



TEMPLATE

KEY PROJECT INFORMATION & PROJECT DESIGN DOCUMENT (PDD)

PUBLICATION DATE **29.06.2023**

VERSION **v.1.5**

RELATED SUPPORT

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AND/OR DEMONSTRATION OF SDG CONTRIBUTIONS

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ASSESSMENT

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GS ID of Project	GS12447
Title of Project	Idiofa Lobi
Time of First Submission Date	15/12/2023
Date of Design Certification	NA
Version number of the PDD	1.1
Completion date of version	TO BE FILLED IN
Project Developer	CO2 Logic
Project Representative	Mr Mathieu Cribellier Co2 Logic Email: m.cribellier@southpole.com Address: Kantersteen, 47, 1000, Brussel - Belgium
Project Participants and any communities involved	Faja Lobi Communities surrounding the city of Idiofa
Host Country (ies)	Democratic Republic of Congo
Activity Requirements applied	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Service Activity <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land-Use and Forests Activity Requirements/Risks & Capacities <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Scale of the project activity	<input type="checkbox"/> Micro scale <input type="checkbox"/> Small Scale <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large Scale
Other Requirements applied	N/A
Methodology (ies) applied and version number	Methodology for afforestation / reforestation (A/R) GHGs emission reduction & sequestration v2.0
Product Requirements applied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GHG Emissions Reduction & Sequestration <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy Label <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Project Cycle:	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Retroactive

Land-use & Forest Key Project Information¹

Scope:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture
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¹ Please refer to Appendix 3 for detailed information on LUF projects

Silvicultural system:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation (no use of timber) <input type="checkbox"/> Selective Harvesting <input type="checkbox"/> Rotation Forestry
Project Area (ha):	9,306 ha
Eligible Area (ha):	8,121 ha
10% Set Aside Conservation area (ha):	<p>According to the Land-Use and Forests Activity Requirements, requirement 3.1.5, the conservation area requires the following: 'to protect or enhance biological diversity, the following shall be identified and managed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Existing patches of native tree species, AND (b) Single solitary stems of native tree species, AND (c) Habitats of rare, threatened and endangered species, AND (d) Areas relevant for habitat connectivity'. <p>The project contains five areas where forest regenerated naturally, totaling 224.5 ha. These areas are not part of the eligible area but are protected from fires and cutting by the project. The project does not cut down any native trees in patches or solitary and focuses on connecting existing forests to increase habitat connectivity. Therefore, the whole plantation area and the natural regeneration sites are considered conservation areas (9204.7 ha).</p>
Evidence that Project Area Boundary is clearly distinguishable in the field:	The boundaries of the plantation will be marked by planting cuttings of Agave as it is commonly used in the area to delineate fields of different owners.
Planting Area	8,980 ha
How many Modelling Units (MUs) are included in the eligible area:	14
Summary of New Areas added (copy and insert as needed):	
Size (ha):	NA
Date Added	NA

Table 1 – Estimated Sustainable Development Contributions

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS TARGETED	SDG IMPACT (DEFINED IN B.6)	ESTIMATED ANNUAL AVERAGE	UNITS OR PRODUCTS
13 Climate Action	<u>Reduction in GHGs emissions</u> Amount of GHGs emissions avoided or sequestered	92,276	tCO2e
2. Zero hunger	<u>Increased productivity:</u> Are under sustainable management	to be defined	Ha
4. Quality education	<u>Skill development:</u> Number of employees provided skill development training by gender Number of training hours provided for employees (full-time, part-time, or temporary), disaggregated per gender Number of community members provided skill development training by gender Number of training hours provided for community members, disaggregated per gender	to be defined	Number of employees Number of training hours for employees Number of community members Number of training hours of community members

15. Life on land	<u>Increased area under tree canopy cover</u> Total area of trees planted <u>Enhanced biodiversity:</u> Total area of trees planted:native species <u>Enhanced biodiversity:</u> Trends in species diversity: Interspecific tree diversity & Hill number 1	to be defined	Ha Ha Number of species & unitless number
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SECTION A. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

A.1 Purpose and general description of project

The project Idiofa Lobi is out of the need to restore a landscape dominated by a complex mosaic of degraded savannah areas with scattered trees and isolated patches of shrubs, open forests on flat terrain and interspersed areas of fallows and crop fields. This land is a result of years of slash-and-burn agriculture activities, which combined with frequent fires, caused widespread deforestation. Only on the steepest lands, patches of secondary forests survive that nowadays represent isles of forest not connected anymore. Without active reforestation activity and protection, these degraded lands would not be able to naturally and efficiently restore itself.

The main objective of the project is to create a forest buffer around the city of Idiofa, located within the Kwilu province in the southern Democratic Republic of Congo to protect the surrounding natural forest vegetation from the activities of the large population in the city. Planting is done in conjunction with local communities in several ways. Community members are employed by Faja Lobi in the plantations, are engaged through a combination of other activities such as agroforestry, managed natural regeneration, beekeeping, pisciculture, horticulture. Thus, the project goes beyond the simple reforestation and restoration activities by providing additional benefits to the communities and contributing to stabilizing societal conditions in a country that heavily suffers from political and social insecurities.

Currently, 23 local communities are involved in efforts in the area. Other communities have already expressed their interest in the project, so even more community involvement and area expansion is possible. The restoration process starts with a land use dialogue with the community, engaging the local communities in the scope of the projects and earning their agreement on jointly implementing the project activities.

The community onboarding and involvement in the project follows the work schedule designed by Faja Lobi to ensure that the process is streamlined, and that the community is informed and involved in the process. They focus on the following components:

The reforestation activity begins by setting up nurseries and preparing lands, either manually or with tractors, to plant the treelings grown in the nurseries, and firebreaks combined with active fire patrolling are established. Planting activities take place during the rainy season which generally begins in September and finishes in May of the subsequent year. Only for the first three years, women are allowed to intercrop within the recent plantations. Since the ground was already prepared and they receive added benefits like improved seeds and training, this allows the women to have higher yields, while also increasing their engagement in the project.

The project already started planting trees in 2019 by reforesting a total of 8,896 ha (2019 till 2024), with 84 more hectares to be reforested to plant all the lands on which Faja Lobi already obtained the customary and government land rights. Indeed, the NGO aims to scale-up the reforestation further with the agreement on new communities, thus, additional lands are expected to enter the project during the crediting period that is set out to 30 years.

Ultimately, the project seeks to restore a degraded ecosystem where the biodiversity and its physical component are at risk of further degradation. By reforesting the area with a mix made of at least 75% of native species, ecological corridors will be restored to let flora and fauna and thus genetic diversity to flow again among the remnant patches of secondary forests. In addition to that, the fertility of the soil after years of prolonged and unsustainable exploitation will be restored and the soil will find a shelter against water and wind erosion.

Idiofa Lobi landscape: a degraded ecosystem seeking restoration

Human activities have highly impacted the landscape featuring the project area of Idiofa Lobi and its surroundings. Nowadays we see the effects of prolonged slash-and-burn agriculture activities which led to the actual mosaic landscape of degraded savannahs, active and abandoned fields, and patches of secondary and gallery forests. As a recent study of IUCN confirmed (see the section below "Assessment of Restoration Opportunities in the Managai Forest") the local communities of the area are still carrying out slash-and-burn agriculture in this mosaic

landscape, and are still impacting those already degraded savannahs, and the remnant patches of secondary and gallery forests.

Thus, fire is a key pattern in this landscape, where the savannahs are unstable systems as confirmed by the study at the African level of Sankaran et al.² (Figure 1). The authors found that there is a strong correlation between mean annual precipitation (MAP) and the maximum woody cover in savannas. In arid and semi-arid savannas receiving less than 650 mm of MAP, savannas may be considered stable systems, in which water constrains woody cover and permits grasses to coexist. Above a MAP of 650 mm, savannas are considered unstable systems, in which the MAP is sufficient to sustain a woody canopy closure, and disturbances such as fires and herbivores (the latter is not the case of the Idiofa Lobi project area) are required to let trees and grass coexist. Thus, the study points out that in such systems as the Idiofa Lobi project area, where the mean annual precipitations is above the indicated MAP threshold (1,483 mm precipitation/year) only disturbances such as fires that in the project case are predominantly caused by humans activities can prevent the forest to encroach the degraded savannas and naturally restore the forest cover.

Ecosystem integrity

Ecosystem integrity is foundational to all three Rio Conventions (UNFCCC, UNCCD, CBD). As defined by Parrish et al.³, it is essentially the degree to which a system is free from anthropogenic modification of its structure, composition, and function. Such modification causes the reduction of many ecosystem benefits and is often also a precursor to outright deforestation. Grantham et al.⁴ developed a worldwide map to depict the Forest Landscape Integrity Index (FLII) by integrating three different layers of data, the forest extent of woody biomass (taller than 5 meters), inferred human pressures (e.g., collection of forest materials) and observed human pressure. The FLII describes the degree of forest modification for the beginning of 2019.

An analysis of the FLII within the Kwilu province⁵ the region of expansion of the Idiofa Lobi project (Fig. 2) indicates a very poor value of the index, which is on average at

² Sankaran et al. 2005. Determinants of woody cover in african savannas.

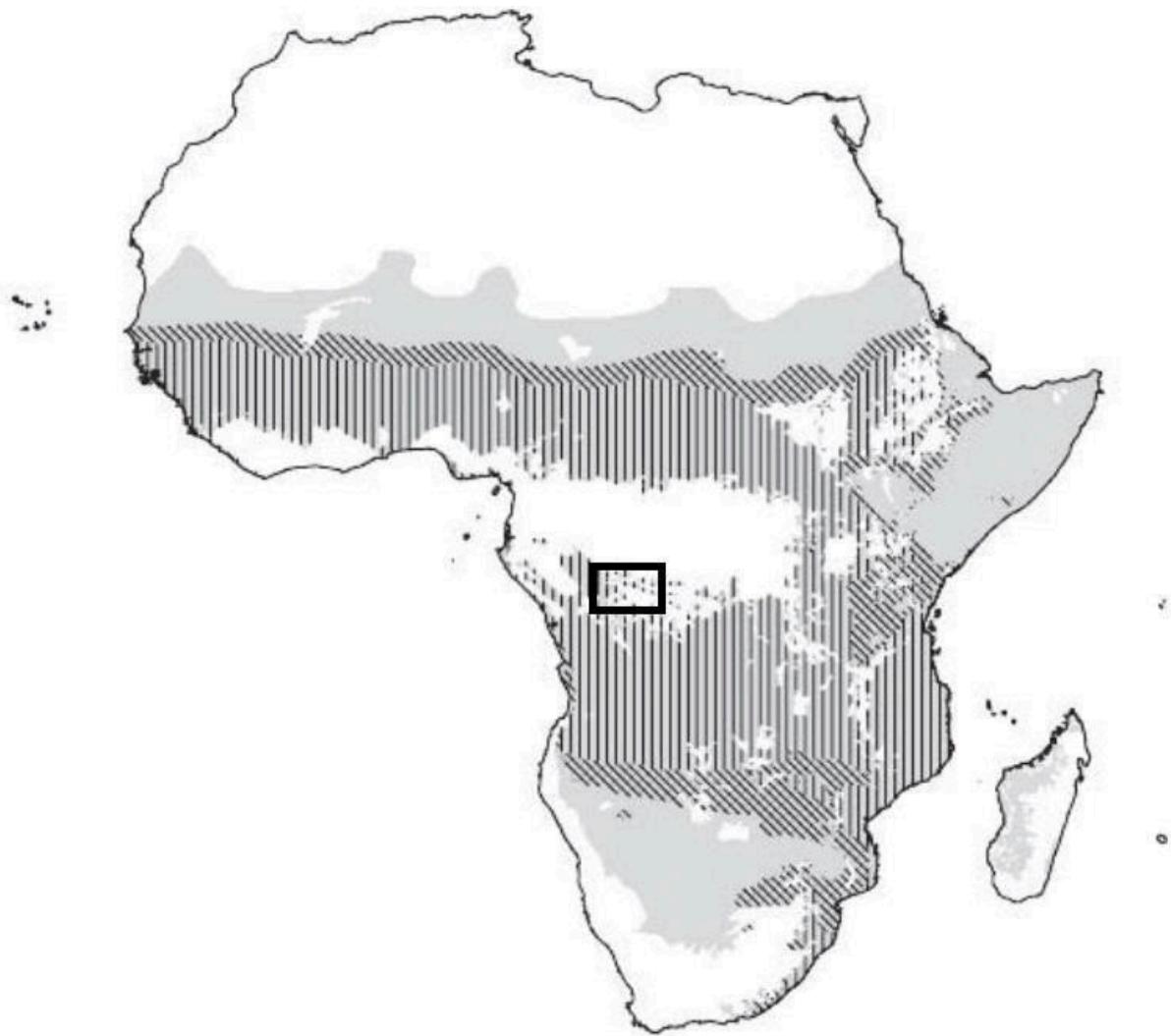
³ Parrish, J. D., Braun, D. P. & Unnasch, R. S. Are we conserving what we say we are? Measuring ecological integrity within protected areas. Bioscience 53, 851–860 (2003).

⁴ Anthropogenic modification of forests means only 40% of remaining forests have high ecosystem integrity

⁵ Forest Landscape Integrity Index map

4.6, thus within the classes referred to as low integrity by the authors (Table 1). 58% of the province is within the lowest class of the FLII (≤ 6), and 40% is within the medium class of the FLII ($> 6.0 < 9.0$). It can be inferred that the province of Kwilu, and thus, the Idiofa Lobi project area (Fig. 1 red frame) has a poor ecosystem integrity due to fragmentation of forests and the presence of human activities.

Figure 1. Distribution of unstable and stable savannas across Africa. In grey, the distribution of savannas, vertically hatched areas show unstable savannas and cross-hatched areas show the transition between stable and unstable savannas, grey areas not hatches show stable savannas. Frame in black, approximate local of the Kwilu Province where the project area is found. Sankara et al., 2005.



| The distributions of MAP-determined ('stable') and disturbance-determined ('unstable') savannas in Africa. Grey areas represent the existing distribution of savannas in Africa according to ref. 30. Vertically hatched areas show the unstable savannas (.784 mm MAP); cross-hatched areas show the transition between stable and unstable savannas (516-784 mm MAP); grey areas that are not hatched show the stable savannas (.516 mm MAP).

Fig. 2 Forest Landscape Integrity Index map of the Kwilu Province, project area location in red.

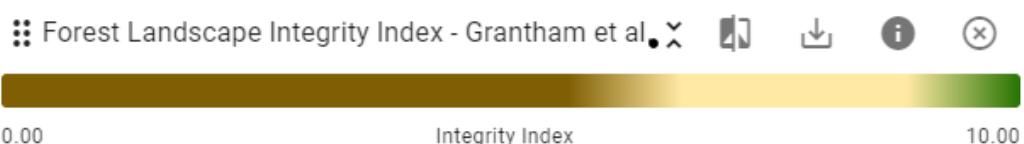
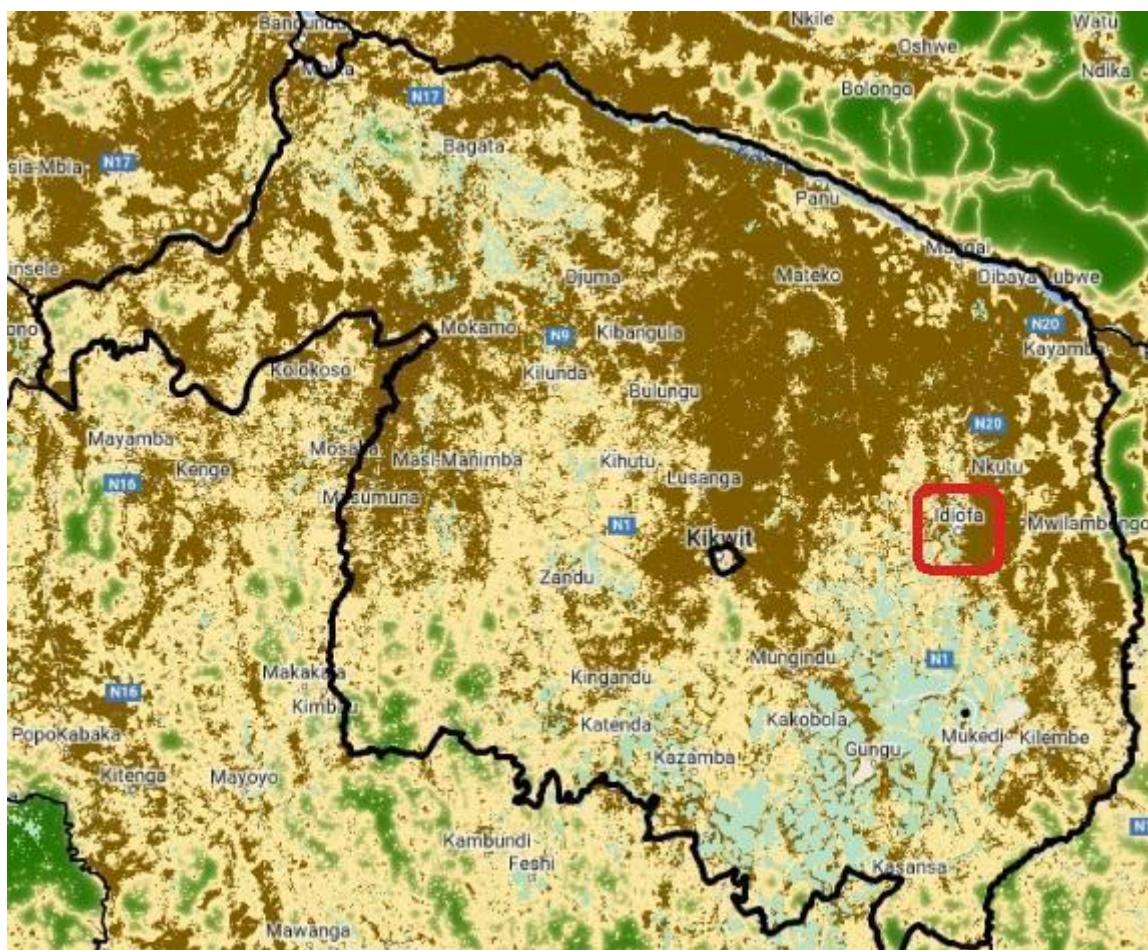
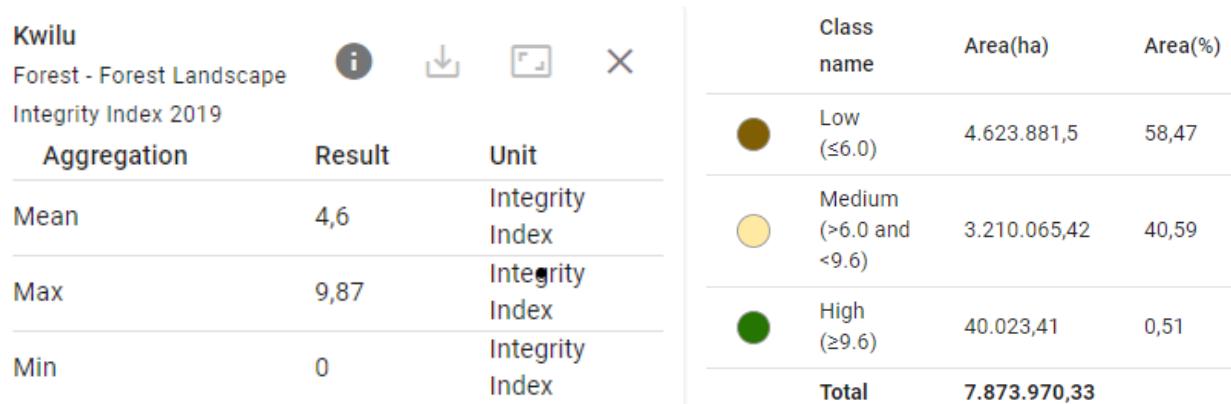


Table 1 Statistics from the Forest Landscape Integrity index map of the Kwilu province.



To further sustain the need of the Country for forest ecosystem restoration, DRC pledged to restore 8 million hectares of degraded and deforested land as part of its commitment to the Bonn Challenge⁶. It is in this context that IUCN collaborates with the government of the DRC through the Congolese Institute for the Conservation of Nature (ICCN) for the implementation of the land-use stabilisation (PLUS) project in the Mangai landscape (Fig. 3), which embeds the Idiofa territory in its southern part. The landscape retains significant biological value, although the ecosystems are under intense human pressure, and are severely degraded.

