



BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION INITIATIVE NAME

Document prepared by CarbonPlus

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Version	<i>2.0</i>
Date	<i>21/06/2024</i>
Initiative Conservation activities	<i>Indicate the initiative conservation activities that apply:</i> <i>Preservation</i>

	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Isolation of areas, establishment of ecological barriers</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Isolation of forest fragments</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Installation of surveillance and control programs</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Reduction of hunting and fishing activities</i></p> <p><i>Ecological Restoration</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Re-establishment (RE)</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Rehabilitation (REH)</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Recovery (REC)</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Removal (REM)</i></p> <p><i>Sustainable Use</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Purse-seine and other control efforts</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Limitation on entry and/or actions of the public/tourists to a landscape or ecosystem</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Limitation of heavy or destructive machinery and/or technology that may cause collateral damage to other elements of the landscape or ecosystem.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Recycling/rotation of soil nutrients</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Composting</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sustainable agriculture</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Limitation of agrochemicals or fertilizers</i></p>
<p>Initiative Conservation Mechanisms</p>	<p><i>Indicate the initiative Conservation Mechanisms that apply:</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Corridors (biological and conservation)</i></p>

	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Mini corridors or connecting strips</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Closures</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Enclosures</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Live fences</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Enrichment</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Supplementation</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Multipurpose forests</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Conversion of pastures to forest cover</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Restoration of the hydrological regime in wetlands</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Reconstruction of the physical structure of the wetland habitat and/or mangrove habitat restoration</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Mangrove habitat restoration</i>
Grouped initiative	No
Applied Methodology	<i>Documento Metodológico actividades de conservación de la biodiversidad 2.0</i>
Initiative location (City, Region, Country)	<i>El área se ubica en la Reserva de la Biosfera Sierra Gorda de Guanajuato, Guanajuato, México.</i>
Starting date	01/01/2019
First quantification period of Net Gains in Biodiversity	Indicate the first quantification period of net gains in biodiversity 01/01/2019 - DD/MM/2025

Monitoring periods and/or the final monitoring period	Indicate the total subsequent monitoring periods (DD/MM/YYYY to DD/MM/YYYY), and/or the final monitoring period (DD/MM/YYYY to DD/MM/YYYY)
Sustainable Development Goals	13 , 15

General template instructions

- This template is for the Biodiversity Conservation Initiative Document (CID) under BioCarbon Standard.
- Complete the information of each title according to the Instructions relate back to the rules and requirements set out in the BioCarbon Standard (paragraphs in font: Constantia, 11 pt., Italic, gray or “Template” style) using Constantia, 12 pt., black or “Normal” style.
- Do not modify any features of the template, including styles.
- Submit the document as a non-editable PDF, deleting this table beforehand.

Note: The instructions in this template, just serve as a guide and do not automatically represent a complete list of the information that the initiative holder shall provide under each section of the template.

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1 Initiative Eligibility

1.1 Scope of the Biodiversity Standard

[The Initiative is eligible under the scope of the BioCarbon Biodiversity Standard (BBS) by meeting one or more of the following conditions (Mark with an X).]

The scope of the BioCarbon Biodiversity Standard is limited to:	
Biodiversity conservation initiatives that include actions for the preservation, restoration and sustainable use of biodiversity.	
Biodiversity conservation initiatives whose development includes contributions to regional or local conservation strategies.	
Biodiversity conservation initiatives generated from compliance with biodiversity loss compensation plans, provided that the actions frame in the initiative are additional to those of mandatory compliance.	
Biodiversity conservation initiatives that propose voluntary actions for the preservation, restoration and sustainable use of biodiversity.	
Quantifiable Net gains in biodiversity generated by the implementation of biodiversity conservation initiatives.	

1.2 Conservation activities and conservation mechanisms

[Mark with an X the type of Conservation Activities under which the Initiative is developed.]

Preservation	
<i>Isolation of areas, establishment of ecological barriers</i>	
<i>Isolation of forest fragments</i>	
<i>Installation of surveillance and control programs</i>	
<i>Reduction of hunting and fishing activities</i>	
<i>Other (include if the activity is not in the list)</i>	
Ecological Restoration	
<i>Re-establishment (RE)</i>	
<i>Rehabilitation (REH)</i>	
<i>Recovery (REC)</i>	
<i>Removal (REM)</i>	
<i>Other (include if the activity is not in the list)</i>	
Sustainable Use	
<i>Purse-seine and other control efforts</i>	

<i>Limitation on entry and/or actions of the public/tourists to a landscape or ecosystem)</i>	
<i>Limitation of vehicular transport access to a landscape or ecosystem</i>	
<i>Limitation of heavy or destructive machinery and/or technology that may cause collateral damage to other elements of the landscape or ecosystem.</i>	
<i>Recycling/rotation of soil nutrients</i>	
<i>Composting</i>	
<i>Sustainable agriculture</i>	
<i>Limitation of agrochemicals or fertilizers</i>	
<i>Other (include if the activity is not in the list)</i>	

[Mark with an X the conservation mechanisms under which the Initiative is developed (Mark with an X).]

