

ANNUAL REPORT

2016-2017



Plan Vivo Foundation

Improving livelihoods, restoring ecosystems



People and livelihoods

Ethical climate services

Ecosystems

Watersheds

PES

Native species

Biodiversity

Adaptation

Poverty Reduction

Community Rights

Participation

Transparency

Habitats

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Introduction

Ina Porras, Chairperson

The adoption of the Paris climate agreement gave us hope that our leaders can effectively deliver a joint response to the urgent needs of our planet. Implementation of these ideas is, of course, an ongoing challenge.

In the meantime, voluntary carbon markets continue to pave the way for bottom-up action to combat climate change. The Plan Vivo Standard now has over twenty years of experience with community-based forest conservation projects, ever since the first pilot in Southern Mexico in the early nineties. International carbon prices continue to show great variability (\$0.50-\$50/tCO₂e) - a reflection of market uncertainties as well as accumulated inventory from across the voluntary market, making it a tough time for carbon projects (Forest Trends 2017).¹

At the same time, there is much room for optimism. Holistic approaches developed under voluntary carbon markets (the co-benefits to biodiversity, health and jobs for example) are at the forefront of work on the Sustainable Development Goals. These and other important international agreements, such as the Aichi Targets, open the door for the Plan Vivo Standard to position

itself as a leader in integrative climate solutions. With an average price of \$8/tCO₂e (among the highest in the voluntary market and up on last year), as well as 336.9 KtCO₂e transacted during the year, it is clear that Plan Vivo supporters continue to believe in our formula. We saw a record number of certificates issued between 1st March 2016 and 28th Feb 2017 (478,495 tCO₂e), an increase of 57% on the previous year and another record for the Foundation.

Today, we have reached a total of 2,697,323 Plan Vivo certificates sold in international markets. Our core programmes continue to expand, involving approximately 55,600 rural smallholders and communities in Latin America, Africa and Asia Pacific. Each of these Plan Vivo certificates is a catalyst for multiple benefits to people and planet.



¹ http://www.forest-trends.org/documents/files/doc_5591.pdf#

Facts and Figures

For FY2016-2017

- **15** registered projects
- Plan Vivo's pipeline expands to **31** projects, including a large portfolio of potential projects in Africa and Asia
- **2.6 million** certificates issued overall
- **478,495** Plan Vivo Certificates issued in FY 2016-2017 - up 57% on the previous year
- **336,900** PVCs transacted in 2016-2017



- The average price of Plan Vivo Certificates in FY 2016-2017 was **\$8/tCO₂** (compared to an average of \$3/tCO₂ across the voluntary carbon market)²
- Approx. **55,600** participants (smallholders and community groups) are contributing to Plan Vivo-certified interventions
- Approximately **\$17 million** channelled into developing country organisations
- **166,585.69 ha** under management, which includes 11,000 ha of planted areas.



New Project Registrations



Bujang Raba Community PES project, KKI WARSI, Indonesia

Bujang Raba is a community PES project in Jambi (Sumatra) that involves 5 village groups protecting 5,336 ha of primary rainforest. The project focuses on strengthening land tenure and involving local communities in sustainable forest management, as well as diversifying income streams by implementing agroforestry activities and establishing rattan-processing facilities. The project also aims to build capacity and increase the participation of women by establishing women-run enterprises.

Pastures, Conservation, Climate Action, Mongolia

This is a community-driven project, developed and administered by the Mongolian Society for Range Management at three different sites in Mongolia, covering a total area of 77,000 ha. The project takes a 'carbon plus' approach, emphasising the livelihoods benefits of the project by making important contributions to nomadic herders' well-being, to the conservation of a globally important biodiversity heritage and to a range of ecosystem services, as well as contributing to carbon sequestration through improved rangeland management.



Loru, Forest Project

The Loru Forest Project, managed by the Nakau Programme, protects 166 ha of tropical rainforest on eastern Espiritu Santo, Vanuatu. The project works with about fifty indigenous ni-Vanuatu landowners of the Serkar Clan, descended from Chief Serkar (1913-1997). In order to protect the rainforest, these landowners have given up the rights to land clearance for coconut plantations. The project combines coastal rainforest protection with agroforestry, with a special focus on producing the agricultural commodity Melanesian Chestnut (*Canarium indium*) for participating community members. It provides habitat for the critically endangered Vanuatu Megapode bird (*Megapodu freycinet layardi*) and the critically endangered Coconut Crab (*Birgus latro*), among other endangered species.