Assessment of Restoration Opportunities in the Managai Forest

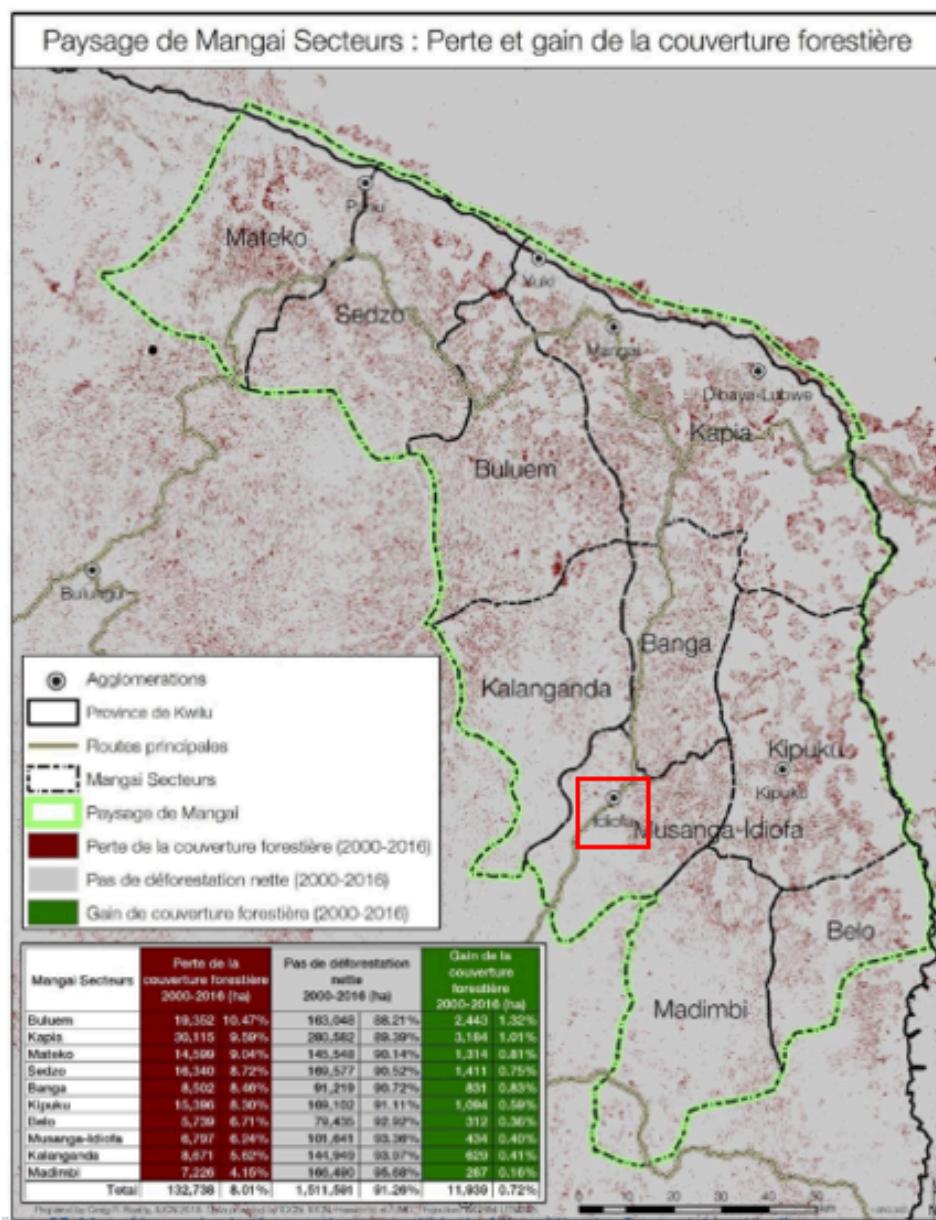
An important component of this collaboration is to conduct an assessment of restoration opportunities available in this area. The restoration of ecosystems in Mangai aims, among other things, to meet current and future biodiversity conservation needs, to increase carbon sequestration capacity, to improve soil productivity, and to improve the local economy. To help identify landscape restoration options, IUCN and ICCN turned to a proven assessment tool called the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM). A ROAM process in the Mangai landscape was launched in April 2018, and completed in March 2019.

In the "Assessment of Restoration Opportunities in the Managai Forest"⁷ IUCN report, it is reaffirmed that subsistence farming dominated by shifting (slash and burn) agriculture is the major driver of deforestation in the area due to the fires lighted to clear the land for opening new fields.

⁶ Bonn Challenge

⁷ "Assessment of Restoration opportunities in the Managai Forest" - "Evaluation des Opportunités de Restauration du Paysage Forestier de Mangai", IUCN, July 2018

Fig.3 Mangai landscape (Assessment of Restoration Opportunities in the Managai Forest - IUCN)



It is also pointed out that slash-and-burn agriculture, the traditional method in use in the area, leads to land degradation and reduced soil fertility, particularly in densely populated areas such as the peri-urban areas of Idiofa (Project Area). Yet, in the Mangaï landscape land degradation due to poor agricultural practices, including

slash-and-burn agriculture, the frequent destabilisation of soil structure, combined with the lack of organic fertiliser application and fallowing, is one of the main causes of soil degradation and loss of fertility. The degradation of plant cover (significant reduction in forest cover) is marked to be widespread in the sector of Idiofa.

A multi-criteria analysis of degradation (ROAM - Assessment of Restoration Opportunities in the Managai Forest) was built by integrating geospatial layers of soil slope, forest cover, population growth, bare soil and rain-fed cultivation areas within the Mangai landscape. The outcome is a map of the degree of degradation (Figure 4), where it can be noted that the degradation is not evenly distributed. Indeed, even though a large part of the Magai landscape shows a low degree of degradation, degradation is more concentrated around the most densely populated zones like the area around Musanga-Idiofa (Project Area).

The IUCN assessment went on further with the multi-criteria analysis achieving a final map where restoration opportunities potential is shown (Figure 5). The more criteria that appear relevant on the map, the more opportunities for forest restoration. The map shows that the area Musanga-Idiofa and in particular, the area around the town of Idiofa offers a great potential for restoration (Project Area).

Figure 4. Map of land degradation (Assessment of Restoration opportunities in the Managai Forest - IUCN)

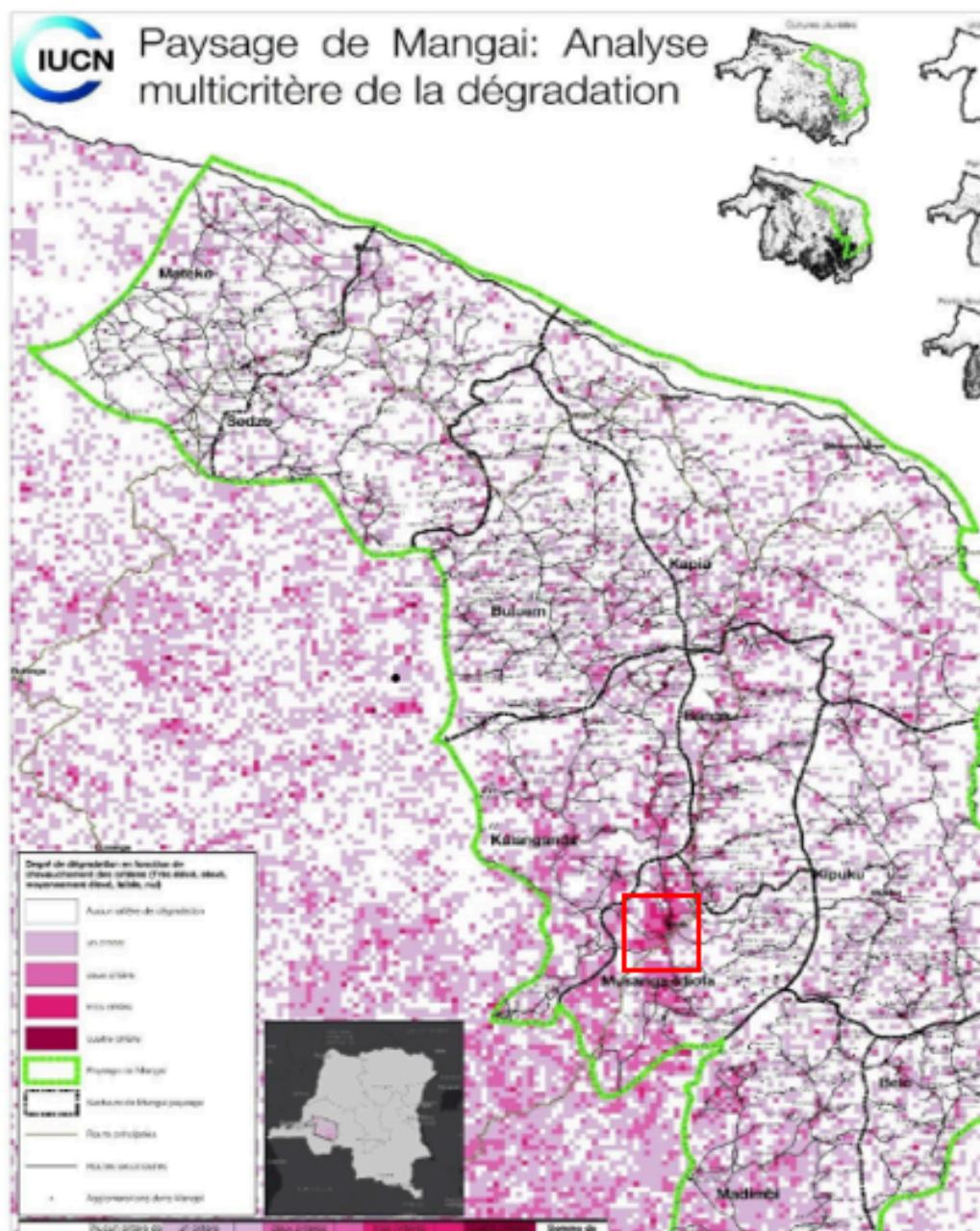
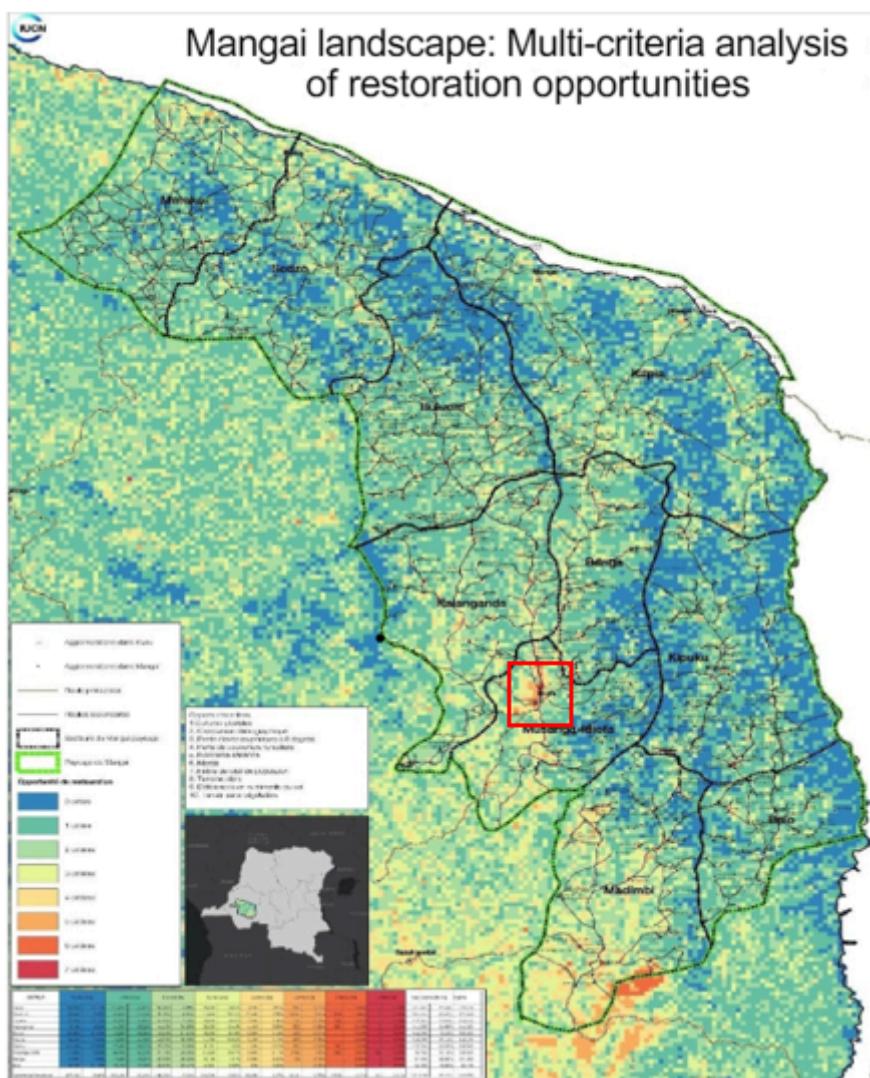


Figure 5 Map of restoration opportunities (Assessment of Restoration opportunities in the Managai Forest - IUCN)



Thus in this scenario, the Idiofa Lobi project involves the reforestation of degraded savannah areas, due to years of slash-and-burn agriculture and fires that keep the land covered by a degraded savannah with no capacity to transition back to the forest ecosystem, around the city of Idiofa. The aim is to restore the forest cover of degraded lands by creating a buffer around the city to protect the remnant isles of gallery and secondary forests scattered throughout the landscape. The reforestation will restore the ecological conditions of degraded lands from which plant and animal biodiversity will benefit thanks to new resources and habitats at their disposal. Idiofa

Lobi is a community-based project whereby the communities are directly involved in the reforestation activities, which implies creating and managing nurseries and planting seedlings, as well as other co-benefits activities such as agroforestry, fish farming, bee-keeping (add the section with the project activity list, also the foreseen SDGs).

The project area is clearly defined and registered at the official cadaster as well as supported by GIS vector data stored and managed by the project developer and the NGO Faja Lobi. The project area is located in the province of Kwilu within the territory of Idiofa, which is in the southern Democratic Republic of Congo.

A.1.1. Eligibility of the project under Gold Standard

The Idiofa lobi complies with the general eligibility criteria of the GS Principles and Requirements v1.2:

a) Types of project:

The project follows the GS AR methodology and is therefore automatically eligible according to 4.1.3.

b) Location of project: The project area is located in the province of Kwilu within the territory of Idiofa, which is in the southern Democratic Republic of Congo.

c) Project area, boundary and scale:

The project area is clearly defined and registered at the official cadaster as well as supported by GIS vector data stored and managed by the project developer and the NGO Faja Lobi. For more details, see section A.2.

The Idiofa Lobi project area does not overlap with any other project of voluntary or compliance standard programme of a similar nature. To date the closest A/R project (listed in 2024) in the area, is located in the Kwango province, next to the Kwilu province (where the Idiofa Lobi is located), however; this project is not overlapping with the Idiofa Lobi project.

d) Host country requirements: the project aligns with existing country policies and strategies in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

- e) Contact details: see appendix 2
- f) Legal ownership: see section A.1.2
- g) Other rights: no other rights are necessary for the project.
- h) ODA declaration: the project signed the ODA declaration, see section A.5

The Idiofa Lobi project meets the General Eligibility criteria of the "Land Use & Forest Activity Requirements, version 1.2.1":

The General Eligibility criteria of the "Land Use & Forest Activity Requirements, version 1.2.1" are described below:

- a) Eligible project types are Afforestation & Reforestation projects (A/R) and Agriculture Projects (AGR)

The Idiofa Lobi project is eligible as it belongs to a pre-identified typology since it applies the impact Quantification Methodology "Afforestation - Reforestation GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Methodology, version 2.0" and the Activity Requirements "Land-Use & Forests Activity Requirements, version 1.2.1. The purpose is to reforest the land for conservation.

- b) No deforestation: the eligible land shall not meet the definition of forest 10 years before the project start date and at project start date.

The eligible land of the Idiofa Lobi project is all the land within the proposed project area that was not constantly forested⁸ (30% of cover, 0,5 ha, 3 m) during the 10 years before the project start date, hence, from 2008 to 2019 is the project start date January, the first of 2019. The remnant patches of secondary forests within the project area during the same period were classified as ineligible to claim credits ineligible. For further detail refer to the section below "Eligibility analysis" (See analysis below "Eligibility analysis").

⁸ Forest Definition by DNA
Gold Standard

Climate Security and Sustainable Development

- c) In the case when the eligible area has been deforested during the last 10 years prior to project start date, the eligibility of the project shall be determined by Gold Standard

The project does not claim credits from ineligible lands

- d) Projects can be implemented in any country. If projects are located in a country or state that has an operational mandatory national or pan-national cap-and-trade scheme to reduce greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions, and hereby accounts for its own land-based activities under its national or subnational accounting, then projects seeking GSVERs shall conform to the GHG Emissions Reduction and Sequestration Product Requirements - Annex A Double Counting Requirements.

There is no national or pan-national cap-and-trade scheme present in DRC. However, the country is currently preparing national legislation specifically for the voluntary carbon market. The project is following this closely and preparing documentation to comply.

The project is not registered under any other voluntary or compliance scheme. The Idiofa Lobi project area does not overlap with any other project of voluntary or compliance standard programme of a similar nature. To date the closest A/R project (listed in 2024) in the area, is located in the Kwango province, next to the Kwilu province (where the Idiofa Lobi is located), however; this project is not overlapping with the Idiofa Lobi project.

(a) FCS dual certification

Not relevant to the project since it pursues reforestation for conservation with no harvesting.

(b) Secured Titles

- ONG Faja Lobi, Avenue du Haute Congo 1, Gombe Kinshasa, RD Congo.
National Identification Number: 01-825-N53520U
- CO2Logic, Kantersteen, 47, 1000, Brussel - Belgium. N°: 0886.147.359

See section A.1.2 to assess the CO2 user rights and legal land ownership.

(c) New Area Certification

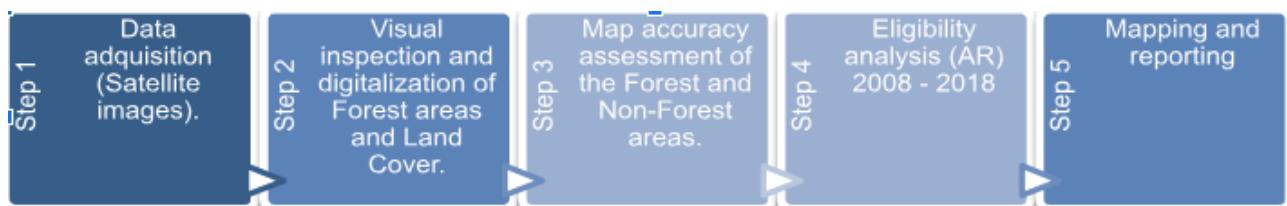
Not relevant at the time of this document. The project will seek new areas to be included following all the requirements specified in the Land Use & Forest Activity Requirements.

Eligibility analysis:

The forest definition used for the eligibility analysis is based on the Democratic Republic of the Congo Designed National Authority (DNA) host forest definition as per UNFCC⁹.

As part of the eligibility process of the project, an analysis to confirm the eligibility under the requirement 2.1.1 (b) of the Land Use & Forests Activity Requirements is performed to identify possible project areas that do not meet the definition of forest 10 years before project start date and at project start date. The analysis is carried out by using Landsat medium resolution multispectral images between the year 2008 - 2018 to run a supervised classification with the aim to classify the land within two classes, forest and non-forest. The two classes are obtained by using the satellite images from Landsat 5, and Landsat 8. Figure 1 shows the workflow for the identification of eligible areas of the project.

Figure 1 Analysis approach followed to determine eligibility of the Idiofa Lobi project area.



1. Multispectral images acquisition

Landsat 5 and 8 multispectral images were downloaded (Table 1) for each year for evaluation. The selected Landsat images belong to Level 2 processing which guarantees products with atmospheric correction at the surface level, geometric correction pixel by pixel without displacement and quality band to process pure pixels, these can be accessed. Landsat images employed for the task have a spatial

⁹ Democratic Republique of Congo's DNA forest definition: A single minimum tree cover of 30%, a single minimum land area of 0,5 ha, a single minimum tree height of 3 meters. <https://cdm.unfccc.int/DNA/index.html>

resolution of 30 m, a scale of 1:100,000, and a minimum mapping unit of 0.8 ha (Ihlen, 2019) and the respective mosaics will be created in the software ArcGIS PRO prior to the classification process. All the data used during the process was projected to the coordinate system used for Idiofa Lobi corresponding to WGS 1984 UTM Zone 34S WKID 32734.

Table 1 Satellite images specifications

Type Sensor	Processing Level	Spatial resolution	Path/Ro w	Date of Acquisition (DD/MM/YYYY)
LT05	L2	30m	179/063	23/06/2008
LT05	L2	30m	179/064	23/06/2008
LC08	L2	30m	179/063	21/07/2018
LC08	L2	30m	179/064	21/07/2018

2. Supervised classification of forest and non-forest for 2008 and 2018

The mosaics will be generated in ArcGIS PRO from satellite images of medium spatial resolution (30m) from Landsat 5 (2008) and Landsat 8 (2018) with processing level 2.

For the classification from each year, the methodology based on supervised remote-sensing techniques was used to generate classes such as forest, non-forest, water, cloud, cloud shadow, and non-data. The training areas of each group are randomized and are assigned to the satellite image via interpretation performed by an expert in geospatial solutions and with a minimum registration of 50 points per class. Afterwards, the spectral separation of the training areas from the classes was calculated using the Jeffrey-Matusita coefficient. Values close to 2 indicate that training areas have a different spectral signature, and values close to 0 indicate that they are identical. Once the seeds and separability were defined, the classification was carried out using the Support Vector Machine method in ENVI software.

