-001f App05 Risk Analysis 130208.doc: Confirmed that reference to Appendix 01 (1990 Landsat Imagery) has been made as indicated. The Landsat imagery (dated 1990 and 2000) does not indicate that there have been issues related to fire and justifies the likelihood category chosen (every 10 to less than 25 years). Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

14. Clarification

VCS Criteria: Pest/Disease Risk	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: Appendix 05	
Clarification (CL): CL: Please identify and include in Risk Report the source of pest/disease info for Tectona grandis. Also, please indicate where the references indicate documented pest/disease outbreaks in the last 10 years, or modify justification statement for selection of likelihood category.	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: Tectona grandis pests: Reference had been made to TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 30 Mgt of Teak Stands.pdf. Outbreaks. The use of the “Less than every 10 years” bin in the risk tool is the most conservative. The new reference (“TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 30 Mgt of Teak Stands.pdf) points out there can be outbreaks every year (page 2).	
Evidence used to close NCR: TIST IN PD-VCS-001f App05 Risk Analysis 130208.doc: Confirmed that reference to TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 30 Mgt of Teak Stands.pdf has been made as indicated. It is confirmed that this is a reliable reference. Further, the reference indicates that “Teak defoliator outbreaks occur almost every year in India, over extensive areas.” Lastly, the most conservative likelihood category was chosen for Pest/Disease Risk. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

15. Clarification

VCS Criteria: Geologic Risk	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: Appendix 05	
Clarification (CL): CL: Please identify and include in Risk Report the source of geologic risk information. Also, please include information supporting the claim that TIST trees are too far inland to be affected by tsunamis	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: Geologic Risk. Reference has been added to the risk report (TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 32 TN Seismic Hazards.pdf) Tsunamis: The following has been added to the risk report. “The 2004 waves penetrated up to 900 meters from the coast, ⁵ but the nearest TIST project area is over 13 kilometers from the coast.” ⁶	
Evidence used to close NCR: TIST IN PD-VCS-001f App05 Risk Analysis 130208.doc: Confirmed that reference to TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 30 Mgt of Teak Stands.pdf has been made as indicated. It is confirmed that this is a reliable reference that supports the information presented. Also confirmed the sentence regarding Tsunamis was added as indicated. This supplemental information adequately supports the claim that that TIST trees are too far inland to be affected by tsunamis. Item is addressed.	

⁵ TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 31 Tsunami 2004.pdf

⁶ TIST IN PD-VCS-001d App03 PA Plots 121109.kml

Date closed:	26 February 2013
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16. Non-Conformity Report

VCS Criteria:	
(a) Project activities are implemented on grasslands or croplands;	
(b) Project activities are implemented on lands where the area of the cropland within the project boundary displaced due to the project activity is less than 50 per cent of the total project area;	
(c) Project activities are implemented on lands where the number of displaced grazing animals is less than 50 per cent of the average grazing capacity ¹ of the project area;	
(d) Project activities are implemented on lands where $\leq 10\%$ of the total surface project area is disturbed as result of soil preparation for planting.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance:	
PS Section 2.2; TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121027.xlsx	
Non-conformity report (NCR):	
NCR: Please provide evidence (Landsat Imagery and Surveys) supporting the statements and data indicating that the project meets the requirements of AR-AMS0001 Sections I.1.b and I.1.c.	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date:	
The Landsat images are presented in the following appendices: TIST IN PD-VCS-001b App01 LSat1990 Map.jgw TIST IN PD-VCS-001b App01 LSat1990 Map.jpg TIST IN PD-VCS-001c App02 LSat2000 Map.jgw TIST IN PD-VCS-001c App02 LSat2000 Map.jpg	
There are no paper surveys. As noted in the PD, TIST uses an electronic monitoring system and the results of the surveys are uploaded to the TIST website. The results are displayed on the Grove Summary worksheet of Appendix 04.	
Evidence used to close NCR:	
TIST IN PD-VCS-001b App01 LSat1990 Map.jpg and TIST IN PD-VCS-001c App02 LSat2000 Map.jpg were reviewed and, together with the "Grove Summary Worksheet" of Appendix 04 and information collected during the site visit, adequately and appropriately demonstrate that the project meets the requirements of AR-AMS0001 Sections I.1.b and I.1.c. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

