



South Asia

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# **Initial Certification Report**

INITIAL CERTIFICATION OF THE  
CARBONFIX STANDARD PROJECT:  
"PROJECT TOGO"

REPORT No. 600500930

**4 December 2014**



Report No.	Date of first issue	Revision No.	Revision Date	Certificate No.
600500930	05 November 2014	2	4 December 2014	
<b>Validity of the Report until: 24 November 2019</b>				

<b>Subject:</b> Initial Certification of a CarbonFix Project version 3.2	
<b>Accredited TÜV SÜD Unit:</b> TÜV SÜD South Asia Pvt. Ltd., Certification Body "Environment and Energy", Environmental Technology, Carbon Management Service Solitaire, I.T.I. Road, Aundh, Pune- 411007, INDIA	
<b>Project Developer / Project Participant (PP):</b> natureOffice GmbH Friedrich-Ebert-Str. 1 55257 Budenheim am Rhein Germany	<b>Project Site(s):</b> The project area consists of 2 parcels covering a total area of 809 ha out of that 738 ha are potentially eligible. Presently 80 ha are eligible planting area. The project is located in the Prefecture Agou, Plateaux Region in the republic of Togo, West Africa. The PDD includes information on geographic boundary. Digital boundary files are provided by the PP.
<b>Project Title:</b> Project Togo <b>CarbonFix Project ID:</b> TG-PTX	
<b>Applied Methodology / Version:</b> CarbonFix Standard version 3.2	
<b>First PDD Version:</b> Date of issuance: 05 Sep 2013	<b>Final PDD version:</b> Date of issuance: 28 October 2014
<b>Ex-ante estimated total Emission Reduction over a 30 year crediting period:</b>	<b>16,867 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e</b>
<b>Ex-ante estimated total Emission Reduction excluding the 30% CarbonFix risk buffer over a 30 year crediting period:</b>	<b>11,813 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e</b>
<b>Estimated Total CarbonFix risk buffer (30%):</b>	<b>5,062 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e</b>
<b>Estimated allowed assignment 50% of future CO2 Certificates</b>	<b>5,904 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e</b>
<p>The amount of Emission Reductions stated in the CarbonFix internal "Climate Projects" system is not the same as the ones calculated in an Excel Sheet by the PP and checked by TÜV SÜD. Considering that the figures and calculations in "Climate Projects" are not traceable, the audit team cannot confirm the figures that are provided by Climate projects (in particular the document "Management-Units_PTX_CFS.pdf" for this project). Differences are likely to be due to rounding of numbers in the "Climate Projects" system.</p> <p>Figures in Climate Projects, which cannot be confirmed by TÜV SÜD are:  Ex-ante estimated total Emission Reduction excluding the 30% CarbonFix risk buffer over a 30 year crediting period: 11,247 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e  Estimated Total CarbonFix risk buffer (30%): 4,820 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e</p>	
<b>Assessment Team Leader:</b> Sebastian Hetsch	<b>Technical Reviewer:</b> Martin Opitz, Javier Castro
<b>Assessment Team Members:</b> Martin Seitz, Auditor Dr. Kossi Adjonou, Local Expert	<b>Certification Body responsible:</b> Eswar Murty



**Summary of the Certification Opinion:**

- The review of the project design documentation and the subsequent follow-up interviews have provided TÜV SÜD with sufficient evidence to determine the fulfilment of all stated criteria. In our opinion, the project meets all relevant requirements for the CarbonFix Standard. Hence TÜV SÜD is recommending the project for registration by the CarbonFix Standard organisation.
- The review of the project design documentation and the subsequent follow-up interviews did not provide TÜV SÜD with sufficient evidence to determine the fulfilment of all stated criteria. Hence TÜV SÜD will not recommend the project for registration by the CarbonFix standard organisation and will inform the project participants and the CarbonFix organisation on this decision



## Abbreviations

<b>CAR</b>	Corrective Action Request
<b>CB</b>	Certification Body
<b>CDM</b>	Clean Development Mechanism
<b>CFS</b>	CarbonFix Standard
<b>CR</b>	Clarification Request
<b>DOE</b>	Designated Operational Entity
<b>EIA</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment
<b>FAR</b>	Forward Action Request
<b>FSC</b>	Forest Stewardship Council
<b>GHG</b>	Greenhouse Gas(es)
<b>GIS</b>	Geographic Information System
<b>GPG</b>	Good Practice Guidance
<b>GPS</b>	Global Positioning System
<b>IPCC</b>	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
<b>IRL</b>	Information Reference List
<b>IRR</b>	Internal Rate of Return
<b>LULUCF</b>	Land-Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry
<b>MP</b>	Monitoring Plan
<b>NCA</b>	Nature Conservation Area
<b>NGO</b>	Non Governmental Organisation
<b>PDD</b>	Project Design Document
<b>PP</b>	Project Participant
<b>TÜV SÜD</b>	TÜV SÜD South Asia Pvt. Ltd
<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change