3. Visual inspection and image digitization of land use classes for 2008 and 2018

From the satellite image mosaics generated, a comprehensive review of the forest and non-forest areas was carried out using the operational criteria for the visual interpretation of the different land-use classes. The interpretation was supported by

DRC NERF¹⁰ for DRC Congo. The land use classes and their equivalence to the IPCC classes are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 Land cover classes of DRC NERF & IPCC considered for Idiofa Lobi Project.

DRC NERF – Land use classes	Assignment categories IPCC land (2006)	Forest / Non-Forest (FNF)
Secondary forest	Forest Land	Forest
Open forest	Forest Land	Forest
Savannah	Savanna/Grassland	Non-Forest
Cultivation and regeneration of abandoned crops (CRCA)	Crop land	Non-Forest
Other land	Other land (e.g., bare soil)	Non-Forest

The project area has forest land and land with a vocation for cultivation, as well as savannahs/grasslands and other lands. For this reason, a detailed supervised classification based on the digitization of 1:10,000 scale polygons of forest and non-forest areas was carried out through visual digitization of satellite images, guided by an expert in remote sensing and geographic information systems in order to obtain the map of forest and non-forest and the map of land use classes for the project area. The DRC defines forest as all land occupying an area of more than 0.5ha, with a height of 3m or more, with tree cover of 30% or more, or with trees capable of reaching these thresholds in situ. (MEDD, 2018).

The result of the interpretation can be visualised on the maps in Figure 2 and Figure 3.

¹⁰ MEDD. (2018). Reference emission level for forests to reduce emissions from deforestation in the democratic republic of Congo. Submission to the United Nations framework convention on climate change. Congo.

Figure 2 Land cover 2008 – Idiofa Lobi project area

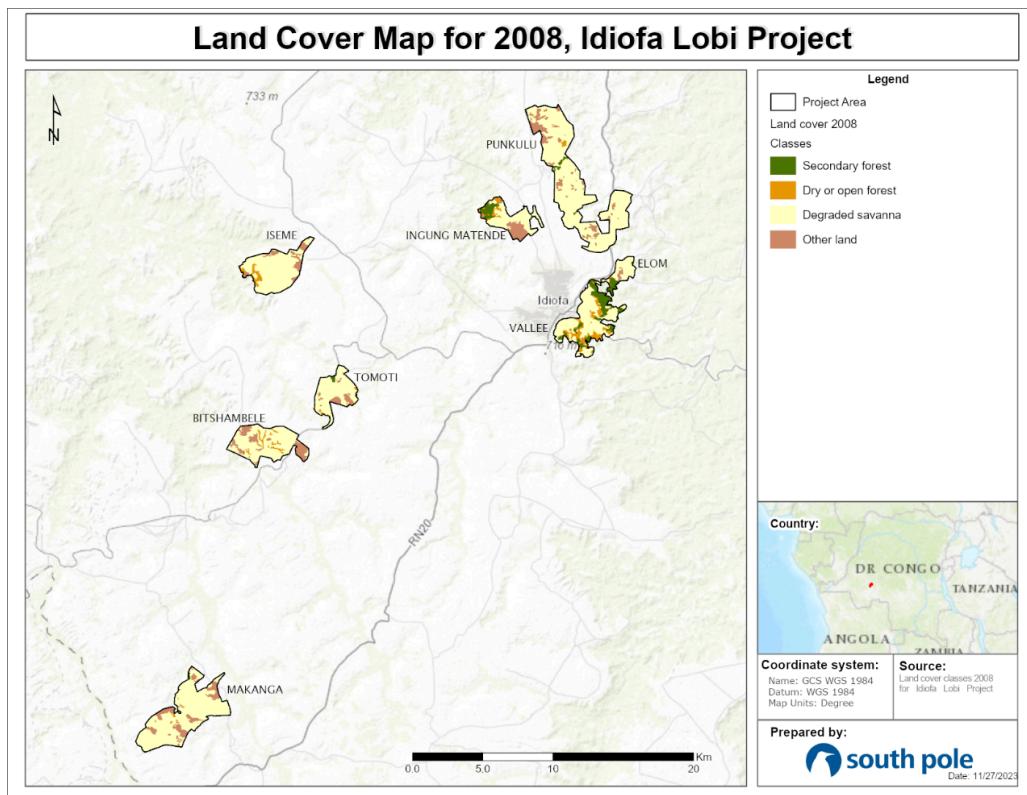
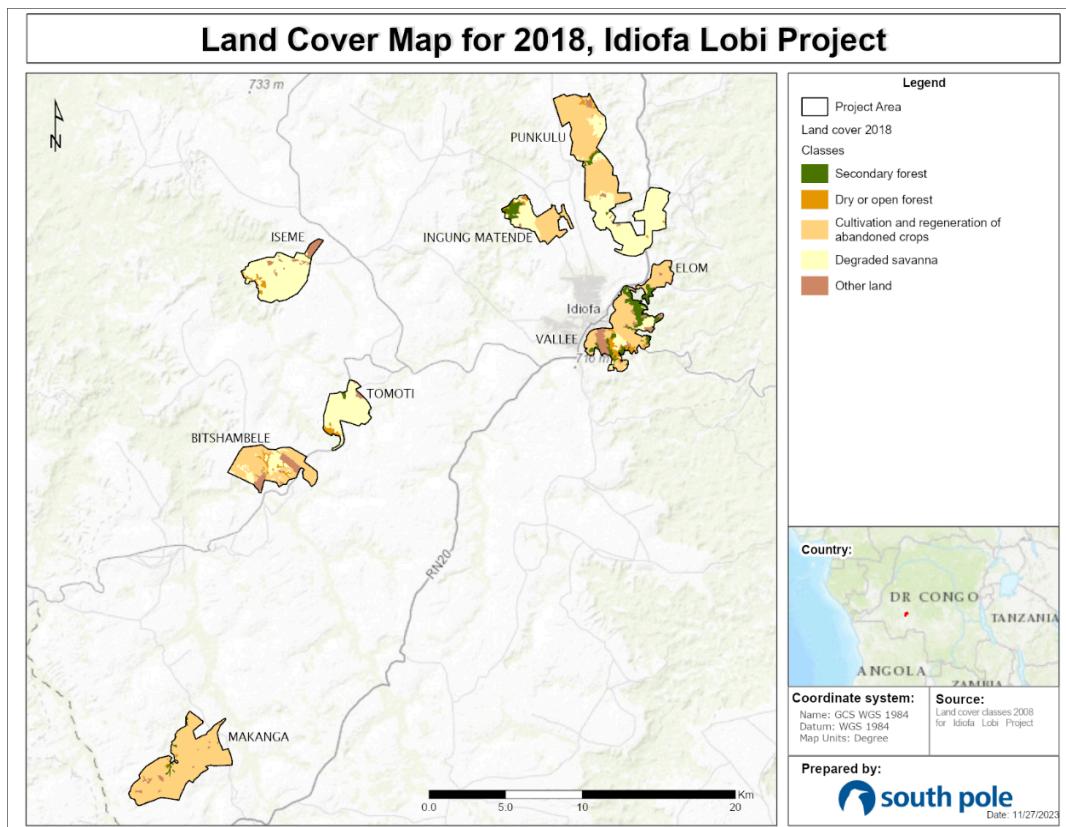


Figure 3 Land cover 2018 – Idiofa Lobi project area



4. Map accuracy assessment (MAA) of the classification

Map accuracy assessment (MAA) is a set of measurement calculations that allow us to know if the generated cartographic information has been well classified in terms of the probability that each class matches reality (the control points represent the terrain and the classified correspond to the classifications-FNF).

The MAA for 2008 and 2018 is validated through a confusion matrix with errors of commission (pixels classified as a land cover to which it does not belong) and omission (pixels that correspond to a land cover class but were not classified as such), which results in a percentage of the overall accuracy, comparing randomly distributed control points within the study area. The total number of points for the evaluation is calculated from the total number of polygons in the forest and non-forest layer each year, considering the finite population methodology proposed by Morillas (2007)¹¹. The GIS and RS expert evaluates this information point by point, at a scale of 1:10,000, assigning the forest cover class to each point, by observing imagery from different sources than the sensors used for the classification, such as ALOS 2008, Landsat 2008, Planet 2018 and the ESRI map for the year previously mentioned. The Confusion Matrix tool of ArcGIS PRO will be used to make the comparisons and deliver the general accuracy of the classifications.

Table 3 and Table 4 present the classification accuracy for each year's analyses, which exceeds 90% as required by the methodology.

Table 3 Map Accuracy Assessment (MAA) 2008

ClassValue	C_0	C_1	Total	U_Accuracy	Kappa
C_0	170	16	186	91%	0
C_1	6	18	24	75%	0
Total	176	34	210	0	0
P_Accuracy	0.97	0.53	0	90%	0
Kappa	0	0	0	0	0.56

Table 4 Map Accuracy Assessment (MAAA) 2018

ClassValue	C_0	C_1	Total	U_Accuracy	Kappa
C_0	185	6	191	97%	0
C_1	7	12	19	63%	0
Total	192	18	210	0	0

¹¹ <http://www.berrie.dds.nl/calcss.htm>

P_Accuracy	0.96	0.67	0	94%	0
Kappa	0	0	0	0	0.61

The MAA (Map Accuracy Assessment) for Forest and non-Forest in 2008 in the Idofa Lobi project area, resulted in an overall accuracy of 90% with respect to control points correctly assigned to classes (forest). On the other hand, the MAA for Forest and non-Forest in 2018 in the Idofa Lobi project area, resulted in an overall accuracy of 94% with respect to control points correctly assigned to classes (forest).

Eligibility analysis ARR (non-forest stable) results

Based on the forest, and non-forest obtained for the years 2008, and 2018, categories in Table 2 were defined. To perform the eligibility analysis, a cartographic intersection between all years will be carried out to generate a layer of forest change and eligibility for the baseline period 2008 - 2018. Waterbodies, waterways, roads and settlements will be excluded as eligible areas.

Table 5 shows the eligibility criteria, assuming that an area is eligible when the non-forest remains stable or does not change to forest throughout the reference period, the remaining areas are not eligible.

Table 5 Eligibility criteria

Land cover 2008	Land cover 2018	Land cover change between 2008 and 2018	Eligibility
Forest	Forest	Stable forest	Non-eligible
Forest	Non-forest	Non-forest	Non-eligible
Non-Forest	Forest	Non-forest	Non-eligible
Non-forest	Non-forest	Non-forest stable	Eligible
Non-data	Non-data	Non-data	Non-data

Figure 4 Forest and Non-forest map in 2008 – Idiofa Lobi project area

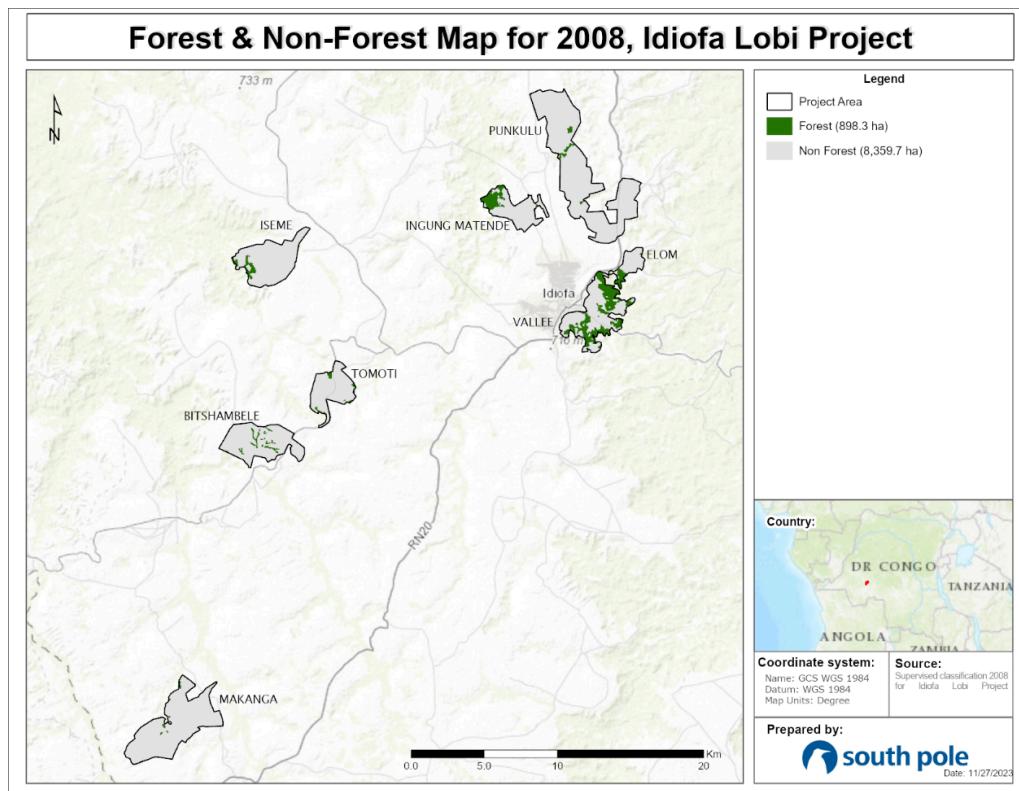


Figure 5 Forest and Non-forest map in 2018 – Idiofa Lobi project area

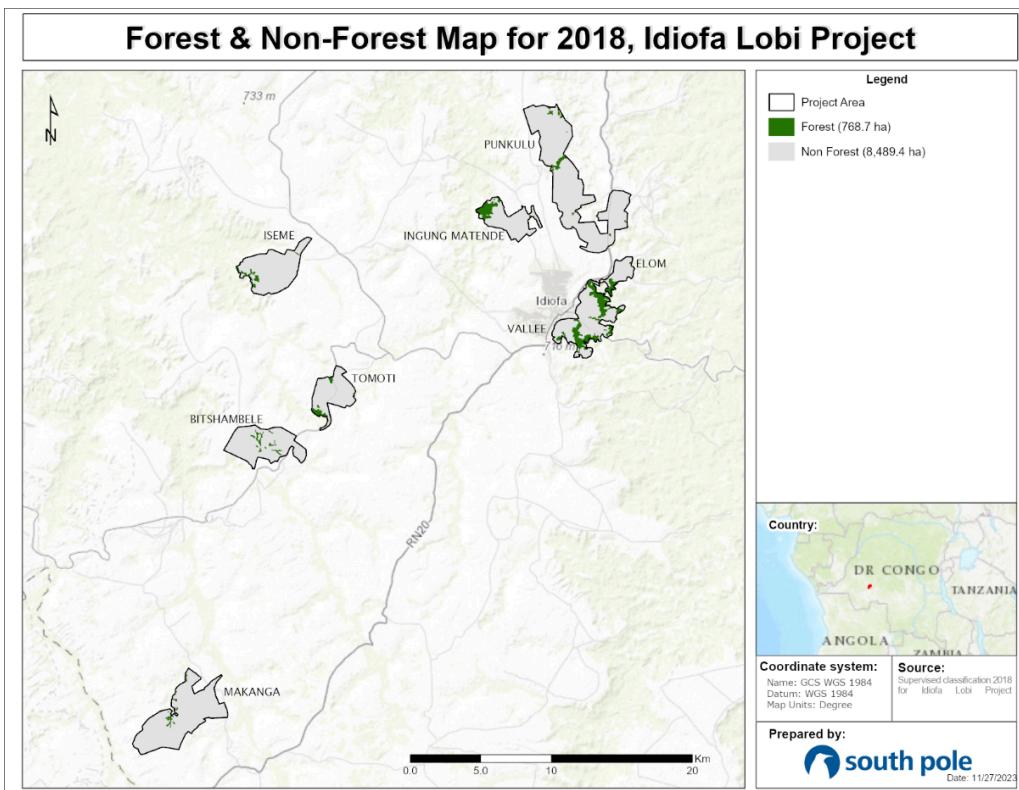


Figure 6 Forest and Non-forest area for project area 2008-2018

Boundary name	Land cover	2008 (ha)	2018 (ha)
Project zone	Forest	898.3	768.7
	Non-forest	8,359.7	8,489.3

The eligible area of 8,121 ha was obtained after excluded roads which were found crossing the project area. Table 6 and Table 7 shows the eligible and non-eligible area for the project area and can visualize in Table 7.

Table 6 Eligible and eligible area of Idiofa Lobi project area

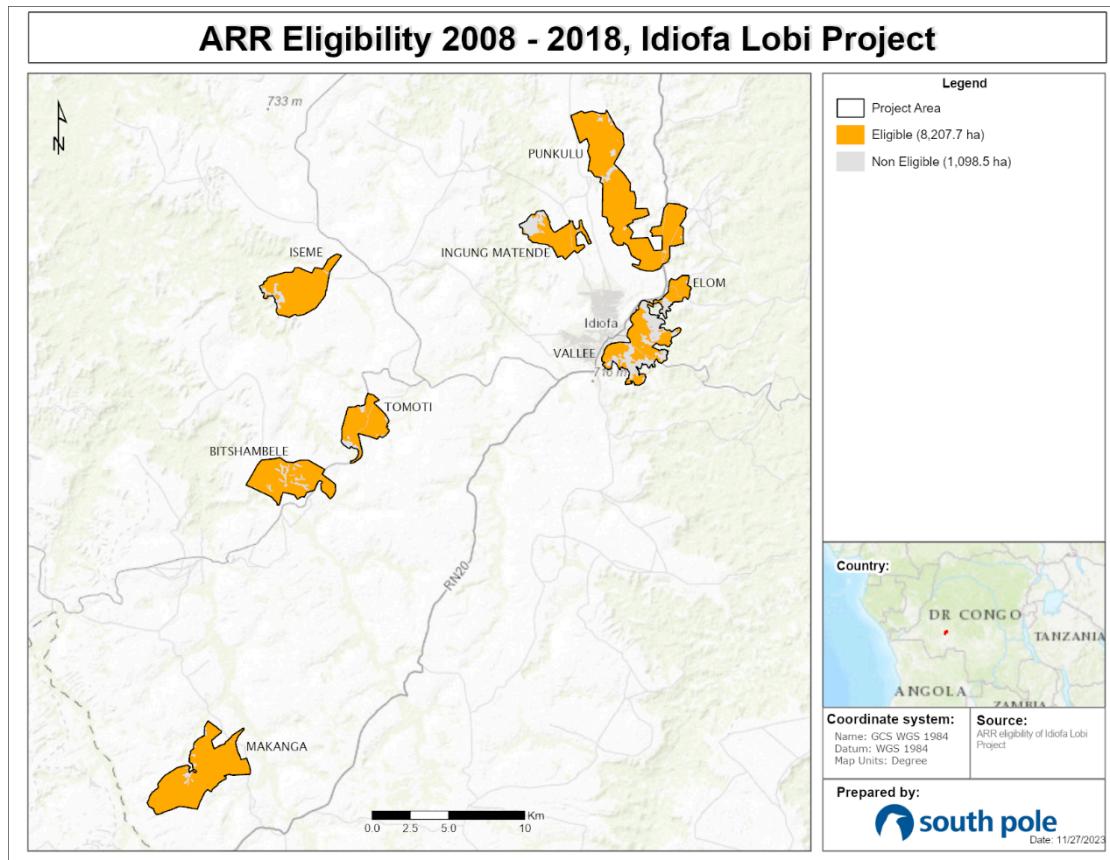
Area	Eligible	Non-eligible	Total (ha)
Total area (ha)	8,121	859	8980.1

Table 7 Eligibility of Idiofa Lobi project area by site of tree planting

Site name	Area (ha)
BITSHAMBELE	1,057
Eligible	966.8
Non-Eligible	90.2
ELOM	279.9
Eligible	214.2
Non-Eligible	65.7
INGUNG MATENDE	612.8
Eligible	516.9
Non-Eligible	95.9
ISEME	1,061.7
Eligible	984.6
Non-Eligible	77.1
MAKANGA	1,720.6
Eligible	1,677.4
Non-Eligible	43.1
PUNKULU	2,597
Eligible	2,496.2
Non-Eligible	100.7
TOMOTI	697.3

Eligible	626.9
Non-Eligible	70.4
VALLEE	953.9
Eligible	637.9
Non-Eligible	316
Total (ha)	8,980
Total eligible (ha)	8,121
Total non eligible (ha)	859

Figure 7 Eligibility map of Idiofa Lobi project area



A.1.2. Legal ownership of products generated by the project and legal rights to alter use of resources required to service the project

The ONG Faja Lobi has the legal ownership of the products generated by the project since it has the legal rights on the lands where the reforestation activity takes place.

The DRC land law "Loi Foncière N° 73-021 du 20 juillet 1973, Journal Officiel n° Spécial 1er décembre 2004" is governing the the rights of the land by clearly stating that the private appropriate of the land is abolished since the land became an inalienable property of the state.

The process that led the ONG Faja Lobi to obtain the right on land is quite long and entailed the following steps:

1. Before initiating the path to obtain the legal rights on the land by the DRC Government, Faja Lobi must go through the customary rights in place in the Country, which allow the NGO to obtain, through a signed agreement, to begin the reforestation activities while going through the following steps.
2. Registration of the land obtained through customary rights cession at the official cadaster by requesting of the ordinary concession of "Emphyteusis", as governed by the land law "Loi Foncière N° 73-021 du 20 juillet 1973, Journal Officiel n° Spécial 1er décembre 2004", which is then officilised once the cadaster registration is completed.

