

Panama Forest Protocol for Offset Credits V1.0 Workgroup Meeting Notes and Takeaways

Work Group Meeting #1 Notes – 3/2/2023 | 11:00 – 1:00 pm (Panama time)

Reserve Assistants: Amy Kessler, Claudia Jurado, Abbey Garcia

[Link to review the recording](#)

Workgroup Members in attendance:

Organization (alphabetically)	Name	Present (P) or Absent (A)
Asociación Nacional de Técnicos Forestales de Panamá - ANTEFORP	Jose Angel Rojas Gamboa	P
Bosques Amazónicos -BAM	Juan Carlos Flores Del Castillo	P
Bioforestal Innovación Sustentable	Jesus Morales	P
BRET CONSULTORES	Teresa Tattersfield	P
CO2 Cero	Andrés Silva	P
Comarca Ngäbe-Buglé	César Bernal	P
Congreso General Guna	Jorge Andreve	P
Consultora de proyectos de Carbono Forestal	Adriana Abondano Pineda	P
Consultores Ecológicos Panameños SA - CEPESA	Ramon Alvarado	A
Earthshot Labs	Andrew Coates	A
Ecotopia Teak	Carlos Maestre	P
Fac. Ciencias Agropecuarias - Universidad de Panamá	Dimas Arcía	P
Fundación Natura	Rosa Montañez	A
Futuro Forestal	María Gallegos	P
Geo Forestal, S.A	Jacobo Melamed	P
Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Forestales Agrícolas y Pecuarias	Geronimo Quiñonez Barraza	P
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente de Panamá - MiAmbiente	Verónica González	P
Ministry of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Quebec	Philippe Gregoire	P
Panama Teak & Forestry Inc	Itzel Ivon Rodriguez	P
South Pole	Maria Fernanda Buitrago Acevedo	P
Terra Global Capital	Gregory C. Ives	P

Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá	Carlos Espinosa Peña	A
Wetlands International	Andrés Fraiz	P
World Resources Institute - WRI	René Ibarra	P

Agenda:

1. Presentations
2. Process Overview
3. Key Considerations for Eligibility
 1. Project and activity areas
 2. Eligible activities
 3. Safeguards
 4. Land Tenure
4. Questions, comments, and next steps

Main Points of Discussion and Decisions Made:

Project area and activity area eligibility?

- The workgroup agreed with the inclusion of the landscape approach to project design and the inclusion of "Project Area" and "Activity Area", allowing for multiple activities to be included in one project.
- There was a suggestion to change the wording of the definition of the project area to clarify any ambiguity, remaining as follows:
 - Project Area: The total area of a property.
- There was a discussion regarding the inclusion of multiple titles and monitoring of leakage from activity areas. The workgroup agreed that in the instance of there being multiple land titles owned by the same forest owner, the landowner would be required to include all titles that have a forest management plan in the project area to prevent leakage.
- The workgroup discussed whether Comarcas should be required include the entire area of the Comarca within the project area, or if it would be more appropriate at the regional or district level.
 - The Reserve will return to this discussion in the next workgroup meeting and requested review of the decision-making processes within the Comarcas to clarify whether forest management activities are determined at the Comarca, regional, or district levels. The Reserve further requested clarification regarding the ownership of carbon rights resulting from forestry activities.
- The Reserve clarified that mangroves are considered part of the potential eligible activities within the protocol.
- There was a discussion related to aggregation, social and environmental safeguards, land tenure, and eligible activities. The Reserve clarified that these issues will be further discussed in the following workgroup meetings.



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Pending Questions for the Workgroup:

- Clarification on the decision-making and governance structure of the Comarcas to clarify the carbon rights and forest management activities.