

# **Plan Vivo Approved Approach**

## **Additionality**

May 2015

## AA1 – Demonstrating Additionality

This approved approach will help projects demonstrate that their planned activities and the resulting emission reductions are ‘additional’ in nature i.e. that they would not have happened without the project. In some cases this may require supporting evidence.

Proving the concept of additionality is required under Principle 5 of the Plan Vivo Standard (version 2013) which states that:

*Ecosystem services forming the basis of Plan Vivo projects must be additional i.e. would not have been generated in the absence of the project, which involves as a minimum demonstrating that:*

*5.4.1. Project interventions are not required by existing laws or regulations, unless it can be shown that those laws are not enforced or commonly met in practice and the support of the project is therefore justified;*

*5.4.2. There are financial, social, cultural, technical, scientific or institutional barriers preventing project interventions from taking place.*

### **Plan Vivo Standard (2013) Principle 5.4**

In order to satisfy these requirements projects should clearly demonstrate 2 things:

- a **Regulatory surplus:** that the activities are not required by enforced legislation or conducted to fulfil the official policies, regulations, or industry standards or any organisation or institution. If existing legislation or regulations do exist, projects should state why the proposed project activities are not being carried out/will not be carried out. This might be the case, for example, with non-existent or ineffective enforcement of current forest protection measures.

Method: Provide a written statement that demonstrates the regulatory surplus e.g. *“although the community forest has been registered with government authorities the local people are unable to effectively patrol it to ensure that illegal harvesting activities do not take place or to support alternative livelihoods activities for poorer households because they lack an effective group organisation, awareness and capacity, and financial resources to initiate new livelihoods activities. The project will provide support for all these to strengthen the effectiveness of the community forest”.*

Annexes can be used to specify the relevant legislation that is applicable and if possible, by quoting the appropriate passages.

- b **Barrier analysis:** that the project must enable existing barriers to be overcome that otherwise would prevent the desired project activities from taking place. Projects should demonstrate how they will overcome the identified barriers.

Method: Prepare and complete a barrier analysis table similar to the example in Table AA1.1 showing the types of barriers and indicating how these will be overcome by the project. The information provided in the table should demonstrate how the project will overcome these barriers,

for example through the provision of financial support, materials, training and technical/other support.

Clear statements of intent to address each identified barrier should be written in the third column. Additional supporting evidence e.g. letters, funding statements can also be attached if available and relevant.

<b>TABLE AA1:1 Example of Barrier Analysis</b>		
<b>Type of barrier</b>	<b>Description of Specific Barriers</b>	<b>How barriers will be overcome by project activities</b>
Financial/economic barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insufficient financial resources to develop project</li> <li>• No system of community payments for ecosystem services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding is secured to develop initial project, ongoing project management and transaction costs and payments for ecosystem services</li> </ul>
Technical barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project coordinator organisation does not currently have required skill set and human resources necessary to implement and manage the project</li> <li>• Communities without awareness and skills to initiate project development processes and activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruitment of staff and skill strengthening for the project coordinator will be undertaken</li> <li>• Training will be undertaken with the project coordinator staff, site coordinators and community field workers include mapping; biomass inventories; participatory threat assessment and derivation of baselines; carbon quantification</li> </ul>
Institutional/political barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of regulations regarding forestry and land-use, or poor enforcement of such regulations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support will be given for community members to develop their own bylaws and rules for a community forest</li> </ul>
Ecological barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Widespread soil degradation, recent natural events such as floods, climatic conditions, land-pressures such as intensive grazing</li> </ul>	
Social barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor organisation and mobilisation of local communities and groups, remoteness of communities, poor infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity development for community members will be supported</li> </ul>
Cultural barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traditional knowledge, laws and customs, market conditions or practices, traditional equipment and management activities.</li> </ul>	