1. Obtaining the customary rights on the land

The customary rights of land in DRC are based on clan level that decides how to allocate the use of land within the village. As first step, the representative clans of the villages involved in the project signed the agreement "Accord de partenariat entre l'ONG Faja Lobi et les communautés locales pour le programme de reboisement et le développement durable" and the deed of land transfer ¹². Through this agreement, the communities agreed to cease their customary concession on the land to Faja Lobi for the reforestation program in return of a customary fee. Faja Lobi through the acquisition of the right must guarantee that the communities will benefit from all the economic interests that can be generated by the project.

Furthermore, the local communities become effectively members of the ONG Faja Lobi with the commitment to protect the land by illegal logging and fires. All the community members are organized in the Faja Lobi community assemble, that is voted.

2. Registration of the land at the Cadaster office and obtainement of the emphyteusis

The second step concerns the obtainment of the right on the land called emphyteusis as set out by the DRC land law "Loi Foncière N° 73-021 du 20 juillet 1973, Journal Officiel n° Spécial 1er décembre 2004". The emphyteusis is the concession granted by

¹² The Dossier Foncier for Punkulu, Elom and Luse are provided as example to view the agreement signed between the Faja Lobi and the Clans.

the government of DRC on the land belonging to the State, the concession is established for a term of 25 years, with successive renewals.

To obtain the emphyteusis, Faja Lobi must request to the Cadatser office to register the land that previously obtained the signed agreement with the communities. This is with an agreement of the agriculture inspector and the parquet.

At the time of the preliminary review submission, all the land submitted for the project obtained the necessary customary rights, part of them received the emphyteusis and the rest are at the cadaster office waiting for the emphyteusis to be finalised (list in the table 8).¹³

Table 8 Summary of the land within the sites of tree planting, which already received the emphyteusis and

Site name	Name on the land rights document	Area (ha) of the site with emphyteusis obtained	Area of the site at the cadaster waiting for emphyteusis
Bitshambele	Bitshambele	959,8	97,3
Tomoti	Tomoti	558,2	0
	Luse	0	139,1
Makanga	Makanga	12,2	1708,3
Punkulu	Punkulu	0	2597
Ingung Matende	Ingung Matende	612,8	0
Vallée	Vallée du Paradis	348,5	250,1
	Mapela	75,9	85,7
	Ozun-a-nso	79,4	30,2
Iseme	Iseme	1061,7	0

A.2 Location of project

The Faja Lobi project takes place in the territory of Idiofa, Kwilu Province, Democratic Republic of Congo. (Table 8). The sites, where the reforestation activities already took place and where will continue in the coming years, are listed in Table 9. The project also foresees including new areas during the project crediting period located within the potential project region that coincides with the province of Kwilu (see map). Those

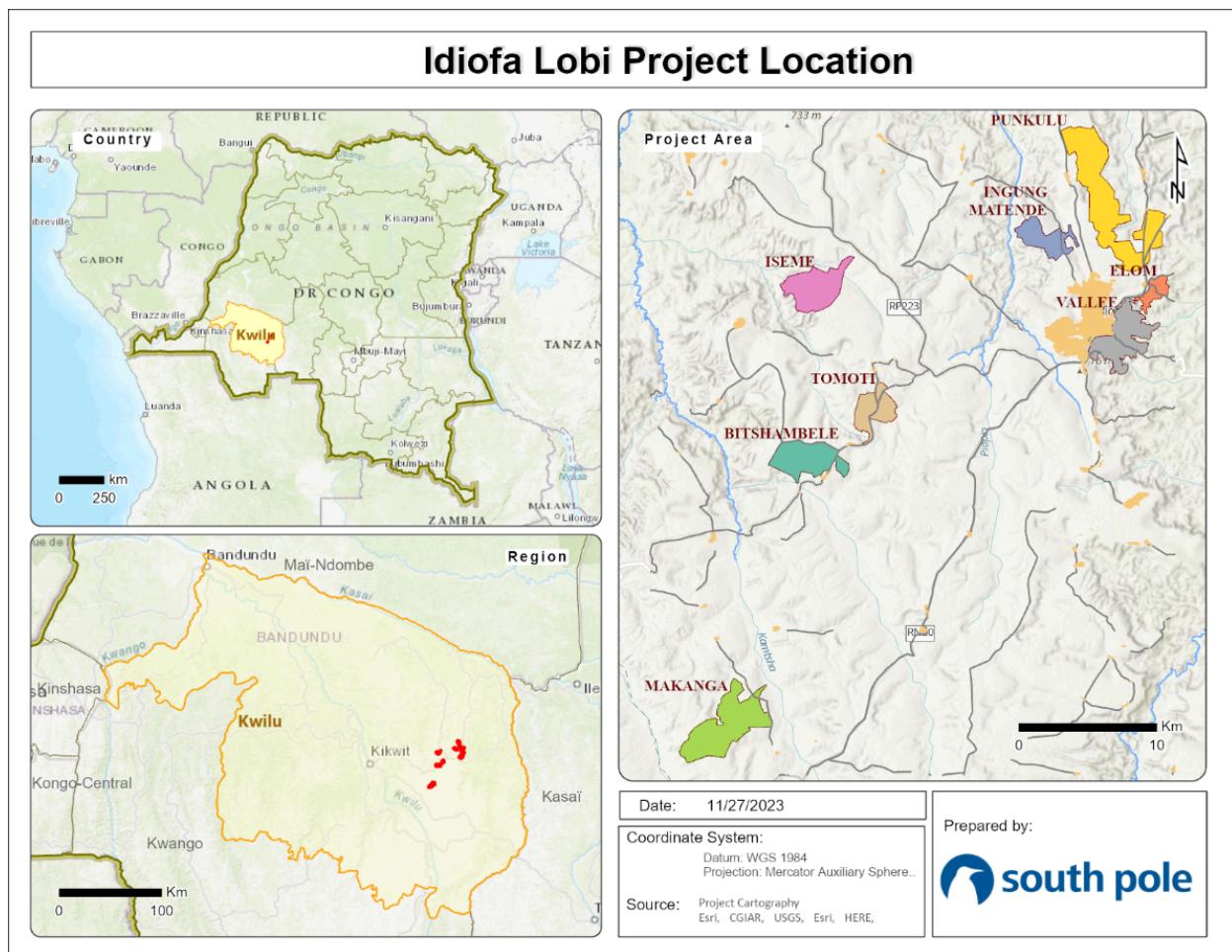
¹³ Copy of emphyteusis documents are provided, note that at the time of the preliminary review, the document of Emphyteusis and Iseme were released with the wrong name of the village Makulu, new documents are being corrected at the cadaster office.

new areas will be added to the project once new communities are involved and the necessary customary and land rights are obtained.

Table 9 Location of the sites of tree planting of Idiofa Lobi project

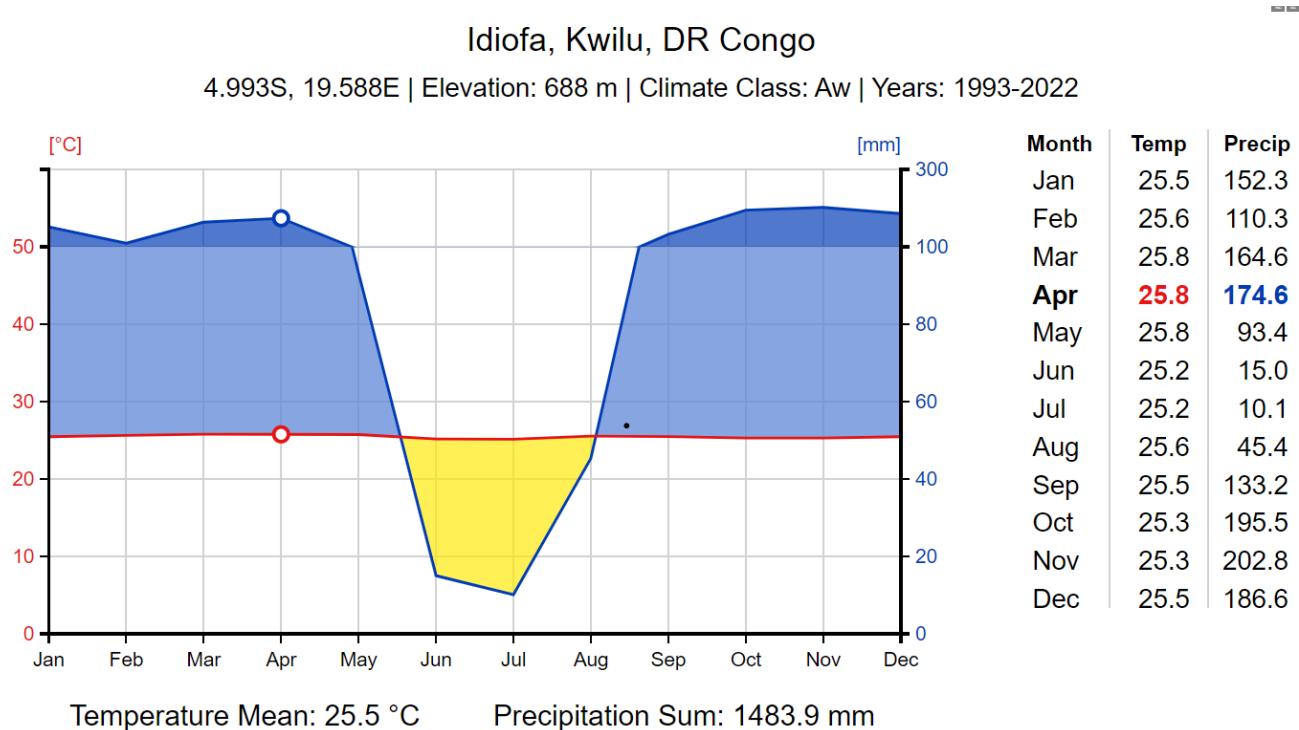
<i>Site name</i>	<i>Coordinates X, Y EPSG:32734 - WGS 84 / UTM zone 34S</i>	<i>Territory</i>	<i>Province</i>
<i>Bitshambele</i>	<i>19.406917, -5.050425</i>	<i>Idiofa</i>	<i>Kwilu</i>
<i>Tomoti</i>	<i>19.450713, -5.0183</i>	<i>Idiofa</i>	<i>Kwilu</i>
<i>Makanga</i>	<i>19.354048, -5.223658</i>	<i>Idiofa</i>	<i>Kwilu</i>
<i>Punkulu</i>	<i>19.604285, -4.882268</i>	<i>Idiofa</i>	<i>Kwilu</i>
<i>Ingung Matende</i>	<i>19.562329, -4.906667</i>	<i>Idiofa</i>	<i>Kwilu</i>
<i>Vallée</i>	<i>19.613214, -4.971542</i>	<i>Idiofa</i>	<i>Kwilu</i>
<i>Iseme</i>	<i>19.412592, -4.938755</i>	<i>Idiofa</i>	<i>Kwilu</i>
<i>Elom</i>	<i>19.633553, -4.941457</i>	<i>Idiofa</i>	<i>Kwilu</i>

Figure 8 Map of the location of the project region and project area of Idiofa Lobi project



It has a tropical savanna climate with a dry winter. The average temperature is stable during the whole year, averaging around 25.6°C (Figure 1). The region experiences a marked dry season from June to August. The topography consists of plains being cut through by rivers in deep, rugged valleys. There are multiple rivers and tributaries crossing the area from South to North. The natural vegetation consists of savannas with high herbs and intercut gallery forests.

Figure 9 The climograph of Idiofa, Kwilu, DR Congo (4.967 S, 19.597 E), years 1990-2019. The mean temperature is 25.6°C and the area receives 1490.3 mm per year. Source: <https://climatecharts.net/>



The climate in the DRC is driven by the seasonal migration across the equator of the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ). The DRC geographically stretches over both sides of the equator and thus experiences a warm and humid equatorial climate while exhibiting high levels of biodiversity at both ecosystem and species level. Located at an elevation of 613.78 meters above sea level, Kwilu has a tropical wet and dry or savanna climate. The city's yearly temperature is 28.55°C (83.39°F) and it is 1.73% higher than Democratic Republic of the Congo's average. Kwilu typically receives about 91.9 millimeters (3.62 inches) of precipitation and has 188.81 rainy days (51.73% of the time) annually. The area experiences a marked dry winter season from June to August.

The area topography consists of plains that are cut through by rivers in deep, rugged valleys. There are multiple rivers and tributaries crossing the area from South to North. The natural vegetation consists of savannas with tall shrubs and intercut gallery forests. The wide variety of ecosystem types present in the area are classed into three types (Anonyme, 2000): forest ecosystems, mixed savanna ecosystems and aquatic ecosystems.

A.3 Technologies and/or measures

Overview project activities

1. Community consultation and engagement

Community consultations are held to choose land areas for reforestation. A principal agreement is signed between Faja Lobi and the clans of the communities. This gives Faja Lobi the necessary land rights to plant and manage the forests. The communities remain involved as they become members of Faja Lobi and are involved in the NGO through general assemblies. Although Faja Lobi is in charge of the forest, they ensure that the forest remains community forest, of which the local communities benefit from the income generated in the form of infrastructure, wages or resources. This provides the communities with respect for the forest, as they benefit from it. An annual meeting is held to keep the community members informed and there is a delegate member from the community statutory meetings.



2. Nursery Practices

Nurseries have been set up at each site, as close as possible to the reforestation sites within a maximum range of 2-3 km. This is done to reduce the dependence on vehicles for transportation of plants. Each nursery is set up close to a water source and every community has its own nursery (in some cases multiple). Seeds are collected from trees in local forests nearby, based on the availability of species. If it is a very rare species, the seeds are bought from the botanic gardens.

List of nurseries:

1. Ingung 1.0
2. Ingung 2.0
3. Kabio
4. Ozun a nso
5. Pépinière Vallée 1.0
6. Pépinière Vallée 2.0
7. Mapela
8. Tomoti
9. Bitshambele 1.0
10. Bitshambele 2.0



In 2023 an estimated total of 6,537,464 seedlings were counted in the nurseries. Data sheets have been created for all tree species, to provide information on the best germination practices, when the trees bear fruit and in what location the tree can be found. During the seed collection, information on seed locations gathering are collected and nurseries also regularly keep data on the seedling grown for its own management.

The seeds are germinated in raised soil beds.

Once they have germinated, they are planted in plant bags and grown in the nurseries under a shade structure made from natural materials. Nurseries may have compost heaps to provide nutritional potting medium for the seedlings. The plants are watered with watering cans. Each nursery has an agronomist overseeing procedures, which involve women as well. Once the trees have reached an optimal state for planting, they are transported (often in baskets by people) to the sites to be planted out into the soil. When putting the plants in the



baskets, they are already mixed to promote a good mix of the species on the fields. Day workers are present at the planted sites to take care of the young trees.

3. Site preparation & planting techniques

Planting sites are prepared during the dry season, from June to August. Planting season commences in September and stretches until March the following year, during the rainy season. On flat areas, Faja Lobi uses tractors to plow the land making sure to not harm the trees already present in the field. On steep slopes, the ground is prepared manually by women who cultivate the land. Sometimes, if women are not willing to work the land because it's too steep to be cultivated, the ground is left undisturbed and only lines are created where the trees will be planted. No fire is used to prepare the land.



Planting is done manually as soon as the rainy season commences. For the first few planting seasons from 2019 until 2021, trees were planted with a 3mx4m spacing. From 2021, the planting density was increased by planting trees at a spacing of 2.5mx3m. Small holes are dug, and the trees are planted in them. Excess vegetation from the area is utilized and applied as mulch around the trees to assist with moisture retention. The first three years after planting, tree mortality is monitored, and blanking is done to replace necessary areas with new trees. This is done to ensure good short-term ground cover. No fertilization occurs on planting sites.

In addition to blanking during the first three years after planting, women are encouraged to practice intercropping in between tree rows. This is an effective weed management tool that aids in weed suppression in between tree rows and allows trees to grow optimally with minimal competition during the early growth stage where the trees are vulnerable. No thinning is done on planted sites.

No chemical pesticides are used in the project area, instead they make use of natural resources. When plants are infected with fungus, they are isolated and burnt to prevent the spread of fungus to other plants. For lice infestations, ashes from palm leaves are used to treat the plants.

4. Species composition

Native species make up 75% of the species planted, with an additional 25% being exotic species such as Acacia. This method is used to enforce the change from degraded savannah to forest. There is no specific planting design chosen for reforestation activities, the species are randomly planted.

Table 10 List of the species planted by the Idiofa Lobi project

	Scientific Name	Common Name	Native Area	Optimal Habitat
75 %	<i>Albizia adianthifolia</i>	Albizia flat-crown	Tropical Africa - Gambia and Kenya southwards to Angola and extending to South Africa and eastern Madagascar.	Mainly in moist semi deciduous forest.
	<i>Canarium schweinfurthii</i>	Mbili	Africa - Senegal to west Cameroon and extending to Ethiopia, Tanzania and Angola.	Rain forest, gallery forest and transitional forest.
	<i>Diospyros crassiflora</i>	African ebony	Western Africa	moist forests
	<i>Gilbertiodendron dewevrei</i>	Limballi	Central Africa	Tropical Rainforests

	<i>Guibourtia demeusei</i>	African Rosewood	West Africa	Periodically flooded and swampy forests; gallery forest, often in pure stands
	<i>Harungana madagascariensis</i>	Haronga	Western tropical Africa - Cameroon to the Central African Republic, south to the Congo.	wet tropical conditions
	<i>Klainedoxa gabonensis</i>	Klainedoxa gabonensis	From Guinea to the Congo Basin, Uganda, and Sudan;	evergreen forests on sandy soil.
	<i>Maesopsis eminii</i>	Umbrella Tree	Western, Central and Eastern Africa (between 8°N and 6°S) from Kenya to Liberia.	lowland tropical rainforest to savanna
	<i>Milicia excelsa</i>	African Teak	Tropical Central Africa	preference for drier forest types, at elevations up to 1,200 meters. Often occurs in gallery forest and in forest islands or as lone trees in savannah regions
	<i>Millettia drastica</i>	Yoruba	Central regions of tropical Africa	Lowland forest.
	<i>Millettia laurentii</i>	Wenge	Africa, Congo	Rainforest, often in well-drained localities, but also in forest subject to regular inundation; also in riverine forest and tree savannah

	Pentaclethra macrophylla	African oil bean	West & Central Africa	Mainly in lowland rainforest, but also sometimes in the high forest zone
	Pericopsis elata	African Teak	West Africa	Semi-deciduous forest, especially in swampy and flat, disturbed localities
	Piptadeniastrum africanum	African greenheart	Tropical Africa	Evergreen and semi-deciduous forest, rain-forest, secondary forest, riverine forest; at elevations from near sea level to around 1,220 meters
	Prioria balsamifera	Agba tree	Western tropical Africa	Rain-forest; forest on firm ground, at elevations up to 600 meters
	Pterocarpus soyauxii	African Coralwood	West tropical Africa	Evergreen or deciduous forests on firm-ground, rain-forest; at elevations from 50 - 500 meters
	Ricinodendron heudelotii	African oil-nut tree	Tropical Africa	Fringing, deciduous and secondary forests, common throughout the semi-dry wooded-savannah zone[332]. Rain forests, but

				is typical of the more open, secondary formations and is common on abandoned farmland
	<i>Terminalia superba</i>	Shinglewood	West Tropical Africa	A characteristic canopy tree of tropical high secondary forest areas
	<i>Uapaca heudelotii</i>	-	West tropical Africa	Wet areas, in the closed & fringing-forests.
25%	<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	Ear-Pod Wattle	Australia	Savannahs, woodlands, swamp edges, coastal savannas, grasslands, monsoon forests and regrowth
	<i>Acacia mangium</i>	Brown salwood	Australia	Primary and secondary forest, savannah, regrowth of woodland and savannah, open grassland, poorly drained flood plains, behind mangroves in seasonal swamps, sometimes dominant; at elevations up to 195 meters.

	<i>Cassia floribunda</i>	Golden showy shower tree	South America	-
	<i>Cassia siamea</i>	Kassod tree	South- and Southeast Asia	Various types of forests at low elevations
	<i>Hevea brasiliensis</i>	Rubber tree	South America	Low-altitude moist forests, wetlands, riparian zones, forest gaps, and disturbed areas.

5. Management

During seed collection activities, a manager is assigned to each team of seed finders to ensure proper coordination and keep track of seed collection activities. All planting sites are managed by team leaders as well as agronomists, who form part of the operational team. Agronomists assist with the monitoring of techniques in both the nursery and the planting field. Experienced employees from established teams are transferred to new plantations to create a knowledge transfer between sites and ensure consistent quality across the project area.

All planting sites have cabins with sentinels who monitor the area. These cabins have been equipped with lighting and charging stations by solar energy to ensure comfort, visibility and accessibility. There is an important focus on fire risk management to protect the forest. During the dry season, the area is susceptible to savannah- and forest fires, mainly human-induced. The area population, which is around 1.5000.000-2.000.000 people, contributes largely to the fire risk in the area. The areas of Bitshambele and Tomoti were subject to fires in recent years. The importance of education and creating awareness, especially amongst local individuals who are not involved in the project, is a critical priority for Faja Lobi. Fire breaks are created and maintained during the first three to five years after the trees are established, whereafter the fire breaks are left to grow closed, as the trees are more adapted to local conditions. For areas containing exotic species such as Acacia, firebreaks are

kept for a longer period as the species is more susceptible to fire, until they are outgrown and dominated by the local species.

