Project Validation Guidance

Following the initial review of the PDD and Technical Specification by Plan Vivo, the project must be assessed by an independent party (the validator) in order to ensure it is implementing systems according to both its approved documents and the requirements of the Plan Vivo Standard.

There are two options for choosing a validator:

- Selection one of the Validation and Verification Bodies (VVBs) from the pre-approved list.
- Submission by the project of potential CVs in English and covering letter to Plan Vivo for each individual proposed. The validator must then be approved by the Technical Advisory Committee.

During the site visit, the validator will interview key project staff and community members to assess that appropriate training has taken place and that participation in the proposed project is informed and voluntary.

Process Overview:

- **Submission of PDD:** The PDD, Technical Specification(s) and PES Agreement are submitted for review to the Plan Vivo Foundation.

- **Validation is authorised by the Plan Vivo Foundation:** After the initial review of the documents, the Plan Vivo Foundation authorises the selection of the validator and project site visit.

- **Validator is selected and the project site visit takes place:** The selected validator visits the project area, interviews local communities and audits project documents.

- **Validation Report is submitted to the Plan Vivo Foundation:** Following the site visit, the validator submits the validation report, which contains the validator’s feedback and any Corrective Action Requests (CARs) that the project developer must address in order to finalise the validation process.

- **Plan Vivo Foundation closes the Validation Report:** When the CARs have been addressed by the project developer, the Plan Vivo Foundation closes the validation report and the project can then be registered.

After the site visit, the validator prepares a validation report based on their findings and submits it to the project coordinator as well as to the Foundation. Once the validation field visit is complete and the validator's
feedback has been addressed satisfactorily, the project can be registered under the Plan Vivo system.

**List of Pre-Approved Validation and Verification Bodies (VVBs)**

- AENOR
- Environmental Services Inc.
- EPIC Sustainability Services Private Limited
- Rainforest Alliance

**List of Independent Third Party Experts**

- Ezra Neale (Emiti Nibwo, Communitree, Trees of Hope)
- David Moss Gillespie (Arbolivia)
- Ed Mitchard (Hiniduma Bio-Link)
- Theron Morgan-Brown (Yaeda Valley)
- Koen Meyers (FFI Indonesia Projects)
- Mamerto Valerio (Two Worlds, One Bird)
- Katja Pellini (Bujang Raba)
- Batbuyan Batjav (Mongolia)

The listed experts have already been approved to conduct validations. For more information, please contact the Plan Vivo Foundation Secretariat.