Project Title
Afforestation on Degraded Lands in Mountainous Areas of Northern Guangdong, China
Gold Standard ID
GS3343
Type of Certification
☒ Initial Certification ☐ Performance Certification ☐ New Area Certification ☐ Annual Reporting

For each item listed below, please provide a general description in the corresponding box. In total, this document shall not exceed 5 pages. Be aware that carbon market specific terms may not be appropriate for the readers of this summary. The formatting requirements provided in chapter 7.4 must be followed.

1. Key Project Information

(a) Project activities

The proposed Gold Standard's Land Use & Forest Programme activity is the afforestation of 831.01 ha with South China native species, mainly *Pinus massoniana* Lamb. (Masson pine), located on degraded lands belonging to Youshan mountain, Nanxiong city, Guangdong province, China. The project aims to recover degraded areas to forest ecosystem, and to develop sustainable economic activities, as "turpentine" production and improving the local community's standard of living. Effects of long-term ecological afforestation project can bring ecological and social benefits to the local residents.

(b) Organisations that are involved in the project (project participants)

Nanxiong Flying Dragon Forestry Development Co., Ltd.

(c) Communities involved in the project

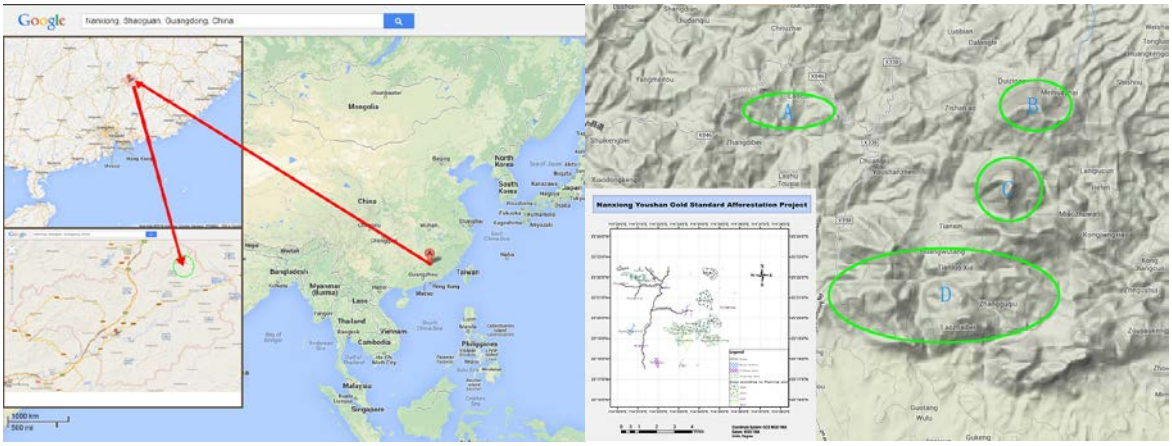
Pinglin, Lianshan And Huangdi Village Committee, Youshan Town, Nanxiong City, Guangdong Province, China

(d) Location of the project area and the planting area

	Coordinates
Latitude	25°19′ 40.62″ N
Longitude	114°34′ 46.73″ E

The project is located in Youshan town of Nanxiong city in Guangdong province, People's Republic of China. The project site is around 350-750 m above sea level. The geographical coordinates of the site are about 114°34′ 46.73″ east longitude and 25°19′ 40.62″ north latitude.

(d) Location of the project area and the planting area



(e) Size of the project area and the planting area

Project area: 831.01 ha (2.1-01, 2.1-02, 2.1-03)
Planting area: 743.08 ha (2.1-01, 2.1-02, 2.1-03)
Afforestation project activity is considered as large scale according to both CDM and Gold Standard rules since the planting area is about 743.08 ha and annual CO_2 fixation by the project activity is above 10,000 tCO_2 per year.

(f) Risk of change to the project area (during the crediting period)

All of the project area has been planted in 2009 to 2012 and the land-use wouldn't change during the crediting period. The Chinese government especially Guangdong province pay special attention to the Afforestation work. If there is deforestation caused by Force majeure factors, the damaged project area will be replanted in time. The risk of change to the project area is low because long-time management operation has been seriously considered by the project owner.