Other activities/community development

A.3.4.1) Agroforestry & depots

The organization follows a community bottom-up approach, utilizing manual labor and integrating intercrops as well as agroforestry zones for the community. By allowing the community to practice agroforestry, an extra layer of protection is added to the forested areas, as the community is less dependent on the forest resources themselves.

These agroforestry activities are still in the pilot phase, with plans to be scaled up. Agroforestry will be focused on, amongst others, coffee, cacao, fumbwa (wild spinach), rattan, beans, vegetables, cassava and orange groves. Some of these crops are currently being incorporated through intercropping, and in the future a separate field is planned for agroforestry activities when it is no longer possible in the planted sites to make sure the community is not dependent on the planted forest anymore. The intercropping is carried out in the reforested sites for the first 3 years, after which the sites are left so the forest can take over. In Makanga, Iseme, Bitshhambele and Punkulu, women's committees have been set up in several villages to jointly operate all tractor-worked plantations for their intercropping activities. Faja Lobi is in the process of transferring this system to other sites.

Faja Lobi has plans to support the women's committees by providing them with agricultural depots and working equipment. Thanks to the maintenance they do on their crops, Faja lobi has less maintenance work and can focus on scaling up planting activities. Faja Lobi continues to have a sustainable presence in the area and will oversee agroforestry and reforestation by Faja Lobi in collaboration with the ICCN and WRI.

A.3.4.2) Horticulture community farm

Horticultural practices of growing crops of local interest (e.g., onions, tomatoes, aubergines etc.) will be grown by a new community farm of 24 ha in 2024, which will

give work to 260 persons by introducing good techniques, better crops, water pumps and livestock fertilization, the pressure on land will reduce in this area.

A.3.4.3) Development of a network of medical centres & hospitals

Medical centres are to be set up in villages where reforestation is underway. This project is aimed to be rolled out in about 5 villages in the area. There are often medical posts in villages, but no facilities, medicine or qualified doctors. This makes certain procedures very difficult. This is why Faja Lobi is dedicated to set up health infrastructure with an emphasis on structure and direct on-site interventions by a permanent medical team that can be on-site promptly from the central hospital.

The expansion of the local operating theatre is important to Faja Lobi. By developing a modern operating theatre, it is possible to provide good healthcare and create space for new specialities in the region, which often are only performed at around 700 km away. The connection to electricity is also an important necessity taken into consideration by Faja Lobi to be able to work with lighting, connect sterilization equipment, perform ultrasounds, use a scanner etc.

A.3.4.4) Cultural Center & Education

The project is involved in the establishment of a wide variety of cultural and educational initiatives and centres, such as a radio reception centre, IT centre, carpentry centre, welding centre, construction centre and sewing centre.

Radio facilities are used as studios for La Création musicians. The existing library is to be used as a creative writing space and for drama classes. The computer training centre will be used as a space for film and photography workshops etc. The computer training centre will be used as a laboratory for a virtual radio and music production space.

A.3.4.6) Fish farming and beekeeping

Fish farming training has been provided to 50 community members, each of whom are currently digging their own ponds. The best species of *Tilapia nilotica* will then be

distributed to these members in 2023. New fishponds have been dug at the Ozu-n-Nso site, in accordance with the rules, to provide a healthy population of fish in a sustainable manner. The aim of this fish farming project is to encourage the community to be more sustainable by supporting the use of local fish, rather than imported fish.

Beekeeping is done by 65 community members & followed by 2 professional beekeepers. By now about 130 beehives are operational. Beekeepers are forest ambassadors because bees need forests to find enough flowers.

A.4 Scale of the project

According to the Land Use & Forests Activity Requirement version 1.2.1, the project falls under the large scale project category as it exceeds the threshold of 500 ha, and hence cannot be classified as a microscale project. Nor is it composed of smallholders, hence not falling under the smallholder project category.

A.5 Funding sources of project

The project is funded by a combination of different public and private resources¹⁴, including gifts from WRI, Bos+, and several Belgian governments (federal and provincial). No Official Development Assistance is given to this project, as declared in the ODA declaration¹⁵.

¹⁴ See <https://www.fajalobi.org/en/Partners>

¹⁵ See document 'ODADeclarationForm_Signed.pdf'

SECTION B. APPLICATION OF APPROVED GOLD STANDARD METHODOLOGY (IES) AND/OR DEMONSTRATION OF SDG CONTRIBUTIONS

B.1. Reference of approved methodology (ies)

The following GS Guidelines, Activity Requirements, Methodologies and Tools have been used:

- Gold Standard Principles & Requirements – Version 1.2
- Gold Standard Land use & Forestry Activity Requirements – Version 1.2.1
- Gold Standard Methodology for Afforestation / Reforestation (A/R) GHGs emission reduction & sequestration – Version 2.0

B.2. Applicability of methodology (ies)

Applicability of Gold Standard Methodology Afforestation/Reforestation (A/R) GHGs Emissions Reduction & Sequestration Methodology – version 2.0

1. Projects that include the planting of trees on land that does not meet the definition of a forest are eligible to apply this methodology.

This project involves the planting of trees to recreate forests lost in the past on. Eligible planted land as defined by the eligibility analysis are used for the CO₂ removal estimates.

2. Projects can apply all silvicultural systems: (i) Conservation forests (no use of timber), (ii) Forests with selective harvesting, (iii) Rotation forestry

The forests planted are conservation forests, no forest management is performed after the three years in which trees are planted and replanted if there are trees that died.

3. All projects can include agriculture (agroforestry) or pasture (silvopasture) activities.

The project does not include any silvipasture area, agroforestry areas might be included in the project area but they will not be included as eligible land for the CO₂ removal estimates.

4. Project Areas shall not be on wetlands

The project area is not on wetlands.

5. Project Areas with organic soils shall not be drained or irrigated (except for irrigation for planting)

There are no organic soils in the area.

6. Soil disturbance (through ploughing, digging of pits, stump removals, infrastructure, etc.) on organic soils shall be in less than 10% of the area that is submitted to certification (not 10% of the entire project area)

NA, since no organic soils are present in the area.

7. The most likely scenario without the project (baseline scenario) shall be defined for the project area. This scenario shall not show any significant¹⁶ increase of the baseline biomass ('tree' and 'non-tree')

In the baseline scenario, the project area is exposed to frequent wild fires and slash-and-burn agriculture. The landscape is a patch work of grasslands, grasslands with low shrubs, which represent a degraded savannah resulting after years of deforestation and slash and burn agriculture, within this landscape they are also present interspersed areas of abandoned agricultural land and crop fields. See section section B.4.

¹⁶ Significant: significant is defined to be more than 5% of the 'long-term CO2 removal'

B.3. Project boundary

Carbon Pools		GHGs	Included?	Justification/Explanation
Baseline scenario	Above & belowground tree biomass ¹⁷	CO ₂	No	No significant GHG source
		CH ₄	No	No significant GHG source
		N ₂ O	No	No significant GHG source
	Above & belowground non-tree biomass	CO ₂	Yes	GHG emissions from grasses and shrubs will be considered as baseline emissions
		CH ₄	No	No significant GHG source
		N ₂ O	No	No significant GHG source
	Soil	CO ₂	No	No significant GHG source
		CH ₄	No	No significant GHG source
		N ₂ O	No	No significant GHG source
	Litter & Dead wood	CO ₂	No	Insignificant carbon pool which can be conservatively excluded according to the methodology
		CH ₄	No	Insignificant carbon pool which can be conservatively excluded according to the methodology
		N ₂ O	No	Insignificant carbon pool which can be conservatively excluded according to the methodology

¹⁷ Tree biomass is not taken into account in the baseline scenario as baseline trees are not cut down, for further information refers to the GS_403.01_V1.0_LUF_AR-Methodology_Integrated_IdiofaLobi Gold Standard

Project scenario	Aboveground & belowground tree Biomass	CO2	Yes	Major carbon pool subject to the project activity
		CH4	No	No significant GHG source
		N2O	No	No significant GHG source
	Non-Tree biomass	CO2	No	Insignificant carbon pool in project scenario
		CH4	No	Insignificant carbon pool in project scenario
		N2O	No	Insignificant carbon pool in project scenario
	Litter & Dead Wood	CO2	No	Insignificant carbon pool which can be conservatively excluded according to the methodology
		CH4	No	Insignificant carbon pool which can be conservatively excluded according to the methodology
		N2O	No	Insignificant carbon pool which can be conservatively excluded according to the methodology
	Soil	CO2	Yes	An increase of SOC can be expected due to the project activity, in line with the methodology. ¹⁸
		CH4	No	Insignificant carbon pool in project scenario
		N2O	No	Insignificant carbon pool in project scenario

¹⁸ At the time of the PDD submission to the preliminary review, no SOC estimation have been already performed by the project. The feasibility to include the SOC pool will be investigating and included for the project design certification following the A/R Soil Carbon Tool

	Harvested wood (timber & energy wood)	CO2	No	Not applicable to the project scenario
		CH4	No	Not applicable to the project scenario
		N2O	No	Not applicable to the project scenario

B.4. Establishment and description of baseline scenario

The baseline scenario is defined by the Gold Standard Principles and Requirements as the "reasonable, conservative scenario that would exist in absence of the project. The baseline scenario for the Idiofa Lobi project is the situation that would occur in the absence of the project. The most likely situation would be the continuation of the current common practice of slash-and-burn agriculture.

The main land uses before the implementation of the Idiofa Lobi project include agricultural land, fallows, and secondary, degraded grassland. There are also remnants of gallery forests near the rivers. The land use in the project area before the project consisted of agricultural areas left fallow, characterized by secondary grasslands due to regular cutting and anthropogenic fires.

Under the existing common practice, the baseline scenario for the Idiofa Lobi project consists of agricultural fields that undergo rotations between fallow periods (2 to 4 years), manioc, maize and millet. Farmers may also consider other possible crops such as the Congolese squash, peanuts, peppers and other vegetables. To prepare the fields for cultivation, fallows are typically burned and ploughed. The project fields are not situated in lowlands by the riverbanks, but rather further from the rivers.

Over time, fallow periods have progressively reduced. This trend has resulted in severe soil depletion in these areas leading to fallows mostly composed of perennial grasses, with only fire-resistant shrubs and sprouts and young saplings present.

Additionally, trees are threatened by unsustainable cutting of timber and firewood. Trees are primarily valued by the local communities for their practical uses in food, wood production, and crafting and construction materials. Moreover, fires are also a common occurrence and a threat to the regeneration of the forest in the baseline scenario. Fires happen frequently in the dry season, with a peak from July to

September¹⁹, Most fires are initiated by human activities but often become uncontrollable. Fire is used for various purposes, including land preparation, weeding, pest control, burning postharvest stubble, bush clearing around homesteads, creating firebreaks, charcoal production, and hunting. Unfortunately, these fires prevent the establishment of the natural regeneration of the forest as it affect young trees and prevent the growth of higher vegetation.

Although some animal breeding is present in the area, with many families owning chickens and goats, the average number of animals per family is low. There is no overgrazing.

B.5. Demonstration of additionality

Specify the methodology, activity requirement or product requirement that establishes deemed additionality for the proposed project (including the version number and the specific paragraph, if applicable).	The "Land Use & Forests Activity Requirements" v1.2.1 published on April 2020 applies to this project (Section B.2). These activity requirements specify a positive list (section 3.1.16 option 2, p17) to be used for demonstrating additionality.
A/R Project: Shall meet requirements (a), (b) and (c) in the list below and at least one of the requirements from (d) to (g) to apply option 2.	
a) The project is located in a Least Developed Country (LDCs) or in a region with a recent UNDP Human Development Indicator ²⁰ below 0.8. AND	The HDI of the Democratic Republic of the Congo was 0.479 in 2021 ²¹ .
b) The project shall have no intention of creating a forest for the commercial use of the timber or nontimber forest products. AND	No timber, other wood or NTFP will be harvested from the forest for commercial use. Community members are only allowed to harvest NTFPs and dead wood from the forests for personal use.
c) The project activities shall not be mandatory by any law or regulation, OR if it is mandatory, it shall demonstrate that these laws or regulations are systematically not enforced. AND	There are no laws or regulations mandating this project.
f) The planting area is planted with minimum 5 different native tree species in mixed stands, covering at a minimum 50% of the planting area. OR	More than 20 different, native tree species are being used. 75% to 100% of each plantation consists of this mix of local species (see section 3. technologies and/or measures for the complete list species).

¹⁹

[https://firms.modaps.eosdis.nasa.gov/map/#d:2018-08-02..2018-09-01;l:fires_all,to\(po;@19.62,-5.00,10.74z](https://firms.modaps.eosdis.nasa.gov/map/#d:2018-08-02..2018-09-01;l:fires_all,to(po;@19.62,-5.00,10.74z)

²⁰ UNDP Human Development Indicator: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/data/profiles/>

²¹ See <https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/country-insights/#/ranks>, consulted on 22/11/2023

g) The project area is located in a country or region with a recent UNDP Human Development Indicator below 0.5, OR in a Small Island Developing State (SIDS)	The UN has assigned a UNDP HDI of 0.479 in 2021 ²² .
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B.5.1 Prior Consideration

First contacts with Faja Lobi were established in 2019 and a feasibility study to estimate the potential emission reductions was carried out end 2019, begin 2020 by CO2logic (financed by external company who was interested to invest in the project). This was followed by some first trees measurements (2020) to improve the ex-ante estimation of the potential emission reductions. The investor withdrawn himself for investing. After the merge between CO2logic and South Pole, the project was proposed internally to South Pole end 2021. During 2022 and 2023, negotiations took place to reach an agreement between Faja Lobi and South Pole for the certification of the project. Several supporting documentations is provided as evidence for demonstration that from early stages of the project, carbon credits were considered as a necessary fund for the implementation and to expand the project.

B.5.2 Ongoing Financial Need

According to the 'Principles and Requirements version 1.2, section 4.1.52', ongoing financial need shall be demonstrated at Design Certification Renewal.

²² See <https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/country-insights#/ranks>, consulted on 22/11/2023

B.6. Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) outcomes

Relevant Target/Indicator for each of the three SDGs

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS TARGETED	MOST RELEVANT SDG TARGET	SDG IMPACT
		INDICATOR (PROPOSED OR SDG INDICATOR)
13 Climate Action (mandatory)	N/A	<p>Amount of GHGs emissions avoided or sequestered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reduction in GHGs emissions
2 Zero Hunger	2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality	<p>Natural resource and sustainable forest management: Increased productivity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Area under sustainable management
4 Quality education	4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship	<p>Skill development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Number of employees provided skill development training, by gender. ● Number of training hours provided for employees (full-time, part-time, or temporary), disaggregated per gender <p>Skill development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Number of community members provided skill development training by gender ● Number of training hours provided for community members, disaggregated per gender
15 Life on land	15.8 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species	<p>Enhanced biodiversity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Total area of trees planted with native species <p>Enhanced biodiversity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Total area of trees planted <p>Enhanced biodiversity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Trends in species diversity (inter-specific tree diversity & Hill number 1)

This is a draft list of SDGs and indicators, which might varied in the PDD for the submission to the Design Project Certification.

B.6.1 Explanation of methodological choices/approaches for estimating the SDG Impact

For the SDGs 2, 4, 5, 8 and 15 further explanation of the methodological approaches will be provided at a later time since those approaches are still in development.

SDG 13 Climate Action

To quantify the total GHGs emission reductions (ERs) sequestered, the project uses the 'GS Methodology for Afforestation/Reforestation (A/R) GHGs emissions Reduction & Sequestration Methodology – version 2'. A summary can be found below.

The CO₂ removal unit is determined for every year (t) of the crediting period using the following formula:

$$CO_2 \text{ removal units } MU, t = (CO_2 \text{ removal } MU, t - \text{Baseline } MU, t - \text{Leakage } MU, t - \text{Other Emissions } MU, t)^*$$

With the applicability conditions, the methodology assumes no significant increase in the baseline, so the baseline is only deducted in year 1 (t=1). Any potential leakage is as well deducted in the first year.

$$CO_2_{\text{removal}} \text{ project area, } t = \sum_{MU=1}^{MUs} \sum_{t=1}^{CP} CO_2_{\text{removal}} MU, t$$

Where:

CO_2_{removal} project area, t	= CO2-removal units of a project area in year t [tCO2e]
$CO_2 \text{ removal MU, } t$	= CO2-removal of a MU in year t [tCO2e]
MUs	= MUs of the project area (1, 2, 3, ...)
t	= 30 years of the crediting period (1, 2, 3, ...)
CP	= year the crediting period ends

The carbon pools taken into account are shown in Table 5

Table 11 Carbon pools accounted for the project

Carbon pool	CO2 fixation	Baseline	Leakage
-------------	--------------	----------	---------

Tree biomass	Aboveground	Yes	No	Yes
	Belowground	Yes	No	Yes
Non-tree biomass	Aboveground	No	Yes	Yes
	Belowground	No	Yes	Yes
Soil ²³		Yes	No	No
Harvested wood		No	No	No
Litter and lying deadwood		No	No	No

- Baseline**

Baseline estimation is determined on modeling unit level by applying a default value from the IPCC of 16.1 (tons t.d.m./ha) for biomass stock of grassland after conversion from other land use was chosen since no other local values were present at the time of the analysis.²⁴

- CO₂ removal**

The silvicultural method applied is conservation forest, hence the long-term CO₂ removal is determined by the 'tree biomass' when an MU reaches its equilibrium.

The tree biomass is estimated as following:

$$\text{tree biomass} = (\text{aboveground tree biomass} + \text{below ground tree biomass}) * \text{CF} * \text{C to CO}_2 \text{ factor}$$

Where:

CF = Carbon fraction (value specified in section B6.2)

C to CO₂ factor = value specified in section B6.2

The yearly CO₂ removals estimates are base on the Modelling Unit (MU) during the crediting period. The MU for the project are set out for every year when a new plantation is planted on the ground, as follow:

MU	Year of the plantation
1	2021

²³ At the time of the PDD submission to the preliminary review, no soil removal estimation is performed. Notwithstanding, the project is about to investigate and add the soil carbon pool following the Soil Organic Methodology.

²⁴ For further explanation about the baseline calculation, refers to the calculation tool Idiofa Lobi_ER estimations ex-ante and the AR consolidated template provided as additional documents.

2	2022
3	2023
4	2024
5	2025
6	2026
7	2027
8	2028
9	2029
10	2030
11	2031
12	2032
13	2033
14	2034

Note that, those MUs are defined for the entire crediting period for the ex-ante estimation, thus; and considering that the project is retroactive and only MU 1 to 4 are now planted (the project is retroactive). The other MU are based on the estimation for the planting capacity of the project on a yearly basis, and as consequence, they might change.

The project will seek in the coming years to expand the area of the plantation beyond the 8,980 ha of the planting area, for which Faja Lobi already obtained or is in the process to receive the rights on the lands (see section A1.2. Legal ownership of products generated by the project and legal rights to alter use of resources required to service the project). Therefore, the ex-ante estimation is based on a reasonable expected scale-up for a total of 5,000 ha in the next 10 years, in addition to the 8,890 ha already mostly achieved, from the year 2025 onward. This is an initial assumption that will change once Faja Lobi will engage with other communities interested in entering the project and all the land rights will be secured.

Aboveground tree biomass

The ex-ante estimation of the above ground tree biomass growth is based on secondary data. More information can be found in the calculation tool "Idiofa Lobi_ER estimations ex-ante" provided as an additional document.

The ex-post estimation of the above ground tree biomass will be based on forest inventories that will be carried out each performance verification (see the draft version of the SOP Forest Inventory). Dendrologic measurements will be taken which will be converted to above ground biomass estimates with the volumetric method or allometric method, depending on the available data.

Soil Organic Carbon will also be investigated whether it meets the applicability conditions and added to the ER project estimates following the A/R Soil Carbon Tool at the time of the design project certification.

Belowground tree biomass

The belowground tree biomass is calculated with the following formula:

$$\text{Belowground tree biomass} = \text{Aboveground tree biomass} * \text{Root to shoot ratio}$$

- **Leakage**

Leakage are emissions that occur due to a shift of activities from inside of a project area to the outside of a project area. Leakage is not expected to occur.

- Collection of wood: The project area was originally highly deforested, with few to no trees and other woody biomass still present on the fields. Therefore, leakage from displaced wood collection is deemed negligible to non-existent. Additionally, since the villages (with the exception of the Idiofa city communities) are allowed to collect dead wood in their community forests, reducing the pressure on surrounding woody areas. To prove our claims made for the collection of wood and timber harvesting, pictures of the project area before planting are provided below.
- Timber harvesting: The area undergoes a frequent burning regime, resulting in the disappearance of larger trees that could provide timber. Since no timber trees are present on the project areas, there is no timber harvesting leakage.
- To prove our claims made for the collection of wood and timber harvesting, pictures of the project area before planting are provided below.
- Livestock: The livestock presence in the area is limited and consists of goats and chickens. Animals are not herded but roam freely around the homestead. Therefore, there is no livestock displacement due to the project activities.
- Agriculture (crop cultivation, shrimp cultivation, etc.):

The villages do not give away their main agricultural fields, but rather fields and land that are the furthest away from the village. Therefore, the village agriculture is not displaced due to project activities. Some city women however are laboring in fields they do not own that are given away to the project. These women are allowed to intercrop on the Faja Lobi plantations for the first three years of the plantations, and this is repeated until all plantations are planted. Then, they will move to an area dedicated to horticulture. This area is seen as the leakage area for agricultural activities. In this area, trees are left standing, but shrubs and non-woody vegetation are removed.