17. Clarification

VCS Criteria:	
(b) The project activity is additional, using the procedures for the assessment of additionality contained in Appendix B.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance:	
PD Section 2.4.1	
Clarification (CL):	
CL: Information Request: please provide the verifiers with the data used to construct Table 2.5.A	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date:	
Table 2.5.A is based on community data supplied by Village Administrative Officers of TIST Program Area (Tamil Nadu State Government Officers) and indicates that most TIST members make less than US\$1.00 per day. The survey data are presented in TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 34 Income Survey.xls. An example of the low income certificates that are the source of the data in the survey is attached as "TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 35 Tiruvannamalai Low Income Cert.pdf."	
Evidence used to close NCR:	
TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 34 Income Survey.xls: Annual income data were provided (based on a sample of 312 groups) and correlates with TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 130208.xlsx and PD Table 2.5A. TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 35 Tiruvannamalai Low Income Cert.pdf is a sample Village Administrator Officer Certificate that certifies the income level for the Vazhur Village, Tiruvannamalai District and correlates	

to the survey data. Further, interviews conducted during the site visit confirmed the difficulty in acquiring and maintaining seedlings in the absence of the TIST program. While the incomes may have changed in the last several years, observations and interviews indicate that the problem remains. This item has been adequately addressed.

Date closed: 26 February 2013

18. Non-Conformity Report

VCS Criteria:	
8. Baseline carbon stocks will be determined using Equation 1.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance:	
PD Section 3.1.1	
Non-conformity report (NCR):	
NCR: Please show the application of Equation 1 of AR-AMS0001 in PD	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date:	
The following was added as a footnote: For application, see spreadsheet Appendix 04, worksheet "Table 3.3.B", columns D and E. The Area is pulled in from the Grove Summary worksheet and the carbon comes from "3.1 Baseline Trees" column D. Since the formula in column D is combined AG and BG biomass, the addition step was not necessary.	
Evidence used to close NCR:	
TIST IN PD-VCS-001a PD Text 130208.doc: Confirmed that the project proponent's response above was added as a footnote in Section 3.1.1 of the PD. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

19. Non-Conformity Report

VCS Criteria:	
9. For above-ground biomass BA(t) is calculated per stratum I using Equation 2.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance:	
PD Section 3.1.1	
Non-conformity report (NCR):	
NCR: Please show the application of Equation 2 of AR-AMS0001 in PD	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date:	
The following was added as a footnote: For application, see spreadsheet Appendix 04, worksheet "3.1 Baseline Trees," column E.	
Evidence used to close NCR:	
TIST IN PD-VCS-001a PD Text 130208.doc: Confirmed that the project proponent's response above was added as a footnote in Section 3.1.1 of the PD. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

20. Non-Conformity Report

VCS Criteria:	
If living biomass carbon pools are expected to be constant according to paragraph 6.a and 6.c, the average below-ground carbon stock is estimated as the below-ground carbon stock in grass and in biomass of woody perennials using Equation 6.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance:	
PD Section 3.1.1	
Non-conformity report (NCR):	
NCR: Please show the application of Equation 6 of AR-AMS0001 in PD	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date:	
For application, see spreadsheet Appendix 04, worksheet "3.1 Baseline Trees," column D. It is the factor 1.48, where 0.48 is the belowground component. See seventh assumptions for PDD Table 3.1.A Baseline Strata.	
Evidence used to close NCR:	

TIST IN PD-VCS-001a PD Text 130208.doc: Confirmed that the project proponent's response above was added as a footnote in Section 3.1.1 of the PD. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