New Project Registrations

Rehabilitation and sustainable management of degraded pastures in the Sahel region of Burkina Faso (REACH and AGED)

The project is part of a larger program: BKF/017 “Livestock Improvement Project of the Zebu Azawak and sustainable management of pastoral resources, implemented by the Ministry in charge of Animal Resources in Burkina Faso. Finance was provided by Lux Dev, with the project aiming to rehabilitate an area of pasture lands measuring 7,250 ha.”



The NGO AGED together with another NGO, REACH Italia, are involved in the implementation of the BKF/017 program. Natural rehabilitation of degraded pastures

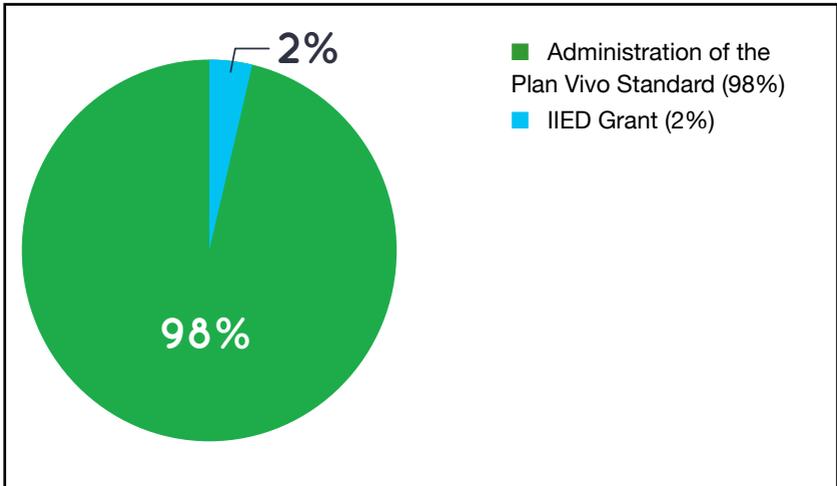
includes working with communities to identify and demarcate community pasture areas, as well as the direct seeding of naturalised tree, shrub and herbaceous species. Local land charters are being defined based on the new Rural Land Tenure Law, which enables the legal recognition of rights granted under customary rules and practices. These local land charters will allow capacity building of communities to develop and implement appropriate controls on pasture use.

Natural rehabilitation of degraded pastures will include working with communities to identify and demarcate community pasture areas and the direct seeding of naturalized tree, shrub and herbaceous species. Based on the new Rural Land Tenure Law enabling legal recognition of rights legitimated by customary rules and practices, local land charters will be defined. These local land charters will allow capacity-building of communities to develop and implement appropriate controls of pasture use.

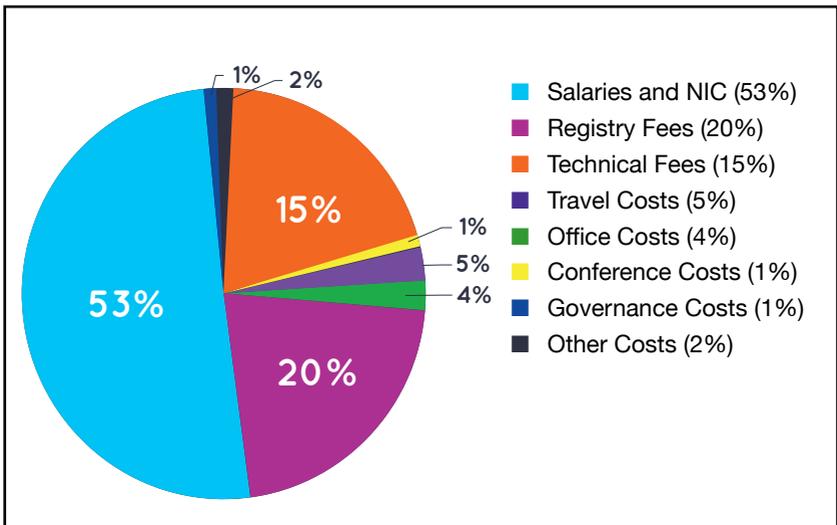


Financial Report

Income



Expenditure



In 2016/2017, a total income of £135,618 was generated, comprising:

- £132,518 from administering the Plan Vivo Standard (market-based income)
- £3,100 from IIED for ESPA-related research and events
- £28 in other income

Total expenditure amounted to £114,352, the largest expenses being:

- £64,077 in wages, salaries and National Insurance Contributions
- £23,624 in registry fees
- £17,789 in technical fees
- £5,523 in staff travel and subsistence
- £4,376 in rent, office and admin costs
- £1,236 in conference costs

Plan Vivo Carbon Footprint FY2016-2017

GHG emission data in tonnes of tCO ₂ e	
Scope 1 (Direct, e.g. heating)	0.19 tCO ₂ e
Scope 2: (Indirect energy, e.g. electricity)	0.223 tCO ₂ e
Scope 3 (Other indirect, e.g. business travel)	22.1 tCO ₂ e
Total Gross Emissions in tCO₂e	22.5 tCO₂e
Average full-time equivalents (FTE)	3.0 tCO ₂ e
Per FTE Annual Emissions	7.5 tCO ₂ e



Financial Report 2016-2017 Narrative

Summary

During FY2016-2017, Plan Vivo has made a number of notable achievements.

- **A record amount of Plan Vivo certificates were issued this year:** Between 1st of March 2016 and 29th of February 2017, the Foundation issued 478,495 Plan Vivo Certificates, representing 1tCO₂ per certificate. This was up by 57% on the previous year bringing the historical total to 2,697,323 PVCs



- **Sale Price continues to beat the average:** Plan Vivo-certified projects have traditionally been appreciated by supporters for the range of co-benefits they deliver to communities, in addition to climate change mitigation. This year has been no different – in May 2017, the Forest Trends report titled *State of the Voluntary Carbon Markets*, reported the average price for PVCs at \$8/tCO₂, up from \$7.6/PVC in the previous year and significantly better than the average of \$3/tCO₂ across the voluntary market

- **Pro-poor, forestry and land-use projects speak directly to the challenges of the UN's 17 Sustainable**

Development Goals: Plan Vivo projects are now reporting on co-benefits and aiming to align with the SDG framework

- **A total of \$17.33 Mn has reached Plan Vivo-certified projects in developing countries through the sale of Plan Vivo Certificates:** Of this amount 52.2% has gone directly to participants as either cash payments or to capitalise community funds. This focus on equitable benefit sharing empowers communities and provides meaningful livelihoods benefits.



- **An estimated 55,600 smallholders and community members are currently engaged in land-use planning.**

- **Registration of three new projects:** Bujang Raba, Indonesia, Pastures, Climate and Conservation, Mongolia and Loru Forest Project, Vanuatu.

Plan Vivo Impacts

15

REGISTERED
PROJECTS



TOTAL AREA

under management:

166,585 ha



TOTAL NUMBER

of trees planted:

6,226,979



Area under
conservation:
138,854.50 ha

\$17.33 million disbursed to developing country organisations, of which

\$9.92 million

paid directly to project participants



Plan Vivo's Proposal for the SDGs

The Plan Vivo Standard is based on ethical principles intended to deliver long-term climate, livelihoods and biodiversity benefits. The Standard offers a robust and pragmatic framework to help communities and smallholder projects transition towards sustainable land use and forest management and gain performance-based payments through access to environmental markets.

By focusing on participatory design, long-term sustainability and land tenure, Plan Vivo projects enable smallholders to become stewards of their natural resources and ecosystems.

What do the SDGs mean for the private sector?