Pre-project pictures of the project area:

Iseme:



Punkulu

Elom:



Ingung



BitshambeleMakangaVallée du ParadisTomoti

- Other emissions**

No biomass is burned during the land preparation and no fertilizers are used on the sites. Therefore there are no other emissions that should be accounted for.

B.6.2 Data and parameters fixed ex ante

SDG13

Data/parameter	Eligible project area
Unit	Ha
Description	Eligible project area as per gold Standard Requirements
Source of data	GIS

Value(s) applied	8,121
Choice of data or Measurement methods and procedures	See section A.1.1
Purpose of data	Calculation of project scenario
Additional comment	N/A

Data/parameter	Baseline biomass stock
Unit	Tonnes dry matter (t.d.m.) per ha [tonnes/ha]
Description	Total aboveground biomass and/ or belowground biomass of the land cover in the baseline scenario
Source of data	https://www.ipcc-nrgip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/pdf/4_Volume4/V4_06_Ch6_Grassland.pdf , Table 6.4
Value(s) applied	$16.1 \text{ t.d.m./ha} = 23.6 \text{ tCOe/ha}$
Choice of data or Measurement methods and procedures	Default value from the IPCC since no other more accurate and local value were present.
Purpose of data	Baseline scenario
Additional comment	N/A

Data/parameter	Root-to-shoot ratio 'forest tree'
Unit	Dimensionless
Description	Ratio of belowground biomass
Source of data	IPCC (2019), 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, Chapter 4, Forests, Table 4.4; Tropical Moist Africa
Value(s) applied	0.232

Choice of data or Measurement methods and procedures	Belowground is usually estimated with a default factor as sampling is destructive and expensive
Purpose of data	Calculation of baseline and project scenario
Additional comment	NA

Data/parameter	Carbon fraction (CF) for 'tree biomass'
Unit	Tonne C/tonne d.m.
Description	Percentage of the biomass of the tree that is carbon
Source of data	Afforestation/reforestation (A/R) GHG emissions reduction & sequestration methodology V 2.0
Value(s) applied	0.5
Choice of data or Measurement methods and procedures	Default value
Purpose of data	Calculation of project scenario
Additional comment	NA

Data/parameter	C to CO2e
Unit	tCO2/tC
Description	Factor applied to convert tree carbon sequestered to tree CO2e
Source of data	Gold Standard Afforestation/Reforestation (A/R) GHG Emission Reduction & Sequestration Methodology, Version 1 – Published July 2017
Value(s) applied	44/12
Choice of data or Measurement methods and procedures	Default value
Purpose of data	Calculation of baseline and project scenario
Additional comment	NA

Data/parameter	Mean Annual Increment (MAI) biomass
Unit	tonne/ha/year
Description	Mean annual volume increment in terms of tree growth, calculated per year.
Source of data	Scientifically published, peer-reviewed values, applicable to the project area (ecological conditions, species/ genus) and used by other project entities in the region or national authorities
Value(s) applied	5.14
Choice of data or Measurement methods and procedures	The MAI applied to the ER ex-ante estimates is the average of the MAI of the most abundant species planted in the sites by the project. The species and their MAI are: Acacia auriculiformes: 5.4 Cassia siamea: 7.1 Hevea brasiliensis: 6.8 Milicia excelsa: 1.7 Millettia laurentii: 3.1 Pentaclethra macrophylla: 7.5 Pericopsis elata: 4.1
Purpose of data	Calculation of baseline and project scenario
Additional comment	Calculated as an average MAI value of following 7 species that make up 50% of species used: Acacia auriculiformes, Cassia siamea, Hevea brasiliensis, Milicia excelsa, Millettia laurentii, Pentaclethra macrophylla, Pericopsis elata.

Data/parameter	Wood density
Unit	g/cm ³
Description	The dry mass for a given volume of wood

Source of data	<p>Woody density per species</p> <p><i>Acacia auriculiformes</i>: http://apps.worldagroforestry.org/treesandmarkets/wood/#</p> <p><i>Cassia siamea</i>: http://db.worldagroforestry.org/wd/species/Senna_siamea</p> <p><i>Hevea brasiliensis</i>: https://www.ipcc-nngip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/pdf/4_Volume4/V4_04_Ch4_Forest_Land.pdf</p> <p><i>Milicia excelsa</i>: Carsan S, Orwa C, Harwood C, Kindt R, Stroebel A, Neufeldt H, and Jamnadass R. 2012. African Wood Density Database. World Agroforestry Centre, Nairobi.</p> <p><i>Miletia laurentii</i>: https://www.ipcc-nngip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/pdf/4_Volume4/V4_04_Ch4_Forest_Land.pdf</p> <p><i>Pentachletra macrophylla</i>: https://www.ipcc-nngip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/pdf/4_Volume4/V4_04_Ch4_Forest_Land.pdf</p> <p><i>Pericopsis elata</i>: http://db.worldagroforestry.org/wd/species/pericopsis_elata</p>
Value(s) applied	<p><i>Acacia auriculiformes</i>: 6</p> <p><i>Cassia siamea</i>: 7</p> <p><i>Hevea brasiliensis</i>: 9.33</p> <p><i>Milicia excelsa</i>: 2.1</p> <p><i>Miletia laurentii</i>: 2.9</p> <p><i>Pentachletra macrophylla</i>: 6.4</p> <p><i>Pericopsis elata</i>: 4.3</p>
Choice of data or Measurement methods and procedures	Woody density are sourced from literature since estimating through in-situ measurement is expensive.
Purpose of data	Calculation of project scenario
Additional comment	N/A

Data/parameter	Biomass expansion factor (BEF)
Unit	Dimensionless
Description	It is the ratio between the mass of dry wood divided by its volume
Source of data	https://www.ipcc-nngip.iges.or.jp/public/gpglulucf/gpglulucf_files/GPG_LULUCF_FULL.pdf , table 3.A 1.10
Value(s) applied	1.5
Choice of data or Measurement methods and procedures	Default value

Purpose of data	Calculation of project scenario
Additional comment	N/A

Data / Parameter	Fj
Unit	
Description	Allometric equation: function relating measured tree dimensions to aboveground biomass
Source of data	Scientifically published, peer-reviewed allometric equations, applicable to the project area (ecological conditions, species/ genus) and used by other project entities in the region or national authorities
Value(s) applied	To be defined
Measurement methods and procedures	To be defined
Monitoring frequency	Screening scientific progress on this issue and use of allometric equations in similar projects/ national authorities
QA/QC procedures	Every performance certification
Purpose of data	-
Additional comment	

SDG 8

There are no fixed parameters for the indicators chosen for this SDG.

SDG 15

There are no fixed parameters for the indicators chosen for this SDG. Refers to ER calculation.

B.6.3 Ex ante estimation of SDG Impact

For SDGS 2,4,5,8 and 15 ex-ante estimation are in development.

SDG 13

Gold Standard *Climate Security and Sustainable Development*

Age	Year	Planted Areas (ha)	Baseline Total Carbon (tCO2e/year)	Total Project Carbon (tCO2e/year)	Project Cumulated Carbon (tCO2e)	Total Carbon with 20% Buffer Discount (tCO2e/year)
Not in the crediting period - Validation expected in 2024	2019	284.8	8192	-	-	-
Not in the crediting period - Validation expected in 2024	2020	897.9	6721	-	-	-
1	2021	2,383.0	21190	-36,327	-36,327	-29,061
2	2022	2,601.9	56239	-38,471	-74,798	-30,777
3	2023	1,565.4	61405	-15,961	-90,759	-12,769
4	2024	500.0	36943	38,719	-52,040	30,975
5	2025	500.0	11800	82,043	30,003	65,635
6	2026	500.0	11800	87,850	117,854	70,280
7	2027	500.0	11800	93,657	211,511	74,926
8	2028	500.0	11800	99,464	310,976	79,572
9	2029	500.0	11800	105,272	416,247	84,217
10	2030	500.0	11800	111,079	527,326	88,863
11	2031	500.0	11800	116,886	644,211	93,509
12	2032	500.0	11800	122,693	766,904	98,154
13	2033	500.0	11800	128,500	895,404	102,800
14	2034	500.0	11800	134,307	1,029,711	107,445
15	2035	-	-	151,914	1,181,624	121,531
16	2036	-	-	151,914	1,333,538	121,531
17	2037	-	-	151,914	1,485,452	121,531
18	2038	-	-	151,914	1,637,366	121,531
19	2039	-	-	151,914	1,789,280	121,531
20	2040	-	-	151,914	1,941,194	121,531
21	2041	-	-	151,914	2,093,108	121,531
22	2042	-	-	151,914	2,245,022	121,531
23	2043	-	-	151,914	2,396,935	121,531
24	2044	-	-	151,914	2,548,849	121,531
25	2045	-	-	151,914	2,700,763	121,531
26	2046	-	-	151,914	2,852,677	121,531

27	2047	-	-	151,914	3,004,591	121,531
28	2048	-	-	151,914	3,156,505	121,531
29	2049	-	-	151,914	3,308,419	121,531
30	2050	-	-	151,914	3,460,332	121,531
Total		13,080	308,691	3,460,332	-	2,768,266

B.6.4 Summary of ex ante estimates of each SDG Impact

To be determined

B.7. Monitoring plan

B.7.1 Data and parameters to be monitored

SDG 13

Data / Parameter	A _{i,y}
Unit	ha
Description	Area of land divided per year (y) and per monitoring unit (i).
Source of data	
Value(s) applied	N/A
Measurement methods and procedures	Area calculated with GIS
Monitoring frequency	Every monitoring / performance certification
QA/QC procedures	Data collection QA/QC procedure ²⁵
Purpose of data	To update the area of the project
Additional comment	-

Data / Parameter	DBH
------------------	-----

²⁵ QA/QC will be set out in the SOP Forest Inventory for the Certification Project Design
Gold Standard *Climate Security and Sustainable Development*

Unit	Cm
Description	Tree diameter at breast-height (1.30 m)
Source of data	Field measurement – SOP Forest inventory
Value(s) applied	N/A
Measurement methods and procedures	The DBH will be measured, using standard inventory instruments such as diameter tapes.
Monitoring frequency	Every performance certification
QA/QC procedures	Data collection QA/QC procedure
Purpose of data	Calculation of project scenario- to be used in allometric equations for the calculation of aboveground biomass
Additional comment	-

B.7.2 Sampling plan

The sampling plan approach will be developed and detailed in the Standard Operating Procedures SOP for the forest inventory.²⁶

B.7.3 Other elements of monitoring plan

The monitoring plan is still under development.²⁷

SECTION C. DURATION AND CREDITING PERIOD

C.1. Duration of project

C.1.1 Start date of project

01/01/2019²⁸

C.1.2 Expected operational lifetime of project

32 years

²⁶ SOP Forest inventory provided as additional document in draft version.

²⁷ SOP Forest inventory provided as additional document in draft version.

²⁸ Documents showing the payment status "Etat de paye" are provided as additional documentation

C.2. Crediting period of project

C.2.1 Start date of crediting period

Expected in 2021; since the project is retroactive, the start of the crediting period depends on the effective date of validation, which is expected in 2024.

C.2.2 Total length of crediting period

Total of the crediting period is 30 years.

SECTION D. SUMMARY OF SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES AND GENDER SENSITIVE ASSESSMENT

D.1 Safeguarding Principles that will be monitored

A completed Safeguarding Principles Assessment is in [Appendix 1](#). No ongoing monitoring is required.

D.2. Assessment that project complies with GS4GG Gender Sensitive requirements

Question 1 - Explain how the project reflects the key issues and requirements of Gender Sensitive design and implementation as outlined in the Gender Policy?

The project actively works towards promoting gender equality and empowering women in the local communities. One of the key initiatives is the creation of job opportunities that are accessible to women. For instance, women are encouraged to participate as seed collectors, to become part of the Bana Faja activities, or agronomists. This not only provides them with a sustainable source of income but also empowers them by involving them in essential aspects of the project's activities. Additionally, young women can apply to receive a grant from Faja Lobi to study, and Faja Lobi pays the end-exam fees of the children of workers. This allows many girls to stay in school until they receive their primary school diploma. The project aims to enhance the role of women in society and aspires to create a more inclusive and equitable environment, empowering women to contribute significantly to the project's success and foster positive changes within their village. In addition to creating job opportunities for women, the project takes further steps to empower them by including them in training to set-up new economic activities like apiculture, horticulture, pisciculture etc.

<p>Question 2 - Explain how the project aligns with existing country policies, strategies and best practices</p>	<p>The project aligns with existing country policies and strategies in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Law nr15/013 of the first of August 2015 relates to the implementation of women's right and parity. The law “[...] provides for rights which concern the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women as well as the protection and promotion of their rights; the total development and full participation of women in the development of the Nation; protection against violence against women in public and private life; equitable representation within national, provincial and local institutions; and gender parity.” To this end, projects must ensure women participation and ensure equal access to resources and consequential benefits for all. By including women in key aspects of the project and promoting their position as agronomists, managing nurseries and their workers, as well as helping girls and women study, the project helps women develop their full potential as equal citizens of the DRC.</p>
<p>Question 3 - Is an Expert required for the Gender Safeguarding Principles & Requirements?</p>	<p>An external expert was not required for the Gender Safeguarding Principles & Requirements. The project team implements and adheres to these principles and requirements without the need for external expertise, as the team is already expert on those aspects to ensure that the project's activities align with gender equality and empowerment goals.</p>
<p>Question 4 - Is an Expert required to assist with Gender issues at the Stakeholder Consultation?</p>	<p>No external expert was deemed necessary for addressing Gender issues during the Stakeholder Consultation. The project team adeptly implements and upholds these principles and requirements, having a solid grasp of these aspects to ensure alignment with gender equality and empowerment objectives. Women in Congolese communities are outspoken members of the community, and a female presenter and female facilitators were present during the meeting to help stakeholder women feel at ease.</p>

SECTION E. SUMMARY OF LOCAL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

The below is a summary of the local stakeholder consultation. Please refer to the separate Stakeholder Consultation Report for a complete report on the initial consultation and stakeholder feedback round.

E.1 Summary of stakeholder mitigation measures

No stakeholder comments were received for which new mitigation measures needed to be proposed. The most important problems encountered were conflicts within communities when deciding on which lands to cede to Faja Lobi, and conflicts between local communities and the Faja Lobi workers on the plantations. To mitigate these problems, Faja Lobi hired a team with a community manager working with the

communities specifically on these types of conflicts. Faja Lobi does not proceed with project activities until compromises within the community are reached.

The following comments from the stakeholders were integrated into the project:

- Faja Lobi is open to work with local NGOs if interests align. Several state agencies also expressed interest to work together with Faja Lobi. ICCN, the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation, in particular could be interesting. Faja Lobi will propose to pay their salaries, and they will help to protect the forests in the dry season. The Congolese Institute for Agriculture is involved in helping Faja Lobi obtain the emphyteuses.
- Elom will be able to use their carbon credits income to build a health center and carpentry workshop. Similarly, other communities will receive the revenue from their community forest to do with what they want, including building hospitals.
- The continuous input/ grievance mechanism is in place to allow communities to come with any problems they experience related to the project, including problems arising from Faja Loi temporary agents in bushes and nurseries. Any incidents will be handled quickly and appropriately by Faja Lobi.
- Faja Lobi encourages clans who cede land and who have members who want to participate in the planting of their community forest to apply to worker vacancies.
- Faja Lobi pays advisors from the communities a per diem when attending Faja Lobi meetings to compensate for any missed income from other potential activities that day. Day laborers who are also advisors will not be penalized in any way for their absence when they are at meetings.
- Faja Lobi promises that when improved seed harvests fail, it will look for a proper solution in collaboration with the affected communities, to see if/ how they should pay back Faja Lobi. The goal of paying Faja Lobi back the improved seeds is so that Faja Lobi can use those to give them to new women joining the project.
- Faja Lobi will work on improving coordination and communication to avoid ambiguity when carrying out its activities (e.g., questions around when planting will start, when improved seeds are delivered to the women, ...).
- Faja Lobi has hired a community manager who is responsible for explaining the project, obtaining free, prior informed consent, and managing any conflicts

arising from it, including land disputes involving possible project areas, any conflicts within the clans due to land disputes or between the clans and Faja Lobi.

- If one community burns their forest, the general assemblee including all Faja Lobi members will decide if they still receive some income from the project or not.

E.2 Final continuous input / grievance mechanism

METHOD	INCLUDE ALL DETAILS OF CHOSEN METHOD (S) SO THAT THEY MAY BE UNDERSTOOD AND, WHERE RELEVANT, USED BY READERS.
Continuous Input / Grievance Expression Process Book (mandatory)	Faja Lobi office Route vers Musengemputu 1, Bala Bala Idiofa Province de Kwilu, RDC
GS Contact (mandatory)	help@goldstandard.org
Local contact point for Faja Lobi	Community council of Faja Lobi in each village
Community manager of Faja Lobi: Trésor Mufwankolo	Telephone/ Whatsapp: 00243 824 368 080 Email: communauté@fajalobi.org
Project responsible South Pole: Paolo Pasquariello	p.pasquariello@southpole.com
External stakeholders	info@fajalobi.org

Stakeholders outside of the project area are recommended to use the Faja Lobi information email address. Community stakeholders can first contact their local contact point or write something in the grievance book. For both options, a report will be sent to Faja Lobi and South Pole. If no proper solution has been reached in this way, stakeholders can contact South Pole and Faja Lobi directly, or Gold Standard as a last resort if all other methods fail.

APPENDIX 1 - SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES ASSESSMENT

Complete the Assessment below and copy all Mitigation Measures for each Principle into SECTION D above. Please refer to the instructions in the Guide to Completing this Form.

SOCIAL SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES		
Reference requirement	Question	Response
P.1 HUMAN RIGHTS		
<u>P.1.1.1</u>	Does the project developer, its representatives and the Project disrespect internationally proclaimed human rights?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.1.1.1</u>	Is the project involved or complicit in violence or human rights abuses of any kind as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.1.1.2</u>	Have local communities or individuals raised human rights concerns regarding the project (e.g., during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.1.1.3</u>	Is there a risk that rights-holders (e.g., Project-affected stakeholders) do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.1.1.3</u>	Does this project undermine national or regional measures for the realisation of the right to development?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If the answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please explain the reason and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.		
<i>Not applicable</i>		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
<u>P.1.1.1</u>	adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalised groups?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.1.1.2</u>	inequitable or discriminatory impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalised or excluded individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.1.1.3</u>	restrictions in availability, quality of and/or access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalised individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.1.1.3</u>	exacerbation of conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

Briefly describe below how the project incorporates a human rights-based approach.

For example, by describing how the project design:

- is informed by human rights analysis, including from UN human rights mechanisms (human rights treaty bodies, universal periodic review, special procedures)
- includes measures to assist the government to realise (respect, protect and fulfil) human rights under international law and to implement human rights-related standards in national law (whichever is higher)
- enhances the availability, accessibility and quality of benefits and services for potentially marginalised individuals and groups, and to increase their inclusion in decision-making processes that may impact them (consistent with the non-discrimination and equality human rights principle)
- provides reasonable accommodations to strengthen inclusivity and accessibility of project benefits and services to persons with disabilities.

The Project complies with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other related national and international requirements. The project policy and related measures are defined in the Faja Lobi internal regulations documents²⁹, which are audited by the official work inspector. Faja Lobi fosters an open work environment, including women in the project through the BANA FAJA project, as agronomists, and seed transporters. For each verification period, an open discussion with all involved communities will be organized to discuss the results and progress of the project.

P2 | GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

P.2.1.1	Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the project, (e.g., during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.2.1.2	Does the project undermine the principles of non-discrimination, equal treatment, and equal pay for equal work?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.2.1.2	Does the project prevent men and women from having equal opportunities to participate in identified tasks and activities, whether through paid work, volunteer work, or community contributions, as appropriate?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.2.1.2	Does the project limit the participation of women or men based on pregnancy, maternity/paternity leave, or marital status?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.2.1.2	Is information about project objectives being communicated in a way that is inappropriate for the local context and not tailored to the methods of understanding of both women and men, which could hinder their participation?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.2.1.3	Has the project assessed gender risks without referencing the country's gender strategy or equivalent national commitment?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.2.1.4	Has expert stakeholder(s) been involved, and has their input been requested for the project design on gender equality and women's empowerment?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

If the answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please explain the reason and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.

Not applicable

Would the project potentially involve or lead to:

²⁹ See 'PROCEDURES ADMINISTRATIVES ET FINANCIERES DE FAJALOBI.pdf'

P.2.1.1	adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.2.1.1	exacerbation of risks of gender-based violence? For example, through the influx of workers to a community, changes in community and household power dynamics, increased exposure to unsafe public places and/or transport, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.2.1.2	reproducing discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.2.1.2	limitations on women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their livelihoods and well-being.	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

Briefly describe below how the project is addressing any identified risk to gender equality and women's empowerment.