<i>Corridors (biological and conservation)</i>	
<i>Mini corridors or connecting strips</i>	
<i>Closures</i>	
<i>Enclosures</i>	
<i>Live fences</i>	
<i>Enrichment</i>	
<i>Supplementation</i>	
<i>Multipurpose forests</i>	
<i>Conversion of pastures to forest cover</i>	
<i>Restoration of the hydrological regime/structure in wetlands</i>	
<i>Reconstruction of the physical structure of the wetland habitat</i>	
<i>Mangrove habitat restoration</i>	
<i>Other (include if the activity is not in the list)</i>	

2 General description of the Initiative

[Describe here the Initiative objectives and activities, including any activities that will result in net gains in biodiversity. Include the following in the description:

- (a) A brief description of the existing scenario prior to the implementation of the Initiative activities;*
- (b) Details of how the Initiative activities will result in net gains in biodiversity;*
- (c) A brief summary of how the Initiative activities will contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;*

(d) *An average estimate of net gains in biodiversity attributable to the Initiative activities.*

2.1 Name of the Biodiversity Initiative

[State here the Biodiversity Initiative name. It shall be consistent throughout the documentation and may not be changed after Initiative registration.]

2.2 Objectives

[Describe here in detail, the objectives of the Initiative. It is important to note that the Initiative objectives should be consistent with the proposed activities.]

2.3 Initiative Conservation Activities and Conservation Mechanisms

[Describe here the Conservation Activities and Conservation Mechanisms, including the technologies or measures used. Describe in detail how the Initiative activities will result in net gains in biodiversity.]

2.4 Initiative location

[Indicate here the country and region where the Initiative is located, giving as much detail as possible. Include coordinates and maps/photographs if possible].

2.5 Additional information about the Biodiversity Initiative

[Write here additional information about the Initiative. You can include any information about the Initiative activities that you consider relevant eg. atmospheric or geological information, political, economic or historical data of the area.]

3 Applicability conditions

[Identify and mark with an X if the initiative follows, the applicability conditions stated in Section 5 of the Methodology]

a) It aims to restore and/or maintain the state of the biodiversity at a defined point in time in quantitative and qualitative terms, avoiding irreversible losses.	
b) In Situ conservation is the activity on which the initiative's activities are based.	

c) Conservation activities prevent the partial or total loss of an ecosystem, or changes in land use, generating net gains in biodiversity.	
d) Conservation activities prevent the loss (direct or indirect) of a population or species	
e) Conservation activities prevent the extinction of an endemic population, species, ecological or cultural value	
f) Conservation activities prevent the net loss of diversity at the genetic, species or ecosystem level	
g) Conservation activities prevent the modification of natural systems/ecosystems or unique biotopes	
h) Conservation activities prevent the extinction of species, populations or varieties, or decrease their viability to levels that increase their risk of extinction	
i) The area within the boundaries is not under any other biodiversity compensation scheme	

4 Normative references

[Describe how the initiative complies with the applicable normative references. Such as being in accordance with the Convention on Biological Diversity, National policies and action plans, Environmental legislation, CDB standard, guidelines defined by BioCarbon, and others that may apply. Demonstrate that there are procedures to review periodically the changing regulations. List of legislative requirements that apply to the initiative,]

5 Geographical boundaries of the conservation Initiative

[Demonstrate that the areas within the geographic boundaries of the initiative correspond to the categories of vegetation or land cover considered by the land cover and land use identification system applicable to the country in which the activities of the initiative are implemented. The land cover identification and land use shall be carried out at a scale 1:10,000 or higher, considering the diversity of the landscape in each MSU. The area units should be represented using a GIS for the duration of the

initiative. Demonstrate that the boundaries are eligible by complying with the steps indicated on section 9 of the Methodology.]

6 Temporal Limits and Analysis Period

[Evidence that the temporal limits of the initiative were defined as follows:

Initiative starting date [Indicate here the starting date of the activities leading to the avoidance of biodiversity loss in the area of the biodiversity conservation initiative]

Quantification period of net gains in biodiversity [Present here the period of quantification of net gains in biodiversity]

Monitoring periods [Indicate here the monitoring periods foreseen during Initiative implementation. Please note that the periodicity of the monitoring periods shall be consistent with the Initiative objectives.]

7 Biodiversity Baseline

[Determine the structure and composition of the ecosystem in each of the different types of land cover/ or land use including information as detailed as possible on climate, soil and other biodiversity, landscape determinants and the evaluation of physical and biotic components, as well as ecosystem structure and composition before the start of conservation activities. The minimum provisions that the baseline should include are found in section 9.3 of the Standard. Additionally, the acceptable sources of information for the baseline identification are found in Section 11 of the Methodology.]

8 Additionality analysis

[Demonstrate through qualitative and quantitative assessments that the net gains in biodiversity would clearly not have occurred if the Initiative was not implemented and that net gains in biodiversity are not attributable to the implementation of legally required actions (per the provisions of the BioCarbon Biodiversity Standard section 9.7).