# Table of Contents

- 1. Introduction.....5
  - 1.1 Objective .....5
  - 1.2 Scope .....5
  - 1.3 Level of assurance and Materiality .....5
- 2. Methodology.....6
  - 2.1 Appointment of the Assessment Team .....6
  - 2.2 Review of Documents .....7
  - 2.3 Follow-up Interviews .....7
  - 2.4 Cross-check .....7
  - 2.5 Resolution of Clarification and Corrective Action Requests .....7
  - 2.6 Internal Quality Control .....8
- 3. Summary of Assessment .....8
- 4. Certification Conclusion & Opinion.....9

Annex 1: Certification Findings

Annex 2: List of References



## Introduction

### 1.1 Objective

The certification objective is an independent assessment by a third party, of a proposed project activity against all defined criteria set forth by the CarbonFix Standard.

In line with the CarbonFix Standard the certification shall be carried out by an organization appointed by the CarbonFix Standard Organization to do so, based on an accreditation from other standards. TÜV SÜD is accredited by UNFCCC to validate CDM projects. The CarbonFix Standard recognizes this accreditation.

The certification is part of the project cycle and will finally result in a conclusion by the executing Certification Body whether a project activity is valid and should be submitted for registration to the CarbonFix Standard Organisation. The ultimate decision on the registration of a proposed project activity rests at the CarbonFix Organisation.

The project activity covered by this certification report was submitted under the project title: "Project Togo".

### 1.2 Scope

The scope of any assessment is defined by the underlying legislation, regulation and guidance given by relevant entities or authorities. In the case of a CarbonFix project the scope is set by

- the CarbonFix Standard,
- guidance documents provided by the CarbonFix Standard,
- the AR-CDM additionality tool for afforestation / reforestation projects.
- Management systems and auditing methods
- Environmental issues relevant to the applicable sectoral scope
- Applicable environmental and social impacts and aspects of CarbonFix project activity
- Sector specific technologies and their applications
- Current technical and operational knowledge of the specific sectoral scope and information on best practice.

The certification is not meant to provide any consulting towards the client. However, stated Requests for Clarification and/or Requests for Corrective Actions may provide input for improvement of the project design.

The only purpose of a certification is its use during the registration process as part of the CarbonFix project cycle. Hence, TÜV SÜD cannot be held liable by any party for decisions made or not made based on the certification opinion, which will go beyond that purpose.

The purpose of the certification is to demonstrate compliance or non-compliance of the project with all stated and valid CarbonFix requirements. Additionally, the purpose of the certification is to enable the registration of CarbonFix project, which is only a part of the total CarbonFix project cycle.

### 1.3 Level of assurance and Materiality

The certification report expresses a conclusion with a limited level of assurance about whether the reported net anthropogenic GHG removals data is free from material misstatements. TÜV SÜD applied a materiality threshold with respect to omission or misstatements concerning reported quantities.

The audit team points out that based on the process and procedures conducted as part of this certification; there was no evidence that indicates that this GHG assertion



- is not materially correct and is not a fair representation of the GHG data and information presented, and
- was not prepared in accordance with the CarbonFix Standard.

## 2. Methodology

The project assessment applies standard auditing techniques to assess the correctness of the information provided by the project participants. The work starts with the appointment of the team covering the technical scope, technical area and relevant host country experience for evaluating the project activity. Members of the audit team carry out the desk review, follow-up actions, resolution of issues identified, and finally preparation of the certification report. The prepared certification report and other supporting documents then undergo an internal quality control by the CB "Environment and Energy" before submission to the CarbonFix Standard Organisation.

In order to ensure transparency in the certification process, assumptions are clearly and explicitly stated and background material is clearly referenced. CarbonFix provides a methodology-specific checklists and protocol customised for the project (see annex 1). The protocol shows, in a transparent manner, criteria (requirements), the discussion of each criterion by the assessment team, and the results from validating each relevant criterion.

The certification protocol serves the following purposes:

- To list the details of requirements which a CarbonFix project is expected to meet and provide of clarifications on the requirements if needed;
- To elucidate how a particular requirement has been validated as well as to document the results of the certification and any adjustments made to the project design document.

The completed certification protocol is enclosed in Annex 1.

### 2.1 Appointment of the Assessment Team

According to the technical scopes and experiences in the sectoral or national business environment, TÜV SÜD has composed a project team in accordance with the appointment rules of the TÜV SÜD certification body "Environment and Energy".

The composition of an assessment team has to be approved by the Certification Body (CB) to assure that the required skills are covered by the team. The CB TÜV SÜD operates the following qualification levels for team members that are assigned by formal appointment rules:

- Assessment Team Leader (ATL);
- Validator / Verifier (V);
- Trainee (T);
- Technical Experts (TE).

It is required that the sectoral scope(s) and the technical area(s) linked to the methodology and project have to be covered by the assessment team.