Women are included in the project in several ways: through permanent employment as agronomists, managing the tree nurseries, or temporary employment, as seed bearers. Additionally, Faja Lobi organizes the Bana Faja program. This program lets women plant improved crops they receive from the project in pre-ploughed fields, allowing them to cultivate larger areas, and have better harvests. They also receive training on improved agricultural techniques. During the first three years of the plantation, the women plant for free in between the trees. After, they have to pay for the fuel of the tractor.

P.3 | COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY

P.3.1.1	Does the project involve potential risks to the health and safety of affected communities during its life cycle?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.3.1.2	Does the project involve any potential risks to the workers' safety and health?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

If the answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please explain the reason and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.

Not applicable

Would the project potentially involve or lead to:

P.3.1.1	construction and/or infrastructure development (e.g., roads, buildings, dams)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
P.3.1.2	air pollution, noise, vibration, traffic, injuries, physical hazards, poor surface water quality due to runoff, erosion, sanitation?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.3.1.2	harm or losses due to failure of structural elements of the project (e.g., collapse of buildings or infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.3.1.2	risks of water-borne or other vector-borne diseases (e.g., temporary breeding habitats), communicable and noncommunicable diseases, nutritional disorders, mental health?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.3.1.2	transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g., explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

<u>P.3.1.2 </u>	adverse impacts on ecosystems and ecosystem services relevant to communities' health (e.g., food, surface water purification, natural buffers from flooding)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<p>Briefly describe below how the project is addressing any identified risk related to community health and safety.</p> <p><i>The project is building health centers and possibly post-harvest processing equipment. By building health centers, the project provides the communities with better access to health services, lowering the overall health risks of the communities. Additionally, the post-harvest equipment in combination with the improved crops, would allow communities to have access to higher-quality food products to consume and sell, leading to direct and indirect health-benefits for community members.</i></p>		
P.4 CULTURAL HERITAGE, INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, DISPLACEMENT AND RESETTLEMENT		
P.4.1 Sites of Cultural and Historical Heritage		
<u>P.4.1.1 </u>	Does the project involve altering, damaging, or removing sites, objects, or structures of significant cultural heritage?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<p>If the answer to question above is "yes," please explain the reason and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>Not applicable</i></p>		
<p>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</p>		
<u>P.4.1.1 </u>	activities adjacent to or within a cultural heritage site?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.4.1.1 </u>	significant excavations, demolitions, movement of earth, flooding or other environmental changes?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.4.1.1 </u>	alterations to landscapes and natural features with cultural significance?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.4.1.1 </u>	adverse impacts to sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g., knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: projects intended to protect and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.4.1.2 </u>	utilisation of tangible and/or intangible forms (e.g., practices, traditional knowledge) of Cultural Heritage for commercial or other purposes?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.4.1.2 </u>	If answer to question above is "YES" or "POTENTIALLY" - are the communities made aware of their right under the law, scope and nature of proposed development and its potential consequences?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.4.1.3 </u>	If answer to question above is "YES" - does the project provide equitable sharing of benefits from commercialisation of such knowledge, innovation, or practice, consistent with their customs and traditions?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.4.1.4 </u>	If answer to question above is "YES" - are opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder(s) not sought and demonstrated as being included in the project design?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA

<u>P.4.1.4</u>	If answer to question above is "YES", has project design been changed, modified, updated considering opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above questions, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.		
<i>Not applicable In t</i>		
<u>P.4.2 Forced Eviction and Displacement</u>		
<u>P.4.2.1</u>	Does the project involve any risks related to involuntary relocation of people?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If the answer to question above is "yes," please explain the reason and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.		
<i>Not applicable</i>		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
<u>P.4.2.1</u>	risk of forced evictions or involuntary relocation of people?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.4.2.1</u>	temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement (including people without legally recognisable claims to land)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.4.2.2</u>	economic displacement (e.g., loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions – even in the absence of physical relocation)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.4.2.2</u>	If answer to question above is "YES" or "POTENTIALLY", - has the project developed Resettlement Action Plan or Livelihood Action Plan in consultation and agreement with affected individual, group or community? - has the project integrated Resettlement Action Plan or Livelihood Action Plan into the Project design?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.4.2.3</u>	If answer to question above is "YES" - are opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder(s) not sought and demonstrated as being included in the project design?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.4.2.3</u>	If answer to question above is "YES", have project design been changed, modified, updated considering opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above questions, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.		
<i>In some of the community areas that are transferred to Faja Lobi, immigrants from the city are illegally cultivating crops as a source of income. These women become part of the Bana Faja project; they are given an area on the newly planted plantations, where they intercrop between the treelings with improved seeds. The women can cultivate larger areas since the area is already ploughed, and the conflict between illegal cultivators and local rural communities is resolved.</i>		
<u>P.4.3 LAND TENURE AND OTHER RIGHTS</u>		
<u>P.4.3.1</u>	Does the project involve any risks related to identifying and managing legitimate tenure rights that may be affected by the project?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

<p>If the answer to question above is "yes," please explain the reason and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>Not applicable</i></p> <p>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</p>		
<u>P.4.3.1</u>	impacts on or changes to land tenure arrangements and/or community-based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.4.3.1</u>	uncertainties with regards to land tenure, access rights, usage rights or land ownership? Examples include, but are not limited to water access rights, community-based property rights and customary rights.	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.4.3.2</u>	Changes in legal arrangements, if yes, are the changes done in line with relevant laws and regulations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.4.3.2</u>	Changes in legal arrangements, if yes, are these changes agree with free, prior and informed consent of the involved stakeholders?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.4.3.3</u>	Does some other entity (other than the project developer) hold uncontested land title for the entire Project Boundary?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.4.3.4</u>	Are opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder(s) not sought and demonstrated as being included in the project design?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.4.3.4</u>	If answer to question above is "YES", have project design been changed, modified, updated considering opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.4.3.5</u>	Have project developer in consultation with stakeholders established a functioning mechanism to receive, process, resolve, communicate and record grievances?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<p>If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above questions, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.</p>		

The project has established a comprehensive strategy for land recruitment and continuous engagement with landowners throughout its duration. The process for including land within the project area is well-defined and outlined in A.1.2. Legal ownership of products generated by the project and legal rights to alter use of resources required to service the project. To ensure the proper inclusion of land, the project initiates early discussions with community chiefs and landowners, followed by a stakeholder consultation within the concerned communities, aimed at obtaining free, prior, and informed consent. The project's approach emphasizes the importance of respecting local land tenure rights. The validation of land tenure rights is ensured through signed agreements by both the clan chief and Faja Lobi further solidifying their commitment. The village becomes member of Faja Lobi, meaning that the village can send a representative to the general assembly, who has a vote in all carbon revenue-related decisions.

The project's legitimacy is reinforced by obtaining the legal land right certificates and official recognition of Faja Lobi of the national and provincial government, with an endorsement of the former minister of environment.

The identification and inclusion of areas in the project area are a direct outcome of stakeholder consultations within the relevant communities. The project's land use adheres to local laws and regulations. Building strong communication channels and accessible grievance mechanisms are paramount to the project's success.

Through these consultations, it was determined that oral communication was most effective within the project area. To facilitate this, the project has established a dedicated helpline for stakeholders to provide feedback or raise concerns about various aspects of the project, promoting transparency and accountability.

P.4.4 | INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

<u>P.4.4.1</u>	Does the project involve Indigenous People within the Project area of influence who may be affected directly or indirectly by the Project?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If the answer to question above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.		
<i>Not applicable</i>		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
<u>P.4.4.1</u>	affect areas where indigenous peoples are present (including project area of influence)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.4.4.1</u>	affect areas, land and territory claimed by indigenous peoples?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.4.4.1</u>	impacts (positive or negative) to the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.4.4.7</u>	If answer to above questions is "YES" or "POTENTIALLY", <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is it determined that the proposed project may affect the rights, lands, resources, or territories of indigenous people? - Has an "Indigenous People Plan" (IPP) or "Indigenous People Plan Framework" been elaborated and included in the project documentation? - Was the plan developed in accordance with the effective and meaningful participation of indigenous peoples and in accordance with UNDP Guidelines? 	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA

<u>P4.4.3</u>	risk of forcibly removing indigenous people from their lands and territories?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P4.4.4</u>	utilisation and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples? Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Principle 4.1 above	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P4.4.5</u> <u>P4.4.6</u>	If answer to question above is "YES" or "POTENTIALLY" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Did the project obtain free, prior and informed consent from indigenous people before taking their cultural, intellectual, religious, and/or spiritual property? - Does the project ensure that the indigenous people receive an equitable sharing of benefits resulting from the use of their traditional knowledge and practices? ? - Does the project ensure that the sharing of benefits resulting from the use of indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge and practices is culturally appropriate and inclusive? - Does the project ensure that the provision of equitable sharing of benefits does not impede land rights or equal access to basic services including health services, clean water, energy, education, safe and decent working conditions, and housing? 	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P4.4.8</u>	Does the project lack appropriate feedback and grievance channels for Indigenous Peoples and their representatives?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P4.4.8</u>	Has a grievance mechanism not been established at the beginning of programme or project implementation with due consideration given to customary dispute settlement mechanisms among the Indigenous Peoples concerned and will it remain operational throughout the project cycle?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P4.4.9</u>	Are opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder(s) not sought and demonstrated as being included in the project design?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P4.4.9</u>	If answer to question above is "YES", have project design been changed, modified, updated considering opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above questions, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.		
<i>The communities within which the project collaborates are not considered to be indigenous according to the commonly accepted definitions. Indeed, the ancestors of the inhabitants of the region settled on these uninhabited lands a few hundred years ago, the inhabitants of the project region clearly feel that they belong to the Democratic Republic of Congo, they are clearly included in society both politically and economically, and manifestations of self-identification as indigenous people have not been observed.</i>		
<u>P5 CORRUPTION</u>		
<u>P5.1.1</u>	Does the project involve, or is it complicit in, contributing to or reinforcing corruption or corrupt projects?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P5.1.1</u>	Does the project have a risk of encouraging bribery, kickbacks, or other unethical behavior?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

If the answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.

Not applicable

ECONOMIC SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES

P.6 | ECONOMIC IMPACTS

P.6.1 | LABOUR RIGHTS AND WORKING CONDITIONS

<u>P.6.1.1</u>	Does the project involve, facilitate, or condone forced labor, or pose a potential risk of forced labor?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.6.1.1</u>	Does the project violate any labor or health and safety laws, international obligations, or ILO conventions?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.6.1.2</u>	Does the project violate the principles of equal opportunity and fair treatment in its employment decisions?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.6.1.3</u>	Does the project violate national laws, if available regarding non-discrimination in employment?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.6.1.4</u> <u>P.6.1.5</u>	Does the project allow child labor?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.6.1.7</u> <u>P.6.1.8</u>	Does the project have insufficient processes and measures in place to ensure the safety and health of project workers?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.6.1.9</u>	Does the project have insufficient measures to safeguard and support vulnerable project workers, such as women, people with disabilities, migrant workers, and young workers, and to prevent any kind of harassment, abuse, bullying, or exploitation, including gender-based violence (GBV)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.6.1.10</u>	Does the project have no grievance mechanism available for workers to voice workplace concerns? Is information about this mechanism not provided to workers at the time of recruitment, or is it not easily accessible?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

If the answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.

Not applicable

Would the project potentially involve or lead to:

(NOTE: APPLIES TO BOTH PROJECT AND CONTRACTOR WORKERS)

<u>P.6.1.1</u>	use of forced labour?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.6.1.1</u>	working conditions that do not meet national labour laws and international commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.6.1.1</u>	working conditions that may deny freedom of association and collective bargaining?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

P.6.1.1	absence of documented working agreements with all individual workers <i>if such agreements do not exist, or do not address working conditions and terms of employment, the project developer shall provide reasonable working conditions and terms of employment.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.6.1.1	use of migrant workers? <i>if engaged, the developer shall ensure that they are engaged substantially equivalent terms and conditions to non-migrant workers carrying out similar work.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.6.1.1	having no arrangements for basic services ³⁰ for workers? <i>the project developer shall put in place and implement policies on the quality and management of the accommodation and provision of basic services in a manner consistent with the principles of non-discrimination and equal opportunity. Workers' accommodation arrangements should not restrict workers' freedom of movement or of association</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.6.1.2	any form of discrimination or harassment based on factors unrelated to job requirements, such as gender, race, nationality, ethnicity, social or indigenous origin, religion or belief, disability, age, or sexual orientation?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.6.1.2	any form of discrimination in any aspect of employment, such as recruitment, compensation, working conditions, training, job assignment, promotion, termination, or discipline?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.6.1.2	harassment, intimidation, and/or exploitation, especially in regard to women?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.6.1.3	discriminatory working conditions and/or lack of equal opportunity where national law provides provision to address non-discrimination in employment?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.6.1.4	use of child labour? (including third-party engaged workers)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.6.1.4	inadequate and verifiable mechanisms for age verification?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.6.1.7	no processes and measures in place for the safety and health of project workers?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.6.1.7	No provision of safety and health training provisions, including on the proper use and maintenance of personal protective equipment conducted by competent persons and the maintenance of training records?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.6.1.7	No provision to record and document accidents, diseases, incidents, and any resulting injuries, illnesses, or deaths?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
P.6.1.8	occupational health and safety risks due to physical, chemical, biological and psychosocial hazards (including violence and harassment) throughout the project life-cycle?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

³⁰ Basic services requirements refer to minimum space, supply of water, adequate sewage and garbage disposal system, appropriate protection against heat, cold, damp, noise, fire, and disease-carrying animals, adequate sanitary and washing facilities, ventilation, cooking and storage facilities and natural and artificial lighting, and in some cases basic medical services.

<u>P.6.1.9</u>	No measures to protect vulnerable project workers from harassment, exploitation, and gender-based violence (GBV)? This includes women, people with disabilities, migrant workers, and young workers.	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.6.1.10</u>	No grievance mechanism available for workers to voice workplace concerns.	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.6.1.11</u>	No measures for due diligence and the establishment of policies and procedures to manage and monitor the performance of third-party employees in the project?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above questions, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Faja Lobi complies with national labor occupational health and safety laws and with the International Labor Organization (ILO) fundamental conventions.</i> • <i>Employees are free to establish and join labor organizations³¹.</i> • <i>Faja Lobi has an independent committee on hygiene, security and working conditions³². This committee has the purpose to design, correct and execute the policy for the prevention of workplace accidents and occupational diseases as well as to stimulate and control the proper functioning of occupational safety and health services. They provide clear safety instructions and equipment to the workers.</i> • <i>Faja Lobi provides health insurance to its workers, and has procedures in place to support workers after a work-related accident³³.</i> <p><i>The project respects and follows the international and national legal framework regarding human rights. Thus, the project does not rely on children's involvement in project activities.</i></p>		
<u>P.6.2 NEGATIVE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES</u>		
<u>P.6.2.1</u>	Is there a risk of project failure during implementation or after project certification due to a lack of financial resources?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.6.2.2</u>	Does the project have potential negative impacts or pose a risk to the local economy?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.6.2.2</u>	Are there any potential risks or negative impacts this project may have on vulnerable or marginalised social groups, despite the benefits it may bring?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If the answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.		
<p><i>Faja Lobi is setting up a holistic project that makes reforestation the driver of the socio-economic development of the local community. It is the main employer in the region and plans to set up a sustainable agricultural system and more industrialized post-harvest processing systems to stimulate the local economy. The project works together with women, to ensure they benefit from the project. A thorough feedback mechanism is in place to ensure any negative consequences can be known and mitigated.</i></p>		
Would the project involve or lead to:		
<u>P.6.2.2</u>	economic impacts (negative/detrimental) to the local economy?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.6.2.2</u>	negative economic consequences during and after project implementation, e.g., for vulnerable and marginalised social groups in targeted communities?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above questions, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.		

³¹ See document « CONVENTION COLLECTIVE DE TRAVAIL.pdf », article 7³² See document "Installation comité d'hygiène KENGÉ.pdf"³³ See document « CONVENTION COLLECTIVE DE TRAVAIL.pdf », article 25

<i>Not applicable</i>		
P.7 CLIMATE AND ENERGY		
P.7.1 GHG EMISSIONS		
<u>P.7.1.1</u>	Does the project have a risk of increasing greenhouse gas emissions over the Baseline Scenario?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If the answer to question above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.		
<i>Not applicable</i>		
Would the project involve or lead to:		
<u>P.7.1.1</u>	increase greenhouse gas emissions over the Baseline Scenario?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to the above question, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.		
<i>The project is designed to decrease greenhouse gas emissions by preventing uncontrolled bushfires, providing people with improved agricultural techniques to reduce slash-and-burn agriculture, and increase greenhouse gas sequestration by planting trees.</i>		
P.7.2 ENERGY SUPPLY		
<u>P.7.2.1</u>	Does the project pose a risk to the availability and reliability of energy supply to other users?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If the answer to question above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.		
<i>Not applicable</i>		
Would the project involve or lead to:		
<u>P.7.2.1</u>	negative impact on the availability and reliability of energy supply to other users?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to the above question, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.		
<i>No significant power consumption from the local grid and fuel resources are required to perform the project activities.</i>		
P.8 WATER		
P.8.1 IMPACT ON NATURAL WATER PATTERNS/ FLOWS		
<u>P.8.1.1</u>	Does the project increase water usage to a level that will not allow for the maintenance of environmental flows?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.8.1.1</u>	Does the project result in the discharge of wastewater that does not meet the required standard for beneficial reuse and could therefore negatively impact the environmental flow?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.8.1.1</u>	Does the project have the potential risk to exceed the rate of recharge for the groundwater source?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

<u>P.8.1.1</u>	Does the project involve any processes or activities that could contaminate the groundwater and render it unsuitable for use?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If the answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements. <i>Not applicable</i>		
Would the project involve or lead to:		
<u>P.8.1.1</u>	affect the natural or pre-existing pattern of watercourses, groundwater and/or the watershed(s) such as high seasonal flow variability, flooding potential, lack of aquatic connectivity or water scarcity?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.8.1.1</u>	Wastewater discharge of quality that does not meet the required standard for beneficial reuse?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.8.1.1</u>	significant extraction, diversion of ground water? For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.8.1.2</u>	Are opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder(s) not sought and demonstrated as being included in the project design?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above questions, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements. <i>Not applicable</i>		
<u>P.8.2 EROSION AND/OR WATER BODY INSTABILITY</u>		
<u>P.8.2.1</u>	Does the project have a risk of negatively impacting the catchment and has it been assessed and addressed?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If the answer to question above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements. <i>Not applicable</i>		
Would the project involve or lead to:		
<u>P.8.2.2</u> - <u>P.8.2.5</u>	negatively impact on the catchment area? <i>If yes, Erosion prevention measures, including soil and slope protection measures, must be implemented before project commencement. These measures should involve natural terracing, infiltration strips, permanent ground cover, hedge and tree rows, and effective slope length assessment. Regular reassessment of these measures is necessary.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.8.2.6</u>	Are opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder(s) not sought and demonstrated as being included in the project design?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above questions, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.		

No negative impact on erosion, water body instability or disruption to the natural pattern of erosion is expected. The reforestation activity is expected to improve soil stability and reduce water and wind erosion. Moreover, the project activities are designed to avoid any impact on the soil and avoid any additional erosion, water body instability, or disrupt the natural pattern of erosion. Therefore, as compared to the common practice in the area, where the fallows are regularly burnt and the trees cut on the land, erosion is expected to be reduced in the project. Machinery is only used on flat and slightly sloping land, which is less prone to erosion. On steeper slopes, all work is done by hand. In this case, the original herbaceous vegetation is either left standing or agroforestry techniques are used to cover the soil as quickly and efficiently as possible. The reforestation activity of the project is expected to improve soil stability and to reduce erosion.

P.9 | ENVIRONMENT, ECOLOGY AND LAND USE

P.9.1 | LANDSCAPE MODIFICATION AND SOIL

<u>P.9.1.1</u> - <u>P.9.1.3</u>	<p>Is there any risk of soil resource degradation or loss of ecosystem services provided by soils in the project?</p> <p><i>If yes, the project shall maintain healthy soils by minimising negative impacts on soil health, productivity, structure, and water retention. Steps to minimise soil degradation include crop rotation, composting, using N-fixing plants, and reducing tillage and ecologically harmful substances.</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
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If the answer to question above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.

Not applicable

Would the project involve or lead to:

<u>P.9.1.4</u>	<p>production, harvesting, and/or management of living natural resources by small-scale landholders and/or local communities?</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.9.1.4</u>	<p>if answer to above question "yes" or "potentially", does project adopt appropriate and culturally sensitive sustainable resource management practices?</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NA

If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above questions, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.

During the first three years of each planting site, local women practice intercropping with improved maize and/or manioc varieties as well as other intercrops. All crops used are popular in the area. The women profit from larger areas they can cultivate at one time, better varieties and improved techniques. After the planting activities are over, a large agroforestry site will be organized to allow women to keep learning about and using their improved agricultural practices on land set aside for this purpose. This keeps women involved in the project and discourages the return to slash-and-burn after the initial project stages.