Indicate that the increase in biological diversity at landscape level will be observed due to initiative activities and that conservation actions target more than one species and habitat. Also, that all attributes are measurable with the criteria and the indicators per the methodology applied section 12]

9 Characterization of drivers of transformation and biodiversity loss

[Indicate here the drivers of landscape transformation and subsequent biodiversity loss and underlying causes. Use the qualitative rating matrices (tables) of the extent and frequency found in section 13 of the Methodology.]

10 Conservation objectives

[Explain how the conservation objectives were established in order to carry out restoration/conservation/sustainable use actions. Make sure these are related to the Conservation Values and demarcated and delimited in the areas within the boundaries of the proposed initiative.]

A helpful way for identifying, measuring, and monitoring conservation objectives is the *Theory of Change* (TOC). The initiative holder can use the FSC Guidance for Demonstrating Impacts on Ecosystem Services¹. This guide includes the essential elements of a theory of change and a quality checklist for a TOC.

11 Indicators and methods for estimating net biodiversity gains

[Demonstrate that net gains in biodiversity were estimated based on the quantification and weighting of ecological indicators of habitat or biodiversity for each type of land cover and/or land use as explained in section 15 of the Methodology, such as:

11.1 Landscape characterization

[Regarding composition (where it refers to the diversity and abundance of fragment types in a landscape) and regarding structure (where it refers to the spatial organization of fragments)]

11.2 Landscape biodiversity index (LBI)

[Composed of five parameters together (Perimeter-Area Fractal Dimension-PAFRAC, Percentage of landscape-PLAND, number of patches-NP, Largest patch index-LPI and Contagion index-CONTAG). These are key to determining the composition and configuration of landscapes. They also allow comparisons between landscapes and/or determine changes in the same landscape over time.]

¹ FSC-GUI-30-006 V1-0 ES. Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC,2018). FSC®F000100.

11.3 Characterization of biological communities

11.3.1 Alpha Diversity

[for species richness in a community (Specific Richness Index, Margalef Index of Diversity) or Equity Indexes (Shannon-Weiner Index or Pielou's Index)]

11.3.2 Beta Diversity

[for identifying how similar or dissimilar two communities or samples are (Jaccard Similarity Index, Whittaker Index)]

11.3.3 Gamma Diversity

[to establish the total species richness in a larger area (it is the sum of the alpha diversity in all landscape units within the boundaries of the initiative (Schluter and Ricklefs Gamma Index)]

11.4 Other indicators

11.4.1 High Conservation Values-HCV

[Significant or critically important biological, ecological social or cultural values identified through stakeholder consultation, analysis of existing information]

11.4.2 Threatened species

[Per the categories defined by the IUCN Red List -CR, EN, VU, NT, LC, DD, or other national, regional or local database]

12 Estimation of Net gains in biodiversity

12.1 Net gains in biodiversity

[Demonstrate net gains in biodiversity by applying the indexes previously stated using Table 5, Section 16 of the methodology, by comparing the values at time t1 with the values at time t2.

12.2 Quantification of biodiversity credits (BDC)

[Use table 6 to identify the factors associated with biodiversity to later be multiplied by the boundaries of the conservation initiative. Identify the number of credits that can be issued by using the methodology equation

$$BDC_{year} = A_{ci} \times (f_{IBP} + f_{NE} + f_{DMG} + f_D + f_J + f_{Ij} + f_{\beta} + f_{\gamma} + f_{HCV})$$

13 Monitoring plan

[Present a complete monitoring plan. The monitoring plan, shall contemplate an appropriate structure and the collection of relevant data per section 17 of the Methodology. Make sure to include qualitative and quantitative indicators and other variables of analysis. Include quality control measurements and evaluation plans per section 12 of the Standard.]

14 Risk Management

[Demonstrate the environmental, financial and social risk assessment (direct and indirect) of implementing the conservation activities. Based on these, indicate the measures to manage the risks so that the net gains in biodiversity are maintained during and after the duration of project activities per section 18 of the Methodology].

15 Uncertainty management

[Explain how uncertainty is considered by documenting the sources of information, the consistency and relevance of the data and the results related to net gains in biodiversity. The analysis should be conducted using an appropriate model and justifying the choice of variables related to the assessment].

16 Permanence

[Demonstrate that the initiative's implementation has a legal and financial basis that guarantees its implementation in the medium and long term per the provisions in section 20 of the Methodology]

17 Stakeholder engagement

[Identify in what ways the initiative is socially sustainable and specify how interactions with stakeholders were considered and included (participation) in the designing and implementation of the initiative. Explain the method and time frames in which information disclosure and stakeholder consultation processes were implemented.]

18 Sustainable Development Goals

[Indicate how the initiative aligns conservation actions with the Sustainable Development Goals. Define relevant criteria and indicators to both aspects and explain how they contribute to actions such as the ones listed in section 9.11 of the Standard.]

19 Climate Change Adaptation

[Develop a climate change adaptation plan, directly related to biodiversity conservation actions by identifying impact and climate risk assessments, quantification of impacts and climate change adaptation strategies stated in section 10 of the Standard.]

20 Other Certification Criteria

[Design and state additional actions taken into consideration that provide greater integrality to biodiversity conservation such as Aichi Targets, High Conservation, actions aimed at the conservation of globally threatened species, and others.]