21. Clarification

VCS Criteria: 16. For the ex ante calculation of the project biomass, the project area should be stratified according to the project planting plan that is, at least by tree species (or groups of them if several tree species have similar growth habits), and age classes.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: PD Section 3.2.2; TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121027.xlsx	
Clarification (CL): CL: Please indicate why the with project strata area total does not match the project area total	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: The spreadsheet data is correct but the table 3.2.A is incorrect. The error has been corrected in the final version of the PD.	
Evidence used to close NCR: PD, Ex Ante Data (Appendix 04), Monitoring Report, Ex Post Data (Appendix 08): Files were reviewed and ex ante and ex post strata area totals now correlate with the project area total. All area estimates now correlate between all project documents. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

22. Non-Conformity Report

VCS Criteria: 17. The carbon stocks for the project scenario at the starting date of the project activity4 (t=0) shall be the same as the baseline stocks of carbon at the starting date of the project (t=0).	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: PD Section 3.2.4; TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121027.xlsx	
Non-conformity report (NCR): NCR: As per AR-AMS0001 Section III.17, please include the estimated initial baseline carbon stocks as the carbon stocks for the project scenario at project start date	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: From PD "Table 3.1.B Change in Baseline Carbon Stocks" the baseline values for cropland and grassland have been added and the total shown. That number has been placed before the table.	
Evidence used to close NCR: TIST IN PD-VCS-001a PD Text 130208.doc: Confirmed that the total initial baseline carbon stocking was added to Section 3.1.3 of the PD, just before Table 3.1.B. As the net change in carbon stocks in the baseline are assumed to be zero, the total initial baseline carbon stocking does not affect the quantification of net GHG emission reductions and removals. This item has been adequately addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

23. Clarification

VCS Criteria: For all other years, the carbon stocks within the project boundary (N(t)) at time t shall be calculated using Equation 12.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: PD Section 3.2.1; TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121027.xlsx - Ex Ante Strata Est Tab	
Clarification (CL): CL: Please clarify in the PD that Equation 3.2a provides estimates of total carbon stocks. Also, express the application of the equation in the PD.	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date:	

Equation 3.2a: The text was changed to “The carbon stock within the project boundary is calculated using the following equation.”	
The application of Equation 3.2a takes place in the worksheets “3.2 Ex-Ante Carbon Est” and “3.2 Ex-Ante Strata Est” of TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121109.xlsx. N_A and N_B are derived in 3.2 Ex-Ante Carbon Est (example see columns E, F and G). The area is applied in “3.2 Ex-Ante Strata Est”. See footnote in PD.	
Evidence used to close NCR: TIST IN PD-VCS-001a PD Text 130208.doc: Confirmed that the text was modified in PD Section 3.2.1 as indicated above. Also, the project proponent’s response above regarding the application of Equation 3.2a was appropriately added as a footnote in Section 3.2.1 of the PD. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

24. Clarification

VCS Criteria: 18. For above-ground biomass $NA(t)$ is calculated per stratum i using Equation 13.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: PD Section 3.2.1; TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121027.xlsx - Ex Ante Carbon Est Tab	
Clarification (CL): CL: Please express the application of Equation 3.2b in the PD	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: See “3.2 Ex-Ante Carbon Est” worksheet, column E. See footnote in PD.	
Evidence used to close NCR: TIST IN PD-VCS-001a PD Text 130208.doc: Confirmed that the project proponent’s response above was added as a footnote in Section 3.2.1 of the PD. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

