# **VERIFICATION STATEMENT**

# OF THE CCBA-PROJECT

Alto Mayo Conservation Initiative

Verification Report no AENOR/VCS/CCB/20160909

**AENOR** 

CCB Project name: "Alto Mayo Conservation Initiative"

# **Project proponent:**

• Conservation International Peru

**Project location:** The project area corresponds to the Alto Mayo Protected Forest (AMPF), an area of 182,000 ha in the northern Peruvian Amazon situated in the department of San Martin.

Date of issuance of verification statement: 09 September 2016

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First PIR dated on 15/03/2016 Final PIR dated on 12/08/2016

Project Implementation Period covered: 15/06/2014 - 14/06/2016

#### Verification Team:

Team leader: Manuel García-Rosell Verifier: José Luis Fuentes Pérez Verifier: Alfonso Medrano

**CCB Standard and level applied:** The project was verified in conformance with the CCB Standard Second Edition at Biodiversity Gold Level.

Gold Level Criteria: Exceptional Biodiversity Benefits

# Summary of the CCB project benefits:

During the implementation period, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014-June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016, the project has achieved net positive climate, community and biodiversity benefits by strengthening Alto Mayo Protected Forest (AMPF) governance, increasing local awareness, promoting sustainable production and working cross sectorally. Beyond benefits of GHG emissions reduction, the project comprises benefits for local population and for biodiversity conservation, including exceptional biodiversity benefits.

The project has avoided the deforestation of 3,158 ha of tropical forest into the AMPF and thus, has contributed to the climate change mitigation by avoiding the emission of 1,364,191 tCO2e. Consequently, over 6.2 M tCO2 tCO2e. emissions have been avoided since the project start date in 2008.

The project has support the AMPF management with the increasing of AMPF staff and improvement of infrastructure, among other actions. For instance, a new AMPF management office has been constructed and several control check points has been improved. Furthermore, the project has provided technical and management training, which resulted in a more effective and accountable operation. Also a conservation program at schools is maintained and several environmental education events were promoted.

The benefits in local population include a positive impact in the generation of economic alternatives. A total 1856 wages were generated during the last two years. Also, the project has supported the development of sustainable economic activities, like agroforestry with coffee. Currently, 848 settlers have signed conservation agreements, an increase of 117 agreements since 2014. This represents approximately 60% of the total population settled in the AMPF. A coffee cooperative, COOPBAM, was created which is supported by the project and during its first year of operation has achieved its first exportation of organic coffee.

Regarding biological benefits, the forest conservation has allowed the preservation of the biodiversity of the project area by maintaining habitats that support native flora and fauna. AMPF has been identified as being of exceptional importance for the protection of global biodiversity. For instance, over 1,200 species of plants distributed over 118 family and 378 genera have been identified in the Alto Mayo forests.

The project has exceptional benefits for the biodiversity since the presence of 25 species categorized by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as Endangered and Critically Endangered and other 20 categorized as Vulnerable has been reported and confirmed in the project area.

## **Summary of Verification Results**

	Criterion	Required/ Optional	Conformance (Y/N, N/A)
G1	Original Conditions in the Project area	Required	Y
G2	Baseline projections	Required	Y
G3	Project design and goals	Required	Y
G4	Management capacity and best practices	Required	Y
G5	Legal Status and property rights	Required	Y
CL1	Net positive climate impacts	Required	Y
CL2	Offsite climate impacts	Required	Y
CL3	Climate impact monitoring	Required	Υ
CM1	Net positive community impacts	Required	Y
CM2	Offsite Stakeholder impacts	Required	Y
СМЗ	Community impact monitoring	Required	Y
B1	Net positive biodiversity impacts	Required	Y
B2	Offsite biodiversity impacts	Required	Y
B3	Biodiversity impact monitoring	Required	Y
GL1	Climate change adaptation Benefits	Optional	N/A
GL2	Exceptional community benefits	Optional	N/A
GL3	Exceptional biodiversity benefits	Optional	Y

## **Verification Conclusion:**

The review and cross-check of explanations and justifications in the Monitoring and Implementation Report dated on 12 August 2016 with sources detailed in the report have provided AENOR with sufficient evidence to determine the accomplishment of all stated criteria of the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standard Second Edition. The summary of Climate, Community and Biodiversity benefits that has been generated by the project included on the cover page of the Monitoring and Implementation Report is accurate.

In opinion of AENOR, the project implementation meets all relevant requirements for the CCB Standards second edition, including biodiversity exceptional benefits. Hence, AENOR considers verified that the project implementation is in accordance with the CCB Standards Second Edition at Biodiversity Gold Level.

Madrid, 2016-09-09

Luis Robles Olmos Authorized Person Manuel García-Rosell Verification Team Leader