



Mexico Forest Protocol V1.4

Protocol Summary

CLIMATE
ACTION
RESERVE

Protocol Overview

Mexico forest projects can register under the Mexican Forest Protocol if they enhance forest carbon stocks. Credits are issued for activities that increase forest carbon stocks, including afforestation and reforestation, agroforestry, urban forestry, and improved forest management. Avoided emissions from deforestation and degradation are not credited by the Mexico Forest Protocol. Credits generated under this protocol meet the Reserve's high standards of being real, additional, quantifiable, permanent, and enforceable.

Project Requirements

Location: Projects must be in Mexico and exist within an ownership, communally or privately held.

Start Date: The date on which activities are initiated that lead to permanently increased greenhouse gas (GHG) removals relative to the project's baseline; selected by the Forest Owner or Project Developer and must not be more than two years prior to the submittal date.

Crediting Period and Time Commitment: Projects may continue to receive credit for GHG removals for a period of 30 years following the project start date. Projects may commit to maintain sequestered carbon due to project activities for any length of time; however, credits are issued proportional to the length of commitment relative to 100 years.

Additionality: Projects must achieve GHG removals above any GHG removals resulting from compliance with any law, statute, rule, regulation, or ordinance and above and beyond "business as usual" activities (as determined through a baseline assessment).

Permanence of Carbon Storage: Under this protocol, credits are issued based on the proportion of carbon that is maintained over a 100-year time period. Tonne-year accounting principles are used to quantify the time-value of storing carbon and credits can be issued up-front if secured through contractual agreement. A "reversal" occurs when forest carbon that was credited is re-emitted to the atmosphere.

- *Unavoidable reversals* (fires, insects, hurricanes, etc.) are compensated with credits in a shared buffer pool; every project contributes to the buffer pool
- *Avoidable reversals* (harvesting trees, development, etc.) must be compensated for by the Forest Owner depending on the contractual agreement

Social Safeguards: Project Developers must ensure that community members understand forest carbon project concepts, project costs and benefits, and approve the project. Project development must provide for community participation. The protocol establishes the framework for project governance with a project coordinator selected by the community to represent the project both within and outside of the community.

Environmental Safeguards: The protocol requires that native species are maintained and/or increased over the project life. Non-activity areas within the communities are monitored to ensure against leakage within the community, assuring ecosystems are maintained.

Regulatory Compliance: Projects must be in compliance with all applicable laws related to forest project activities and Forest Owners or Project Developers must sign an Attestation of Regulatory Compliance at the end of each reporting period.

Project Monitoring: The Project Report must be submitted after the first or second reporting period. Monitoring reports must then be completed annually for the duration of the project.

Verification Schedule: Verification must occur within 12 months of the end of a reporting period being verified and each reporting period must be 12 months.

Verification with a site visit occurs at project initiation. On-site verification activities are required on a 6-year basis. Verifiers will review notes from community meetings, and potentially interview community members, to confirm that social safeguards are being adhered to.

Important Note: This is a summary of the protocol. Please read the full protocol for a complete description of project requirements.