25. Clarification

VCS Criteria: 19. If biomass tables or equations are available then these shall be used to estimate $T(t)_i$ per stratum i . If volume table or equations are used then Equation 14 is applied.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: PD Section 3.2.1; TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121027.xlsx - Ex Ante Carbon Est Tab	
Clarification (CL): CL: Please express the application of Equation 3.2c in the PD	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: See referenced Excel sheet, “3.2 Ex-Ante Carbon Est” worksheet. Different columns for different species groups. $T_{(t)i}$ = example column D $SV_{(t)i}$ = example column B BEF = example column C WD = example column D See footnote in PD.	
Evidence used to close NCR: TIST IN PD-VCS-001a PD Text 130208.doc: Confirmed that the project proponent’s response above regarding the application of Equation 3.2c was appropriately added as a footnote in Section 3.2.1 of the PD. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

26. Clarification

VCS Criteria:	
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21. For below-ground biomass, NB(t) is calculated per stratum i using Equation 15.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: PD Section 3.2.1; TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121027.xlsx - Ex Ante Carbon Est Tab	
Clarification (CL): CL: Please express the application of Equation 3.2d in the PD	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: See referenced Excel sheet, "3.2 Ex-Ante Carbon Est" worksheet. The factors are in different columns for different species groups. $T_{(t)}$ = example column F R = example column F 0.5 = example column E See footnote in PD.	
Evidence used to close NCR: TIST IN PD-VCS-001a PD Text 130208.doc: Confirmed that the project proponent's response above was added as a footnote in Section 3.2.1 of the PD. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

27. Clarification

VCS Criteria: 24. The removal component of actual net GHG removals by sinks can be calculated using Equation 17.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121027.xlsx - Ex Ante Strata Est Tab	
Clarification (CL): CL: Please indicate the use of AR-AMS0001 Equation 17 in PD and express its application	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: Equation 17 was added as Equation 3.2.e. To determine ΔC_{PROJ} see referenced Excel sheet. The value for N_t comes from column G of worksheet "3.2 Ex-Ante Carbon Est." It is transferred to the appropriate cell in the strata array set up in work sheet "3.2 Ex-Ante Strata Est." The values for similar age strata are summed in (example) column L. The values of the age strata of the species are summed in column AY. This is still N_t but now summed. N_{t-1} is to symbolize time difference and is not needed because all this is done on an annual basis. (44/12) is multiplied in column AZ. Δt is done in column BA. The value for ΔC_{PROJ} is cell BA35. See footnote in PD.	
Evidence used to close NCR: TIST IN PD-VCS-001a PD Text 130208.doc: Confirmed that Equation 17 of AR-AMS0001 was included in the PD in Section 3.2.1 as indicated. Also, the project proponent's response above regarding the application of this equation was appropriately added as a footnote. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

28. Clarification

VCS Criteria: 26. The ex ante actual net greenhouse gas removals by sinks in year t are calculated using Equation 18.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: PD Section 3.2.5	
Clarification (CL):	

CL: Please include AR-AMS0001 Equation 18 in PD and express its application	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: As noted in PD Section 3.2.5, $GHG_{PROJ} = \text{zero}$. And therefore $C_{ACTUAL} = \Delta C_{PROJ}$ which is in cell BA35, "3.2 Ex-Ante Strata Est."	
See new section under Equation 3.2.f. and footnote.	
Evidence used to close NCR: TIST IN PD-VCS-001a PD Text 130208.doc: Confirmed that Equation 18 of AR-AMS0001 was included in the PD in Section 3.2.1 as indicated. Also, the project proponent's response above regarding the application of this equation was appropriately added as a footnote. Item is addressed.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

29. Non-Conformity Report

VCS Criteria: 27. According to decision 6/CMP.1, annex, Appendix B, paragraph 9: "If project participants demonstrate that the small-scale afforestation or reforestation project activity under the CDM does not result in the displacement of activities or people, or does not trigger activities outside the project boundary, that would be attributable to the small-scale afforestation or reforestation project activity under the CDM, such that an increase in greenhouse gas emissions by sources occurs, a leakage estimation is not required. In all other cases leakage estimation is required."	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: PD Section 3.3	
Non-conformity report (NCR): NCR: Please provide evidence of surveys used to demonstrate the project meeting requirement IV.27 of AR-AMS0001. Note that the surveys are also requested under Item 16 above.	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: As noted, in response to NCR 16, the surveys were collected electronically and the data only exists in the TIST database. The results of the survey were provided in the Grove Summary worksheet of TIST UG PD-VCS-005e App04 Data 121112 Group.xlsx.	
Evidence used to close NCR: This issue was discussed in person with project developers during development of the NCRs. This NCR was issued but later addressed as indicated by the responses above.	
Date closed:	26 February 2013