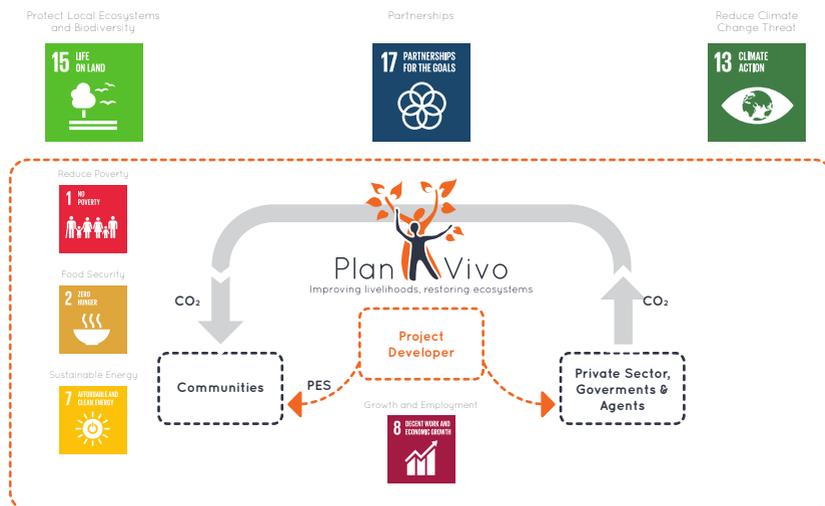
1. Business opportunities: investment flows, technologies and information, resilient supply chains
2. Enhancing the value of CSR
3. Decreasing reputational risks and improving stakeholder relations across supply chains
4. Supporting society means supporting business
5. Common language and shared purpose



Activities implemented by projects vary according to the needs of smallholders and communities and depend on country-specific contexts. Across the board, Plan Vivo projects are inherently designed to deliver a broad range of non-carbon benefits resulting in resilient communities and ecosystems. Consequently, the Plan Vivo system has been contributing significantly towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within local contexts. In order to document impacts on a global scale, the Sustainable Development Goals provide a useful framework for projects to report on co-benefits.

Most Plan Vivo projects are designed to contribute to at least 5 core SDGs due to the ethical principles laid out in the Plan Vivo Standard. By contributing to the core SDGs, Plan Vivo projects are committed to a Pathway to Impact, delivering long-term impacts in terms of poverty alleviation, food security, economic growth, climate action and biodiversity protection.

SDG and Community PES (carbon)



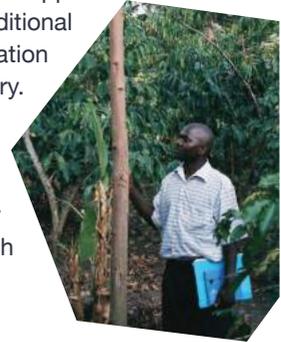
Project Contributions to the SDGs



Trees for Global Benefits, Uganda

The Trees for Global Benefits Project in Uganda has distributed over \$2 m in Payments for Ecosystem Services to participating farmers and communities over the past decade. In order to make the distribution of funds as fair as possible, the project has created the Community Carbon Fund (CCF), which is a revolving fund to support investments in additional income generation

streams, such as apiculture and animal husbandry. Moreover, wider community projects are sponsored through this fund, such as infrastructure projects (usually schools, bridges, hospitals, protection of water springs). TGB has also partnered with other services, such as mobile health services, to reach remotely located communities.



Khasi Hills, India

The Khasi Hills project in Meghalaya works with 62 indigenous kingdoms to protect and conserve forest resources. Through PES payments, the project supports local livelihood diversification by providing microfinance grants to participating villages. Up to 124 grants were distributed during 2015 and 2016. Microfinance initiatives include the establishment of tree nurseries, donations of pigs and chickens, training in shifting to stall-feeding animals and the support of Self-help Groups (SHGs), predominantly run by women, which implement small-scale village projects.



Communitree , Nicaragua

Increased Income for Communities:

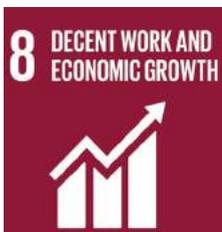
Taking Root addresses the root cause of deforestation by creating market incentives to plant trees instead of cutting them down. Therefore, the



CommuniTree Carbon Program ensures there is a continued and sustainable incentive to allow reforestation of those

areas to thrive. This reforestation brings employment and income into a regional economy that has been historically disadvantaged. Taking Root provides capacity building and employment opportunities to thousands of inhabitants of rural Nicaragua. As the program grows, so does the job market for ecological

services, technicians, and administrators to support it at the grassroots level. So far 2,645 people have full-time employment through the programme.