(g) Risk of change to the project activities (during the crediting period)

Carbon sink Afforestation is the target for land-use of the project region which has been established. The project activities wouldn't change unless the unsustainable economic crisis. So, the carbon sequestration benefits have been considered in the operation of the project. (2.1-04)

(h) Timeframe for the project activities

Table 1. timeframe for the project activities (2.1-01, 2.1-03)

Time/year	Project activities
2009	Planted 400.00 ha of the project area
2010	Planted 212.01 ha of the project area
2011	Planted 72.44 ha of the project area
2012	Planted 58.63 ha of the project area
2013-2014	Forest management and apply for the Gold Standard Register
2014	The crediting period start
2009-2038	Forest conservation and management

(i) Number of (predicted) CO_2-certificates
340932.35 tCO_2 (2.1-05)

(j) Land-use history and current situation of the project area
History of the land-use (2.1-02, 2.1-06) The project area consists of 12 separated regions covering a total area of 831.01 ha, located in remote barren mountains of northeast Guangdong province, close to the frontier to Jiangxi province. The primeval forests of the project area were destroyed by some unsustainable management timber companies during the Cultural Revolution between 1966 and 1976. A large area of soil erosion occurred frequently after the timber companies moved away. The local governments have discussed many control measures over the years but suffering from local financial pressure. Since the beginning of the 21th century the rapidly damage and national policy of afforestation force the local government to do something immediately to response the indigenous farmers' hope. The baseline scenario surveyed in 2013 shows that the area nearby which is not yet planted is covered by boundless weeds and a very tiny amount of miscellaneous wood. There is a small-scale collapsed mountain caused by a quarry long-time ago which indicates that forest protection is not good enough. When the project came, all things changed. **Current situation of the project area** Total 831.01 ha of project areas were planted from 2009 to 2012 with native species mainly Masson pine and some fire-resistance tree species. There is no construction and wetlands which is Non-eligible planting area in the forest. All activities were well under controlled during the planting and managing time. Protected forest growth for at least 30 years before tending regeneration selection cutting. New forest fire prevention system has established before the project start. The land-use would not change if it is fiscal sustainability to Nanxiong Flying Dragon forestry development Co., Ltd.. Large-scale forest management is advantageous to forest conservation. Local farmer can participate in forest management in the slack farming season.

(k) Socio-economic history and current situation
Socio-economic history (2.1-07) Agriculture was the only supporting industry in the past years. The local socio-economic was remained in the traditional self-sufficient agricultural production because of the limitation of farmland area in the mountains. No additional agricultural products could be supplied to the outside. There will be many surplus labours in slack seasons over a long period. Therefore, many young people had to go to some big cities nearby to make a living. Low farm income limited the improvement of quality of local farmers' life. And the descent of forest soil quality even affected the production of agriculture. Moreover, farmer's demand for firewood will further affect natural forest regeneration in winter. The use of fire in agricultural production posed a great threat to mountains of full miscanthus. **Current situation** The mountains near the village are planted now. Long-term forest management requires a large number of local farmers to participate in. Many young men with high education background are formally employed by the enterprise. New sources of revenue from forest by-product and forest-under-economic has attracted some farmers' attention. The timber production in the future can be long-term benefits for local people. The most main task at present is to ensure the growth of forest. So, more instructional training on forest conservation and management will start.