30. Clarification

VCS Criteria: (i) For reforestation project activities, demonstrate that the land was not forest by demonstrating that the conditions outlined under (a) above also applied to the land on 31 December 1989.	
Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: PD Section 1.13.1; TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121027.xlsx	
Clarification (CL): CL: Please clarify what question landowners were asked in order to provide evidence of meeting the requirement of 1.b.i of this tool	
Date issued:	4 January 2013
Project proponent response/actions and date: The question asked are: Was this grove ever a forest? (Yes / Not to my knowledge) If "Yes" then: When were the trees cut down? (year) (free form numeric field) The answers in the Grove Summary sheets are derived as follows: If the answer to the first question is Not to my knowledge, a "No" is displayed. If the answer is yes, then the second question is asked.	

<p>If the answer is before 1995 the project areas is eligible under the VCS ten year rule and a “No” is displayed. All other answers result in “Yes” and these project areas are deemed ineligible for the PD and not included.</p>	
<p>Evidence used to close NCR: This answer is consistent with the interviews and discussions with project participants and project developers during the site visit. Item is addressed.</p>	
<p>Date closed:</p>	<p>26 February 2013</p>

31. Non-Conformity Report

<p>VCS Criteria: 3.4.1 The project location shall be specified in the project description in terms of its project area. The spatial extent of the project shall be clearly specified to facilitate accurate monitoring, reporting and verification of GHG emission reductions and removals and to demonstrate that the project meets the eligibility criteria of the relevant project category. The project location description shall include the following information:</p>	
<p>Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: Site visit, TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121027 121109.xlsx, GPX files</p>	
<p>Non-conformity report (NCR): Please address the boundary issues identified in the document called “Field visit summary – TIST India 2012.xls” emailed from the verifier sent on 12/18/12.</p>	
<p>Date issued:</p>	<p>4 January 2013</p>
<p>Project proponent response/actions and date: Response to the issues raised regarding the individual project areas listed in the Field Visit Summary are in TIST IN PD-VCS-001 NCR Round 1 Ap 130208.docx.</p>	
<p>Evidence used to close NCR: See TIST IN PD-VCS-001 NCR Round 1 Ap 130208.docx for comments related to individual project areas. In general, Re-tracked files were compared between initial submissions and subsequent submitted KML track files. The updated track files correlate with what was observed during the site visit. Updated area values were confirmed in both ex ante data (Appendix 04) and ex post data (Appendix 08).</p>	
<p>Date closed:</p>	<p>26 February 2013</p>

32. Non-Conformity Report

<p>VCS Criteria: General quantification.</p>	
<p>Evidence Used to Assess Conformance: Site visit, TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121027 121109.xlsx, GPX files.</p>	
<p>Non-conformity report (NCR): Please address the apparent measurement errors identified in the document called “Field visit summary – TIST India 2012.xls” emailed from the verifier sent on 12/18/12.</p>	
<p>Date issued:</p>	<p>January 4 2013</p>
<p>Project proponent response/actions and date: Response to the issues raised regarding the individual project areas listed in the Field Visit Summary are in TIST IN PD-VCS-001 NCR Round 1 Ap 130208.docx.</p>	
<p>Evidence used to close NCR: See TIST IN PD-VCS-001 NCR Round 1 Ap 130208.docx. for comments related to individual project areas. In general, Re-tracked files were compared between initial submissions and subsequent submitted KML track files. The updated track files correlate with what was observed during the site visit. Updated area values were confirmed in both ex ante data (Appendix 04) and ex post data (Appendix 08). Re-quantified groves show higher correlation to the data collected by the verifier during field sampling. Updated tree counts were confirmed in both ex ante data (Appendix 04) and ex post data (Appendix 08).</p>	

Lastly, deleted groves/small groups were confirmed to be removed from both ex ante data (Appendix 04) and ex post data (Appendix 08).