Scolel'te, Mexico

The Scolel'te project in Mexico works with smallholders to establish agroforestry systems that provide a range of social and economic benefits for local communities. The traditional Taungya system practiced by indigenous people and communities in Chiapas involves establishing forest plantations using high-value native timber species. Farmers benefit from extra income provided by annual crops that are interplanted with trees. Moreover, coffee agroforestry systems aim to buffer price fluctuations for small-scale farmers through diversifying production. Reforestation activities

use native commercial timber species, providing communities with timber for local use and long-term income from the sale of timber.





REDD+ in the Yaeda Valley, Tanzania

The Project works closely with the indigenous Hadza hunter-gatherer tribe to protect and secure forest resources that local communities depend on. The project employs 40 community guards who patrol the 33,790 ha of forests to deter and monitor illegal land encroachment,

land-use change and wildlife poaching. Native forest and crucial water sources within the project area are protected for the benefit of both humans and endangered wildlife. The Hadza are also one of Tanzania's most distinctive human cultures, with a deep reservoir of indigenous knowledge pertaining to natural resource use. The Hadza are strict, almost obligate, hunter-gatherers and do not raise any livestock, although some do keep fields of domestic crops (indigenous African millet). Whilst famine might be part of the cultural history of neighbouring pastoralists or agriculturalists, this is not the case for the Hadza as they can survive on a rich diversity of foods. As the Hadza are able to exploit a wide range of seasonally available birds, mammals and plant species, the biodiversity monitoring program is interested in what types of mammals are consumed on an annual basis.



Nakau Programme, Vanuatu

The Nakau Programme has established legally recognised agreements with indigenous landowners in Vanuatu, Fiji and the Solomon Islands to ensure that important coastal rainforests are protected from conversion to coconut plantations or widescale timber harvesting. The project protects 293 ha of tropical rainforest on eastern Espiritu Santo, Vanuatu through the protection of coastal rainforest and agroforestry - particularly nut production from the Melanesian Chestnut (*Canarium indium*). Habitat for the critically endangered Vanuatu Megapode bird (*Megapodu freycinet layardi*), and the critically endangered Coconut Crab (*Birgus latro*). It is also home to several endemic birds including the Vanuatu Kingfisher (*Halycon farquhari*), the Vanuatu Flycatcher (*Neolalage banksiana*), the Vanuatu Fruit Dove (*Ptilinopus tannensis*), the Vanuatu White-eye (*Sosterops flavifrons*), the Santo Mountain



Starling (*Aplonis santovestris*), the Vanuatu Imperial Pigeon (*Ducula bakeri*), and the Golden Whistler (*Pachycephala pectoralis*). This rainforest also provides valuable protection from cyclones, floods and droughts for the local Loru people.



Trees of Hope, Malawi

The Trees of Hope project works with farmers in the Dowa district of Malawi. The interventions of the project specifically include the planting of fruit trees, such as citrus

and mango orchards, which open up new income streams for local participants, but also contribute to household consumption.

Moreover, the project encourages local smallholders to interplant trees with arable crops to improve soil fertility over time which has a positive effect on subsistence farming.



Emiti Nibwo Bulora Project, Tanzania

The Emiti Nibwo Bulora Project involves small-scale farmers in tree-planting

activities with the objective of building their adaptive capacity to cope with the impacts of climate change. The project also works with the technique of Dispersed Interplanting which provides benefits in improved soil fertility and nutrient cycling, thus increased yields (e.g. maize), contributing to overall greater food security. Other benefits of this intervention include soil conservation and improved water quality.



Environmental Footprint

Plan Vivo has again measured its scope 1-3 carbon footprint for FY 2016/2017, which was 22.5 in 2016/2017. Our staff continue to endeavour to minimise their carbon footprint by walking or cycling to their workplaces, use internet video and voice calls for most communications and utilise public transport for UK-based travel. There has been a slight decrease in our carbon footprint compared to FY 2015/2016 (22.6 tCO₂).

As last year, we will compensate our carbon footprint through COTAP, a trusted partner that distributes funds to 4 poverty alleviation projects in the Plan Vivo network of projects. For further information, check COTAP.org





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