**Invitation to Participate in the Panama Forest Protocol Development Process**

November 1, 2022

The Climate Action Reserve (Reserve) is developing a greenhouse gas (GHG) removal project protocol which will include guidance for Reforestation, Agroforestry, Urban Forest, and Improved Forest Management Projects in Panama. This protocol will build off an existing protocol currently used in Mexico to be adapted for use in Panama. The Panama Forest Protocol will provide a standardized approach for quantifying and monitoring the GHG reductions from forest projects on private, communal, or public lands in Panama. You can find information about the existing protocol used in Mexico here:

* <https://www.climateactionreserve.org/how/protocols/mexico-forest/>

This project protocol will be developed through the Reserve’s transparent, stakeholder-driven process. Your involvement in this process will be a critical component of our success.

The working language is expected to be primarily Spanish, but some issues may need to be discussed in English and Spanish to incorporate the participation of specific experts. For workgroup meetings, we will explore other options such as simultaneous translation, providing slides in both languages, and/or holding a meeting in both languages

You are invited to participate in this process by completing the attached form, where you will express your interest and demonstrate your expertise to be part of the protocol workgroup.

The workgroup requires a significant time commitment, an advanced understanding of GHG accounting, land tenure, forestry, and forest carbon sequestration issues. The workgroup members are responsible for helping to develop, providing comments, and examining early versions and sections of the protocol over the next few months, in addition to submitting written comments on both the workgroup draft protocol (Spring/Summer 2023) and public draft protocol (Summer 2023).

Because of the technical nature of the work and a desire to reach consensus-based decisions, the protocol workgroup must be limited in size. We will strive to create a well-balanced workgroup with representation from industry, government, project developers, academia, verifiers, and environmental advocacy organizations across Panama.

**Please email the completed form to** **policy@climateactionreserve.org** **by December 19, 2022,** in order to be considered for the workgroup.

If you are not chosen to be a workgroup participant, we urge you to participate in the process as an “observer” by attending workgroup meetings in listen-only mode, submitting written comments on the protocol when it is available for public comment Summer 2023, and attending the public webinar we will host during the public comment period.

Thank you for your interest. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Celeste Melendez at cmelendez@climateactionreserve.org

**Panama Forest Protocol Stakeholder Statement of Interest (SOI) Form**

|  |
| --- |
| Areas of expertise (select all that apply):[ ]  Greenhouse gas accounting [ ]  Land tenure in Panama [ ]  Agrarian rights in Panama[ ]  Forest inventories  [ ]  Forest project development [ ]  GHG/Environmental markets[ ]  Mangrove forest project development[ ]  Environmental advocacy [ ]  Forest soil carbon quantification (Mangrove) [ ]  Social structures in Panama and social safeguards [ ]  Other (please specify)      Current sector:[ ]  Project proponent/developer[ ]  Verifier[ ]  Carbon broker[ ]  Industry consultant[ ]  Government[ ]  Industry[ ]  NGO[ ]  Environmental group[ ]  Academia[ ]  Other (please specify)      |

Name:

Title:

Organization:

Email:

Phone:

Address:

Preferred form of contact:

Are you or your organization based in Panama?

[ ]  Yes [ ]  No

Briefly explain why you would like to participate as a workgroup member for the Panama Forest Protocol.

Briefly justify why you should be included in the workgroup and how the process would benefit form your participation. Include relevant experience and expertise

Explain your level of experience with forestry sector and land management in Panama

Explain your level of experience with GHG accounting in the Forest Sector

Explain your knowledge of social or agrarian issues related to forestry activities in Panama

How many hours per week can you commit to this process? This is an average; it will not be necessary to commit time each week

      Hour/week

Please select your comprehension level of the following languages:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **English** | **Spanish** |
| [ ]  None | [ ]  None |
| [ ]  Limited | [ ]  Limit |
| [ ]  Professional | [ ]  Professional |
| [ ]  Native or bilingual | [ ]  Native o bilingual |

[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

**Tentative Protocol Adaptation Timeline**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Panama Forest Protocol** |
| **Protocol Drafting Begins** | December 2022 |
| **Workgroup Meetings** | December 2022-February 2023 |
| **Public Comment Period** | June-July 2023 |
| **Duration of Protocol Drafting** | January 2023-May 2023 |
| **Consideration by Reserve Board for Adoption** | October 2023 |