



Vi Agroforestry

## **Terms of Reference to conduct Environmental and Social Audit (ESA) for Kenya Agricultural Carbon Project**

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### **Background of KACP project**

Kenya Agricultural Carbon Project (KACP) is a Vi Agroforestry supported project started in 2009 and implemented in Bungoma, Siaya and Kisumu Counties. The aim of the project is increase soil and food productivity, climate change resilience and carbon credit generation. The project has been implemented by 29,497 farmers organized in 1730 self-help groups. These farmers adopted Sustainable Agricultural Land Management (SALM) practices on 21,966 ha. The project has been monitored and verified under Verra/VCS standard three times. The project has sold to voluntary markets 344,788 t CO<sub>2</sub>e credits. The crop productivity and yields impacts has been measured to be increasing at 30 % annually under systematic adoption of SALM practices.

### **Project proponent**

Vi Agroforestry (Vi Planterar Träd) is a Swedish non-profit making fighting poverty and climate change together, through agroforestry and has operations in East Africa (Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania) for the last 37 years. The organisation was founded in 1983 by Vi Magazine and Swedish Cooperative Union (KF) in Kenya and expanded to Uganda in 1992, Tanzania in 1994 and Rwanda in 2004. Since its start, Vi Agroforestry has contributed to the growing of over 134 million trees and helped to lift over 2.4 million people from smallholder farmer families out of poverty.

Currently Vi Agroforestry is implementing the strategy 2017-2021 with a vision of a sustainable environment that enables women and men living in poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa to improve their lives. To do so, Vi Agroforestry applies the Human Rights-based Approach (HRBA) in all its work, thereby addressing the root causes of poverty. The organisation is focusing (mission) on fighting poverty and climate change together through sustainable agriculture based on agroforestry, value chains and financial services, gender equality, strong farmer organisations partnerships, communication and fundraising and advocacy. Under this strategy, Vi Agroforestry is contributing to five sustainable development goals as adopted by all UN countries (1. No poverty; 2. Zero hunger; 5. Gender equality; 13. Climate action and 15. Life on land).

### **Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Audits:**

The KACP project conducted ESIA in 2010 and two successful audits subsequently. These reports exist and will be reviewed. The project was found to have many positive environmental and socio-economic benefits. They included carbon sequestration; improved soil condition and water conservation; increase in biological diversity at the farm level;

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restoration of degraded areas; improvement to rural economy/micro economy; enhanced climate change adaptation by small scale farmers; increased food productivity in western Kenya, increased firewood supply, strengthened community capacity building and institutional development, community awareness on climate change, poverty alleviation, improved nutrition and gender mainstreaming in rural economy. The adverse potential negative environmental impacts identified and were managed include risk of invasive tree species and spread of pest and diseases leading to use of excessive pesticides which might affect farmers and the environment. Measures such tree management and pest screening and management planning system were established and implemented. This assessment will evaluate the extend of implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP).

### **Goal of Environmental and Social Audit (ESA)**

To find out safety and health conditions of the environment and community where KACP is operating.

### **Objectives of Environmental and Social Audit (ESA)**

1. To review the project environmental and social management plan.
2. To evaluate how project activities and processes conform to the approved Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and environmental legislations.
3. To develop a new project environmental and social management plan.

### **Key Tasks**

Appraise all the project activities, including the production of crops, livestock, trees and adoption of sustainable agriculture land management practices, taking into consideration environmental regulatory frameworks, environmental standards, environmental health and safety measures and sustainable use of natural resources.

1. Indicate the objective, scope and criteria of the audit.
2. Study relevant environmental laws, policies and regulatory framework on climate change, health, safety and sustainable use of natural resources and acceptable national and internal standards.
3. Verify levels of compliance by the proponent to the ESMP.
4. Review existing project documents.
5. Examine monitoring programs, parameters, and procedures to control and corrective actions in case of emergencies.
6. Examine records of incidences and accidents.
7. Seek views on health and safety of project employees and farmers.

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## Methods

The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) accredited and licensed Environmental Auditor would conduct the ESA. He / She will apply but not limited to these methods; which include document analysis, literature review, key informants, stakeholders' consultative meetings, questionnaire and checklists.

### What should be in the ESA report?

1. Past and present impacts of the project
2. Responsibility and proficiency of the operators of the project
3. Existing internal control mechanisms to ensure healthy and safety of staff and farmers.
4. Existing internal control mechanisms to identify and mitigate activities with a negative environmental impact.
5. the existence of environmental awareness and sensitization measures, including environmental standards, and regulations, law and policy, for the managerial and operational personnel.
6. Other important information relevant.

### Expected key deliverables

1. Inception report showing methodology
2. Desktop, documents and literature reviewed
3. Field interviews and stakeholder consultation
4. Data analysis and draft report.
5. ESA report with new ESMP.
6. Validation meeting.

### Timeframe for the ESA:

The audit is expected to be undertaken as from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020.

### Who should conduct ESA?

The registered and accredited associate or lead expert. Experienced in Agricultural Forestry Land Use (AFOLU) carbon projects. Environmentalists/agriculturalists and other related experiences in invasive species, pests and pesticides management are encouraged to apply.

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### **Coordination**

The auditor will work with the KACP Project Coordinator under the supervision of the Regional Environment and Climate Change Advisor.

### **How to apply?**

Send application letters addressed to [applicationsKE@viagroforestry.org](mailto:applicationsKE@viagroforestry.org) and to be received not later than 5.00 pm 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020. Clearly indicate 'Environmental and Social Impact Audit' as the subject

The application should contain:

- A letter of interest addressed to the Country Manager, Vi Agroforestry, P.O Box 2006 – 30200, Kitale, Kenya.
- A CV showing education and at least 3 years' previous relevant experience in EIA/EA (forestry, climate change, agroforestry, sustainable agriculture, environment, natural resources, gender etc).
- A schedule of how the tasks will be done within the proposed time frame, the methodology and a detailed program of activities.
- Financial budget for the 6 expected outputs.

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