Date closed:	26 February 2013
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APPENDIX B – GROVES SAMPLED DURING TIST INDIA VCS-001 VERIFICATION

- 2009IN133Imachalraj
- 2009IN132Ravi Kumar1
- 2009IN135Rajantharvarma
- 2009IN135Rajantharvarma1
- 2009IN134Chanthirasekar
- 2008IN308Subranani
- 2011IN206Sechadri
- 2012IN29Sathiya Pama
- 2010IN97Panchasaram
- 2010IN97Velmurugan
- 2010IN97Selvasekar
- 2011IN9Aungamuthu
- 2011IN10Kumaresan
- 2008IN626Arunachalam
- 2008IN625Pachaiyappan
- 2008IN625Ealumali
- 2008IN584Dhinakaraha
- 2008IN584Poongavanam
- 2008IN584Veera
- 2008IN584Raj
- 2008IN542Seenu Teak
- 2008IN542Sankaran
- 2008IN542Ganapathi
- 2008IN540Kamaraj Home
- 2008IN540Loganathan
- 2009IN56Dhanam
- 2009IN56Arumugam
- 2009IN56Saravanan
- 2010IN153Sundaram
- 2010IN153Kamal
- 2012IN4Servaraj 2
- 2012IN04Selvaraj 3

APPENDIX C- DOCUMENTS RECEIVED / REVIEWED

Documents Received 19 October 2012

- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Velanthangal(Velant).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019KML
- india test.an1
- PD Grove Status 121018 IN Shawn.xlsx
- PDD_IN_V.KML
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Anaikattu(Anai ka).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Arkot(Arkot).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Arni(Arni).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Arungalurugam(Arun ga).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Chenal(Chena l).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Chengam(Che nga).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Chetpet(Chetp e).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Gingee(Ginge e).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Gudiyatham(G udiya).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Kandhavarady (Kandha).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Mambakkam(Mambak).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Mel_Kodungal ur(Melkod).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Narmapallam(Narmap).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Neepathurai(n eepat).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_No_Node_Allo cated_Tnadu(2EMPTY).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Osur(Osur).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Pallipattu(palli p).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Placepalayam(Place).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Poondi(Poondi).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Sithanjeri(Sith an).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Thellar(Thella).kml
 - pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Thiruthani(thirut).kml

- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Thiruvallur(Thi ruv).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Thurinapuram (Thurin).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_TPathur(TPath u).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_ULundurpettai(Ulundu).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_01_121019_Vandhavasi(V aasi).kml

Documents Received 4 November 2012

- TIST IN PD-VCS-001 PD Text Draft 121023.doc
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001 PD Text Draft 121023 with Stew comments.doc

Documents Received 5 November 2012

- TIST IN Initial Sample Selection 121105.xlsx
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 24 KE EIA Report NAREDAR 100506.doc
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001d App03 PA Plots 121027.kml
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121027.xlsx
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001f App05 Risk Analysis 121105.doc
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 01 ATree, Satya etal Dec 2005.doc
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 02 Tamil Nadu Forest Dept .pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 03 TIST SG CO2 Contract IN Nila.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 04 CAAC TIST India Contract 090309.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 05 CDM Withdrawal BLANK.docx
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 06 CDM Executive Board 35, Annex 18.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 07 Financial Plan.xls
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 08 CDM Methodology AR AMS0001 v6.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 09 Fuelwood Studies, Devendra.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 10 TNFD Policy Notes 2005.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 11 Kanchipuram District Profile.pdf

- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 12 State of Environment, TN 2005.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 13 Thiruvallur Environmental Profile.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 14 IFAD Rural Poverty and Credit.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 15 World Bank, Puthu Vazhvu Proj.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 16 Programme for Small Farmers.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 17 GPG Annex 3A 1 Tables.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 18 GPG Table 4A-2 Allometric Eq.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 19 Gmelina Allometric.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 20 CDM EB-51, Annex 13.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 21 CDM Approval 080204.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 22 IN CDM Approval Process.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 23 Award for Best Tree Planting.pdf
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_No_Node_Allocated_Tnadu(2EMPTY).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Osur(Osur).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Pallipattu(pallip).gp"
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Placepalayam(Place).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Sithanjeri(Sithan).gpx"
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Thellar(Thella).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Thiruthani(thirut).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Thiruvallur(Thiruv).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Thurinapuram(Thurin).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_TPathur(TPathu).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_ULundurpettai(Ulundu).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Vandhavasi(Vaasi).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_121109KML
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Velanthangal(Velant).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Anaikattu(Anaika).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Arkot(Arkot).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Arni(Arni).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Arungaludurugam(Arun ga).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Chenal(Chenal).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Chengam(Chenga).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Chetpet(Chetpe).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Gingee(Gingee).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Gudiyatham(Gudiya).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Kandhavarady(Kandha).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Mambakkam(Mambak).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Mel_Kodungalur(Melkod).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Narmapallam(Narmap).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Neepathurai(neepat).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_No_Node_Allocated_Tnadu(2EMPTY).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Osur(Osur).km"
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Pallipattu(pallip).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Placepalayam(Place).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Sithanjeri(Sithan).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Thellar(Thella).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Thiruthani(thirut).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Thiruvallur(Thiruv).kml

Documents Received 9 November 2012

- TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 121027 121109.xlsx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_121109GPX
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Velanthangal(Velant).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Anaikattu(Anaika).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Arkot(Arkot).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Arni(Arni).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Arungaludurugam(Arun ga).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Chenal(Chenal).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Chengam(Chenga).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Chetpet(Chetpe).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Gingee(Gingee).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Gudiyatham(Gudiya).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Kandhavarady(Kandha).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Mambakkam(Mambak).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Mel_Kodungalur(Melkod).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Narmapallam(Narmap).gpx
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Neepathurai(neepat).gpx

- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Thurinapuram(Thurin).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_TPathur(TPathu).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Ulundurpettai(Ulundu).kml
- pdd_IN_vcs_001_Vandhavasi(Vaasi).kml

- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 34 Income Survey.xls

Documents Received 27 February 2013

- TIST IN PD-VCS-001h App07 Monitoring Rpt 130227.doc

Documents Received 14 February 2013

- TIST IN PD-VCS-001i App08 Monitoring Data 130208.xlsx
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001 NCR Round 1 130208.docx
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001 NCR Round 1 App 130208 .docx
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001a PD Text 130208.doc
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001b App01 LSat1990 Map.htm
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001b App01 LSat1990 Map.jpg
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001c App02 LSat2000 Map.htm
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001c App02 LSat2000 Map.jpg
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001d App03 PA Plots 130208.kml
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001e App04 Data 130208.xlsx
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001f App05 Risk Analysis 130208.doc
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001g App06 Geo Area of Groups.kml
- TIST IN PD-VCS-001h App07 Monitoring Rpt 130208.doc

Documents Received 26 February 2013

- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 35 Tiruvannamalai Low Income Cert.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 05 CDM Withdrawal.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 25 Mgt Resumes 110215.doc
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 26 Mgt Experience 110215.doc
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 27 Governance Indic.xlsx
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 28 NDMA Cyclone Prone District.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 30 Mgt of Teak Stands.pdf
- TIST IN PD-VCS-Ex 32 TN Seismic Hazards.pdf