#### Assessment Team:



Name	Qualification	Coverage of scope	Coverage of technical area	Coverage of financial aspect	Host country experience
Sebastian Hetsch	ATL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (14.1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Martin Seitz	V	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (14.1)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Kossi Adjonou					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### Technical Reviewer:

- Javier Castro (Technical Review Leader)
- Martin Opitz (coverage of respective TA 14.1)

## 2.2 Review of Documents

The first PDD was submitted to the audit team in Sept 2013. This PDD version and additional background documents related to the project design and baseline were reviewed to verify the correctness, credibility, and interpretation of the presented information. As a further step of the certification process, information provided by the PP was cross-checked with information from other sources (if available). A complete list of all documents and proofs reviewed is attached as Annex 2 to this report.

## 2.3 Follow-up Interviews

Between 18 and 25 October 2013, TÜV SÜD performed interviews, telephone conferences and physical site inspections with project stakeholders to confirm relevant information and to resolve issues identified in the first document review. The following table provides a list of all persons interviewed in this process.

#### Persons Interviewed:

Name	Organisation
Andreas Weckwert	Director, natureOffice
Franziska Niesch	natureOffice
Lekey Yauovi Koumassi	Director, Action Durable
Charity Nunyakpe	Consultant
Lekey Karoline	Volunteer
Nounyova Kokun	Préfet Agou
Sepe Komlan	Préfet Sekpele
Katanga Makiliwe	Police
Adoyih Rahid	Gendarme
Ankou Kossi	Work safety officer, Action Durable
Mamati Palabe	Forester, Action Durable
Frau Hellwig	Steuerberaterin, Kanzlei Lorenz/Wiesbaden

## 2.4 Cross-check

During the certification process the team has made reference to available information related to similar projects or technologies as the CarbonFix project activity. Project documentation has also been reviewed against the approved methodology applied to confirm the appropriateness of formulae and correctness of calculations.

## 2.5 Resolution of Clarification and Corrective Action Requests

The objective of this phase of the certification is to resolve the requests for corrective actions, clarifications, and any other outstanding issues which need to be clarified for TÜV SÜD's conclusion



on the project design. The CARs and CRs raised by TÜV SÜD are resolved during communication between the client and TÜV SÜD. To guarantee the transparency of the certification process, the concerns raised and responses that have been given are documented in more detail in the certification protocol in Annex 1.

The final PDD version dated 28 Oct 2014 submitted October 2014 serves as the basis for the final assessment presented.

## **2.6 Internal Quality Control**

Internal quality control is the final step of the certification process and is conducted by the CB "Environment and Energy" who checks the final documentation, which includes the certification report and annexes. The completion of the quality control indicates that each report submitted has been approved either by the CB committee. In projects where either the Head of the CB or his/her deputy is part of the assessment team, the approval is given by the one not serving on the project team.

After confirmation by the PP, the certification opinion and relevant documents are submitted to CarbonFix through their web-platform.

## **Summary of Assessment**

The review of the project design documentation and the subsequent follow-up interviews have provided TÜV SÜD with sufficient evidence to determine the fulfilment of all stated criteria. In our opinion, the project meets all relevant requirements for the CarbonFix Standard. Hence, TÜV SÜD is recommending the project for registration by the CarbonFix Standard organisation.

Detailed findings are listed in Annex 1 of the report



## Certification Conclusion & Opinion

TÜV SÜD performed an Initial Certification of the proposed CarbonFix project activity "Project Togo".

Standard auditing techniques have been used for the certification of the project. A methodology-specific protocol for the project has been prepared to conduct the audit in a transparent and comprehensive manner.

The review of the project design documentation, subsequent follow-up interviews, and further verification of references have provided TÜV SÜD with sufficient evidence to determine the fulfilment of stated criteria in the protocol. In the opinion of TÜV SÜD, the project meets all relevant CarbonFix Standard requirements if the underlying assumptions do not change. TÜV SÜD recommends the project for registration by the CarbonFix Standard organisation.

An analysis, as provided by the applied methodology, demonstrates that the proposed project activity is not a likely baseline scenario. GHG removals attributable to the project are additional to any that would occur in the absence of the project activity. Considering that the project will be implemented as designed, the project is likely to achieve the total estimated amount of GHG removal of 16,867 tCO<sub>2</sub>e over the 30 years crediting period, as specified within the final PDD version 28 Oct 2014. As per the CarbonFix Standard 30% (5,062 t CO<sub>2</sub>e) will be included in the CarbonFix buffer. According to the CarbonFix Standard requirement 10.7 "Financial Capacity", the project is only allowed to assign 50% of its future CO<sub>2</sub>-certificates until the first successful monitoring certification – however at the earliest 3 years after initial certification. This means 5,904 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e.

The certification has been performed following the requirements of the CarbonFix Standard and on the basis of the contractual agreement. The single purpose of this report is its use during the registration process as part of the CarbonFix project cycle. Based on the work described in this report, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that any project component or issue has not been covered by the certification process.

Pune, 04 December 2014

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Murty Eswar'.

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Murty Eswar

Certification Body "Environment and Energy"  
TÜV SÜD South Asia Pvt. Ltd.