(l) Forest management applied (past and future)
(2.1-03)(2.1-08 Forest Management Plan) There is no forest management measure applied in the past barren land. When the first tree was planted, forest conservation had become the most important management task. A number of pruning and thinning activities will be carried out in high density planting area and replanting

(l) Forest management applied (past and future)
measures will be implemented in gap area to promote and protect the growth of young trees. Pruning will be carried at 4-6 years after planting. Firewood harvest in project area is forbidden when the trees are young, and forest fire prevention will be strictly enforced. Except then the health and growth of Masson pine or its undergrowth threatens to stagnate appropriate management will be applied. The long term strategy of turpentine production will start since 15 years after afforestation. Unhealthy trees will be considered to be replaced by some native species such as broadleaf trees but not to be moved out of the forest for bio-fertilizer use. It should be mentioned that the forest ecosystem will be that of a natural forest management aimed of maximize ensure biodiversity and forest health. Chemical pesticides and biological control agents shall be avoided. If it has to be used, the project manager will inform IMO/Ecocert/GS on the name and active ingredient, appr. application area and appr. quantity of the pesticide and the reason for fertilizing. The entire forest management plan must abide by national forest laws and regulations. There is no forest management applied in the past. Drawing up a sustainable forest management plan is an important guarantee for the sustainable development of forestry.

(m) Forest characteristics (including main tree species planted)
(2.1-01, 2.1-03, 2.1-05) Data from the survey in 2013 **Main tree species:** *Pinus massoniana Lamb.* (Masson pine), Schima, Liquidambar **Planting start:** 2009 **Planting years:** 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 **Forest canopy density:** 0.3 **Afforestation rate:** 89.42% (Masson pine) **Average DBH:** 6cm (trees planted in 2012 are not included) **Average Height:** 3.56m **Project area:** 831.01 ha **Planting area:** 743.08 ha **Ecological buffer:** 87.94 ha **Average elevation of plants:** 523 m **Planting size and density:** 2.5 m * 3 m & 3 m * 3 m

(n) Main social impacts (risks and benefits)
The social aspects will remain the same at least. By generating more jobs in the region and by improving the overall life standard the pressure for social and labour improvement will increase. The new jobs have flexible variety of forms include permanent and temporary position and fulfil all labour standards. The health and safety risks are as usual but the air quality and residence landscape will be better. Both the employment quantity and quality are part of the monitoring plan. By generating jobs and benefits sharing for the local people, the livelihood is improved by the project. None of the stakeholders expects negative aspects and most of them expect a sustainable development. The human and institutional capacity is increased by the socio-economic and ecological benefits of the project, as the stakeholders agree upon. Local farmers are trained to become forest ranger. Therefore, positive effects on publicity and training can be expected.

(o) Main environmental impacts (risks and benefits)
According to national legislation, an Environmental Impact Assessment has been carried out. And as the Gold Standard sustainable development matrix of Do-No-Harm Assessment and LSC Blind exercise shows: No significant environment impact has been determined.

(o) Main environmental impacts (risks and benefits)
Plants In total, 31 000 plant species have been located in China, of which at least 3 000 are to be found in the Shaoguan city which contains the project area. Native species in coppice forest will not be cut down and grow in forest nature cycle. **Animals** The original barren lands were not able to provide a suitable habitat for large animals and birds. More wild animals will return to the new habitat as the trees growth. **Biodiversity** Biodiversity will get good protection. **Water and soil** Soil and water erosion phenomenon will be greatly reduced.

(p) Financial structure
The shareholders (Promoter): Flying Dragon (Hong Kong) Industrial Co., Ltd. and Nanxiong Pine Resin Co., Ltd. (2.1-09)

2. Shapefiles

Please provide *shapefiles* in the *supporting documents* and provide a reference to these *supporting documents* in this template.

(a) Project area
(2.1-10)

(b) Planting areas
Biological buffer zones (2.1-14) are set up in each planting areas (2.1-10).

(c) Eligible planting area
(2.1-10) The same as planting areas.

(d) Modelling Units
(2.1-10)

(e) Infrastructure (roads, houses, etc.)
(2.1-11)

(f) Water bodies
(2.1-12)

(g) Sites with special significance for indigenous people and local communities - resulting from the Local Stakeholder Consultation (LSC)
NONE

(h) Where indigenous people and local communities are situated
(2.1-13)

(i) Where indigenous people and local communities have legal rights, customary rights or sites with special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance
NONE

3. Boundaries

Please provide evidence that boundaries of the project area and the planting are clearly distinguishable in the field.
(2.1-02) (2.1-10) The area boundaries show in Forest right certificates and shape-files.