P.9.2 | VULNERABILITY TO NATURAL DISASTER

<u>P.9.2.1</u>	<p>Does the project have any risks associated with natural or man-made hazards that could result from land use changes due to the project?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
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If the answer to question above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.

Would the project involve or lead to:		
<u>P9.2.1</u>	any potential risks that require emergency preparedness and response planning?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P9.2.1</u>	if answer to above question "yes" or "potentially", did the project developer disclose appropriate information about emergency preparedness and response to affected communities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<p>If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above questions, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>There is a big fire risk in the area that requires emergency preparedness and response planning. To prevent catastrophic fires, fire prevention measures are in place, like sensitization of the local communities through radio and live sessions, firebreaks, guards living next to the plantations and patrols in the plantations.</i></p>		
<u>P9.3 BIOSAFETY AND GENETIC RESOURCES</u>		
<u>P9.3.1</u>	Does the project involve the transfer, handling, and use of genetically modified organisms/living modified organisms that may result in adverse effects on biological diversity?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<p>If the answer to question above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>Not applicable</i></p>		
Would the project involve or lead to:		
<u>P9.3.1</u>	the transfer, handling and use of genetically modified organisms/living modified organisms (GMOs/LMOs) that result from modern biotechnology	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P9.3.1</u>	If answer to above question is "yes" has a risk assessment by a competent Expert stakeholder been carried out in accordance <u>with Annex iii of the Cartagena protocol on biosafety to the convention on biological diversity?</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P9.3.2</u>	If answer to above question is "yes" has any risks identified in the risk assessment?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P9.3.3</u>	Forestry (for example Afforestation/Reforestation) involving GMO planting? <i>Note - Forestry projects (for example Afforestation/ Reforestation) involving GMO planting are not eligible for Certification under Gold Standard for the Global Goals.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<p>If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above questions, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>Not applicable</i></p>		
<u>P9.4 RELEASE OF POLLUTANTS</u>		
<u>P9.4.1</u>	Does the project have a risk of releasing pollutants to air, water, and land in routine, non-routine, or accidental circumstances?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<p>If the answer to question above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.</p>		

<i>Not applicable</i>		
Would the project involve or lead to:		
<u>P.9.4.1</u>	any potential risk of pollutant release that cannot be avoided?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.9.4.3</u>	If answer to above question is "Yes" or "potentially", has the project identified all potential pollution sources that may degrade the quality of soil, air, surface, and groundwater in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.9.4.2</u>	If answer to above question is "Yes" or "potentially", do the pollution prevention and control technologies and practices applied during the project life cycle align with national regulations or international best practices?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.9.4.3</u>	If answer to above question is "Yes", is there a monitoring plan to ensure that mitigation measures are implemented, and resources are protected?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above questions, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.		
<i>The project does not release pollutants and does not use any pesticides. The nursery uses small quantities of inorganic fertilizer when plants are showing deficiencies. As demonstrated in section B.6.A other emissions, this amount is negligible.</i>		
P.9.5 HAZARDOUS AND NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE		
<u>P.9.5.1</u>	Does the project involve the generation of waste materials (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.9.5.3</u>	Does the project involve risk of release of hazardous materials resulting from their production, transportation, handling, storage, or use?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.9.5.5</u>	Does the project involve the use of any chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If the answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.		
<i>Not applicable</i>		
Would the project involve or lead to:		
<u>P.9.5.1</u>	the generation and management of waste materials?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.9.5.1</u>	treatment, destruction, or disposal of waste material?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.9.5.1</u>	If answer to above question is "Yes", does the project involve an environmentally friendly method that includes appropriate control of emissions and residues resulting from the handling and processing of waste material?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA

<u>P9.5.3</u>	risk of release of hazardous materials resulting from their production, transportation, handling, storage, or use?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P9.5.3</u>	If answer to above question is "yes", does project has measures in place to address health risks?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P9.5.4</u>	Involve manufacture, trade, and use of chemicals and hazardous materials subject to international bans or phase-outs due to their high toxicity to living organisms, environmental persistence, potential for bioaccumulation, or potential for depletion of the ozone layer	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<p>If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above questions, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>The project does not release any waste, and does not promote or require the use of hazardous chemicals and materials for the development of activities.</i></p>		
<u>P9.6 PESTICIDES & FERTILISERS</u>		
<u>P9.6.1</u>	Does the project involve the use of chemical pesticides?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P9.6.5</u>	Does the project involve purchase, store, manufacture, trade or use products that fall in Classes IA (extremely hazardous) and IB (highly hazardous)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P9.6.6</u>	Does the project use fertilisers, and if so, are measures being taken to minimise their use and nutrient losses to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<p>If the answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>The nursery uses small quantities of inorganic fertilizer when plants are showing deficiencies. As demonstrated in section B.6.1 other emissions, this amount is negligible.</i></p>		
<p>Would the project involve or lead to:</p>		
<u>P9.6.1</u>	chemical pesticides use for pest management?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P9.6.4</u>	If answer to question above is "yes" or "potentially", does project has documented Chemical Pesticides Policy in place?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P9.6.5</u>	purchase, store, use, manufacture, or trade in Class II (moderately hazardous) pesticides?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P9.6.5</u>	If answer to question above is "yes" or "potentially", does project has appropriate controls on manufacture, procurement, or distribution and/or use of these chemicals?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<p>If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above questions, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>The project doesn't include the use of any pesticides.</i></p>		
<u>P9.7 HARVESTING OF FORESTS</u>		

<u>P9.7.1</u>	Does the project have a risk of unsustainable forest management, including timber harvesting?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P9.7.1</u>	Does the project pose a risk of depleting biodiversity and ecosystem functionality in areas where improved forest management is undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P9.7.1</u>	Does the project risk not meeting requirements for environment-friendly, socially beneficial, and economically viable plantations using native species whenever possible?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<p>If the answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>The project doesn't involve forest harvesting, focusing instead on conservation.</i></p>		
<u>P9.8 FOOD SECURITY</u>		
<u>P9.8.1</u>	Does the project involve the risk of negatively influencing access to and availability of food for people affected?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<p>If the answer to the question above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>Not applicable</i></p>		
<p>Would the project involve or lead to:</p>		
<u>P9.8.1</u>	modification of the quantity or nutritional quality of food available such as through crop regime alteration or export or economic incentives?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<p>If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to the above question, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>Through improved agricultural practices and varieties, people will have more access to high-quality food. With the plant post-harvest pr</i></p>		
<u>P9.9 ANIMAL WELFARE</u>		
<u>P9.9.1</u>	Does the project involve any risks to animal welfare? Animal welfare shall be ensured by providing access to water and food, appropriate environment, humane treatment, and staff training. Evidence of mistreatment will be treated as an immediate non-conformity.	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P9.9.2</u>	Does the project involve any potential risk of excessive or inadequate use of veterinary medicines?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P9.9.4</u>	Does the project involve the risk of administering synthetic growth promoters, including hormones?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<p>If the answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>Not applicable</i></p>		
<p>Would the project involve or lead to:</p>		

<u>P9.9.1</u>	animal husbandry or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species? ³⁴	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P9.9.1</u>	limiting access for animals to basic needs like drinking water, adequate food, daylight, appropriate shelter etc.?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P9.9.3</u>	inadequate measures to isolate sick animals and control the spread of disease, especially zoonotic diseases?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P9.9.5</u>	inadequate low-stress methods, equipment, and facilities that facilitate calm animal movement.	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P9.9.6</u>	inadequate measures to ensure that animals are exposed to the least stress possible during transportation and slaughtering?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P9.9.7</u>	inappropriate spacing per animal and stocking rates per land unit?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P9.9.8</u>	inadequate measures to address the specific needs of aquatic animals?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P9.9.9</u> <u>P9.9.10</u>	primary production of living natural resources such as animal husbandry, aquaculture, and fisheries? If the answer is yes, implement industry-standard sustainable management practices in line with one or more relevant and credible standards and utilise available technologies.	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above question, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.		
<i>The project does not and will not involve animal husbandry.</i>		
<u>P9.10 HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE AREAS AND CRITICAL HABITATS</u>		
<u>P9.10.1</u>	Does the project have the risk of negatively impacting HCV areas and/or critical habitats?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P9.10.2</u>	Does the project in the project area or area of downstream impacts have risks to the following: native tree patches, individual native trees, freshwater resources (including rivers, lakes, swamps, temporary water bodies, and wells), habitats of rare, threatened, and endangered species, and biodiversity-enhancing areas?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If the answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.		
<i>Not applicable</i>		
Would the project involve or lead to:		

³⁴ 'Involve' means if the project mechanism and/or impact(s) are achieved via changing animal husbandry practices in some way.

<u>P.9.10.1 </u>	identified habitats as HCV areas and or Critical habitats?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.9.10.1 </u>	If answer to above question is "yes", does the project have any risks that could negatively impact the catchment, project success, and surrounding HCV and ecological assets, as well as any measurable adverse impacts on the criteria or biodiversity values for which the critical habitat was designated, and on the ecological processes supporting that biodiversity?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.9.10.1 </u>	If answer to above question is "yes", is a robust, appropriately designed, and long-term Habitats and Biodiversity Action Plan absent which will make the project unable to achieve net gains of those biodiversity values for which the critical habitat was designated?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<u>P.9.10.2 </u>	Does the project area or area of downstream impacts have native tree patches, individual native trees, freshwater resources (including rivers, lakes, swamps, temporary water bodies, and wells), habitats of rare, threatened, and endangered species, and biodiversity-enhancing areas?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.9.10.2 </u>	If the answer to the above question is "yes", will the project have any adverse effects on these areas?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.9.10.3 </u>	If the answer to above question is "yes", does the project has opportunities to minimise unwarranted conversion or degradation of the habitat and to enhance the habitat as part of its development?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.9.10.4 </u>	Is the project applying Land Use & Forest Activity Requirements and managing a minimum 10% of the project area to protect or enhance the biological diversity of native ecosystems following HCV approach as per the given requirements?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
<u>P.9.10.5 </u>	Are opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder(s) not sought and demonstrated as being included in the project design?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<p>If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above question, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>The project ensures that the project areas are protected. Special care is taken to include small, existing forest patches and patches of natural regeneration, aiming to reconnect these isolated forest patches in the large forest that will be created.</i></p>		
<u>P.9.11 ENDANGERED SPECIES</u>		
<u>P.9.11.1 </u>	Does the project lead to the reduction or negative impact on any recognised Endangered, Vulnerable or Critically Endangered species?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<p>If the answer to question above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>Not applicable</i></p>		
<p>Would the project involve or lead to:</p>		
<u>P.9.11.2 </u>	distortion of habitats of endangered species?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA

<u>P.9.11.2.1</u>	If answer to the above question is "yes", does the project plan to protect and enhance them?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
<u>P.9.11.2.1</u>	Are opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder(s) not sought and demonstrated as being included in the project design?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
<p>If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above question, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>The activities implemented in the project do not have a negative impact on endangered species, since the project does not lead to any disturbances or degradation of natural ecosystems and does not affect them negatively, but rather contributes to enhancing the ecosystem health through the project conservation and protection.</i></p> <p><i>The project restores the land with a species mix and is expected to have a positive impact on the ecosystem health, improving habitats for such species. The project includes endangered and vulnerable tree species, like <i>Diospyrus crassiflora</i>, <i>Prioria balsamifera</i>, <i>Entandrophragma candollei</i> and <i>Baillonella toxisperma</i>. Some noticeable animal species in the area include the tree pangolin, the Congo grey parrot, and several monkey species including the endangered golden-bellied mangabey.</i></p>		
<u>P.9.12 INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES</u>		
<u>P.9.12.1.1</u>	Does project introduce any alien species (not currently established in the country or region of the project) into new environments?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<p>If the answer to question above is "yes," please explain project situation and how the project will ensure compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>Not applicable</i></p>		
<p>Would the project involve or lead to:</p>		
<u>P.9.12.1.1</u>	risk of introducing any alien species with a high risk of invasive behaviour regardless of whether such introductions are permitted under the existing regulatory framework?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.9.12.1.1</u>	risk of potential accidental or unintended introductions including the transportation of substrates and vectors (such as soil, ballast, and plant materials) that may harbour alien species.	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>P.9.12.2.1</u>	risk of spreading alien species into areas in which they have not already been established?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> POTENTIALLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<p>If the answer is "yes" or "potentially" to any of the above question, please provide a brief description of the project situation below. Also, provide justification and/or evidence as necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><i>The project does not introduce any kind of alien species.</i></p>		

APPENDIX 2 - CONTACT INFORMATION OF PROJECT DEVELOPER(S)

Organization name	CO2logic
Registration number with relevant authority	0886.147.359
Street/P.O. Box	Kantersteen, 47, 1000, Brussel - Belgium
Building	/
City	Brussels
State/Region	Brussels capital region
Postcode	1000
Country	Belgium
Telephone	
E-mail	
Website	https://co2logic.com/en
Contact person	Mathieu Cribellier
Title	Regional Director, Commercial & Delivery - Frabelux
Salutation	Mr.
Last name	Cribellier
Middle name	
First name	Mathieu
Department	Commercial & Delivery- Frabelux
Mobile	
Direct tel.	
Personal e-mail	m.cribellier@southpole.com

Organization name	Faja Lobi Idiofa Lobi NGO
Registration number with relevant authority	Commercial Register Number: CD/BLG /RCCM/14-A-04 National Identification Number: 01-825-N53520U
Street/P.O. Box	Av du Haut Congo N°1, Commune de la Gombe
Building	
City	Kinshasa
State/Region	Kinshasa
Postcode	
Country	Democratic Republic of Congo
Telephone	0024 397 563 57 78
E-mail	info@fajalobi.org
Website	https://www.fajalobi.org/
Contact person	Jurgen Heytens
Title	Founder
Salutation	
Last name	Hettens
Middle name	
First name	Jurgen
Department	
Mobile	
Direct tel.	
Personal e-mail	rheubergner@southpole.com

APPENDIX 3 - LUF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Risk of change to the Project Area during Project Certification Period:	<p>The project will expand in the following years, depending on financing. Communities are incentivized to participate in the project by becoming part of the NGO and choosing how the proceeds for their forests will be spent to develop their communities socio-economically. Since the project area is legally Faja Lobi's, the risk of the project area being reclaimed by communities.</p>
Risk of change to the Project activities during Project Certification Period:	<p>Since the plantations are the primary source of income for the communities to develop socio-economically, the chance of communities trying to reclaim their community forests for other activities is deemed low. The project is actively contributing to other economic activities to provide people with an income that does not require unsustainably exploiting the forests in the area.</p>
Land-use history and current status of Project Area:	<p>Idiofa is the most densely populated area in Kwilu province. Over the period 1990-2010, the average annual deforestation rate for the Kwilu province was 0.23% (DIAF, 2015) and increased to 0.46% between 2010 and 2014. In a 2019 case-study done by the International Institute for Environment and Development on food production, agricultural expansion and deforestation in Mai-Ndombe, GLOBIOM predicts that Bandundu (the area now comprising Mai-Ndombe and the two other provinces of Kwango and Kwilu) will be the second worst affected area by deforestation in DRC by 2030, with 75% of deforestation caused by cassava.</p> <p>The vegetation of Kwilu province is largely agriculture (on sandy soils) with areas of savannah interspersed with galleries and patches of forest resulting from heavy human pressure. Cultivation in degraded savannah areas is a common land-use practice as the land is abundant and in most cases of acceptable agricultural quality. Mixed cropping is the dominant practice in most households, of which the most common crop combination is maize-cassava (72%), followed by groundnut-cassava (15%). Slash and burn agriculture is practiced by most households to clear forested areas for agricultural use. Agriculture is mainly subsistence-oriented, and households rely on forest products for energy, food and income.</p>

Socio-Economic history:	There are mostly family farms scattered across the province, as the instability of the national currency together with the low competitiveness of products on the world market have hindered the success of modern farming in the area. Small-scale agriculture accounts for 84% of the market, ranging from food crops, livestock farming, fishing and hunting. The most widespread crops are manioc (cassava), maize, groundnuts, millet, soya and squash.
Forest management applied (past and future)	In the past, no official forest management was applied in the area. The forest management in the project areas that will be continued further on is to protect the newly planted forests from the fire, in particular when they are still not mature. To prevent fires, awareness campaigns are held within the local population also amongst people not involved by the project. In addition an active monitor of the forest areas with equipped sentinels deployed in sites of plantation. Firebreaks are built during the first three years, when trees are more susceptible to fires, thereafter adult trees become adapted to local conditions. Where present non-local species such as Acacia, firebreaks are left for a longer period till those species are outgrown and dominated by the local planted species.
Forest characteristics (including main tree species planted)	The forest that will be established by the project are diverse and made by a species mix comprising a 75% of local species and a 25% of non-local species. This method is used to enforce the change from degraded savannah to forest. There is no specific planting design chosen for reforestation activities, the species are randomly planted. For the complete list of the species can be viewed in section A.3 technologies and/or measures, sub-section 4.Species composition.

Main social impacts (risks and benefits)	The main benefit to the local communities is the socio-economic development coming from the carbon credits and the improved ecosystem benefits delivered by the plantation. Some of the possible negative impacts would be that some people might feel excluded and that there can be conflicts in communities when deciding which lands they want to cede to the project. However, Faja Lobi has a community manager and has extensive discussions with communities to ensure enthusiastic buy-in from the whole community before starting the process to include the community's ceded lands.
Main environmental impacts (risks and benefits)	The main environmental benefits of this project are an increased, biodiverse forest cover leading to more wildlife, an improved water cycle, and reduced soil and wind erosion. There are no environmental risks associated with this project.
Financial structure	Plantations have been financed with private and public funding until now. The future, plantations as well as the community development projects will be financed by a combination of gifts and carbon credits.
Infrastructure (roads/houses etc):	In the project area and surrounding the lack of modern infrastructure is evident as much as that at the moment, only part of the major road of the area is paved within the city of Idiofa. Just outside the city, the road becomes unpaved and not maintained with other secondary unpaved roads. The most important settlement is the city of Idiofa, nearby the cities other minor rural settlements and scattered houses are present. No other major infrastructures appear in the area.
Water bodies:	No lakes and major rivers are present in the project area, only secondary streams are flowing through some of the areas included in the project. However; a further survey will be performed to map those secondary streams in case they flows into the project area.
Sites with special significance for indigenous people and local communities - resulting from the Stakeholder Consultation:	There are no sites of special significance for indigenous people and the local communities in the area.

Where indigenous people and local communities are situated:	There are no indigenous groups int the area. The majority of the communities lives or in the city of Idiofa next tot he forest site of Vallée or in smaller settlements located along the only major road crossing the city of Idiofa and stretching along the project area.
Where indigenous people and local communities have legal rights, customary rights or sites with special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance:	There are no sites with special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or religious significance for local communities. However, the customary rights system in place in the area is expounded on in the section A1.2. Legal ownership of products generated by the project and legal rights to alter use of resources required to service the project.

APPENDIX 4 - DESIGN CHANGES

A4.1. Details of proposed or actual design change

>> N/A

A4.2. Describe the impacts of design change on the following

a. Additionality

>> N/A

b. Applicability of methodology and other methodological regulatory documents with which the project activity has been certified

>> N/A

c. Compliance with the monitoring plan of the applied methodology

>> N/A

d. Level of accuracy and completeness in the monitoring of the project activity compared with the requirements contained in the registered monitoring plan

>> N/A

Gold Standard

Climate Security and Sustainable Development

e. Scale of the project activity

>> N/A

f. Stakeholder consultation

>> N/A

g. Sustainable development criteria

>> N/A

h. Safeguarding assessment

>> N/A

i. Compliance with applicable legislation

>> N/A

j. Only for LUF Projects: Transparent summary of all approved changes in Project Area, Eligible Area and accompanying changes in ex-ante emissions removals.

DATE OF APPROVED DESIGN CHANGE (MM/DD/YYYY)	PROJECT AREA (HA)		ELIGIBLE AREA (HA)		EX-ANTE ESTIMATE (TCO2E)	
	INCREASE OR DECREASE?	VALUE (HA)	INCREASE OR DECREASE?	VALUE (HA)	INCREASE OR DECREASE?	PERCENTAGE (%)

Revision History

Version	Date	Remarks
1.5	29 June 2023	Editorial changes to match V2.1 of the Safeguarding Principles Requirements
1.4	21 June 2023	Editorial changes to match V2.0 of the Safeguarding Principles Requirements
1.3	14 April 2023	Integrated the design change memo as annex of the document. Editorial changes
1.2	14 October 2020	Hyperlinked section summary to enable quick access to key sections Improved clarity on Key Project Information Inclusion criteria table added Gender sensitive requirements added Prior consideration (1 yr rule) and Ongoing Financial Need added Safeguard Principles Assessment as annex and a new section to include applicable safeguards for clarity Improved Clarity on SDG contribution/SDG Impact term used throughout Clarity on Stakeholder Consultation information required Provision of an accompanying Guide to help the user understand detailed rules and requirements
1.1	24 August 2017	Updated to include section A.8 on 'gender sensitive' requirements
1.0	10 July 2017	Initial adoption