

Project Title
Project Togo
CarbonFix Registry ID
TG-PTX
New Gold Standard Registry ID (in Markit)
GS3951
Number of validated and verified CO₂-certificates
<p>The number of registered CO₂-certificates at the Markit Registry is currently 0 tCO₂. The total number of credits that are validated for the project is 5,904 tCO₂ (for 79,88 hectares).</p> <p>The objective of the project is to reforest 935 ha in total. The PDD documentation has been elaborated with this objective in mind. Currently 79,88 ha of that 935 ha are planted (up to 2014). In the last certification (“Initial Certification”) carried out in October 2013, only 79,88 ha were validated by TÜV Süd.</p> <p>The initial certification report of TÜV Süd can be found in supportive documentation: 01_CFS-Certification-Report_Project_Togo_v1_2014.</p> <p>Many of the supporting documents are in german, this was discussed and approved during the preparation of documents for certification by the Technical Board of CarbonFix Standards and the certification body TÜV Süd.</p> <p>The total number of credits that needs to be registered is 5,904 tCO₂.</p>

Please outline how your project meets each of the following requirements, referring to any *supporting documentation* where necessary.

CarbonFix Transition

1. The project owner shall inform the *Designated National Authority (DNA)*¹ about the project activity.

On 16th May 2014 Franziska Niesch, coordinator of the project “Project Togo” (see supporting document: 02_Contact to DNA Togo_May2014) sent an email to Mr. Koffi Volley, the DNA for Togo asking Mr. Koffi Volley some questions on carbon accounting in togo. Mr. Koffi Volley responded on 16th May. Evidence of this communication can be found in the supportive document number “02_Contact to DNA Togo_May2014”. The supportive document is available in pdf format. The supportive document shows that Mr. Koffi Volley has been informed about the project activities and the project participants in togo. Mr. Koffi Volley is the only responsible for DNA Togo and he is also active in other panels, for example: he is also „Correspondant officiel de la Convention de Bâle“. Therefore the Project Togo - management decided just to inform Mr. Volley about the project activity. For intensive cooperation and dialouge with the government the project managment works directly with the ministry of forest and environment (see supporting document: 10__141027 Brief - Togo fr.pdf).

Country	Organization's address / Contact person	Other informations
Togo	Direction de l'Environnement B.P. 4825 Lomé Togo M. Koffi Volley (denv_togo@yahoo.fr , koffivolley@yahoo.fr , koffivolley@gmail.com) Phone: (228) 2 221-3321/ -5197 Fax: (228) 2 221-0333	Minimum values for forest (A/R projects)

The Gold Standard Secretariat will make the documentation of the CarbonFix projects publically available for comments to The Gold Standard NGO Supporters for a period of 4 weeks.

¹ Designated National Authority (DNA)

<https://cdm.unfccc.int/DNA/index.html>

2. Written affirmation to uphold ILO in case the government is not ILO member. ILO copies shall be available to workers.

According to the ILO website, Togo is an ILO member and has ratified 74 conventions of which:

- Fundamental Conventions: 8 of 8
- Governance Conventions (Priority): 4 of 4
- Technical Conventions: 16 of 177 Out of **28** Conventions ratified by Togo, of which **26** are in force, **2** Conventions have been denounced; **none** have been ratified in the past 12 months.

a) There shall not be forced labour, as defined by the *ILO Forced Labour Convention*². Togo has ratified both ILO labour standards for Forced Labour (No. 029 in 1960 and No. 105 in 1999).

The Project Togo project is working with different communities that voluntary and in a democratically decided to participate in the reforestation activities. The communities are involved in planting 935 ha. of land that is degraded and unsuitable for crop growing. The planting work is paid from the financial revenues from the sale of carbon credits. The revenues from carbon credits also finance the technical assistance from Project Togo.

b) There shall not be child labour, as defined by the *ILO Minimum Age Convention*¹. Togo has ratified the ILO Minimum Age Convention 1984 No. 138. The country has set the minimum age at 14 years. The tree planting and other heavy field work is carried out exclusively by mature farmers, aged 18 and older (both men and women). The fieldwork is carried out for the direct benefit of the community. This has also been verified by the certifier. Also a reglement interieur has been established (see reference documentation: 03_ACTION DURABLE_Reglement interieur_NOV2013.pdf). In article 12 of this reglement it is mentioned that the project will respect the minimum age and will not use children under the age of 18 to work in the project.

c) If the host country did not ratify one or more of the 8 *ILO Fundamental Conventions*², the project owner shall provide a written affirmation to uphold them. Togo has ratified all 8 fundamental ILO Conventions: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:11200:0::NO::P11200_COUNTRY_ID:103050

d) Copies of the 8 *ILO Fundamental Conventions* shall be available for workers. Togo has ratified all 8 ILO Fundamental Conventions. A copy will be made available to all communities that are participating in the project:

- C029 - Forced Labour Convention
- C087 - Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention.
- C098 - Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention
- C100 - Equal Remuneration Convention.
- C105 - Abolition of Forced Labour Convention
- C111 - Discrimination (employment and Occupation)
- C138 - Minimum Age Convention.
- C182 - Worst forms of Child Labour Convention

Note: Many workers of the participating communities are illiterate and will not be able to read the conventions in detail.

3. Signed declaration on anti-corruption by the project owner.

The signed declaration of Project Togo on anti-corruption is provided as a supportive document (see reference: 04_Letter_Anticorruption_Project Togo_NOV2014).

4. The project owner shall demonstrate that its project has engaged with stakeholders following the key principles of a FPIC approach (free, prior and informed consent).

(a) **Free** from force, intimidation, manipulation, coercion or pressure by any government or company.

The project activities have been implemented by Action Durable, which is a non governmental organisation. Prior to the signing of a contract and the implementation of the project activities, a number of stakeholder consultations were held in which the community members could freely express their opinion of the proposed activities. Material of these meetings can be found in reference: 05 and 06. Also for the identification of potential reforestation areas such stakeholder consultations were held in order to have the full support of all community members.

Also the stakeholder agreements with the communities in reference “ 07_Stakeholder Agreement Villagecommunity Fokpo_AUG2013”; „08_Stakeholder Agreement Villagecommunity Abouzokope_AUG2013“ and „09_Stakeholder Agreement Landowner Abouzokope_AUG2013“ indicates that problems will be solved in a participatory manner. All these documentation indicate that the communities are participating in the project on an entirely voluntary basis, without being intimidated, manipulated, forced or pressured.

The project is also fully supported by the government of Togo. This is expressed in reference 10_141027 Brief - Togo fr.pdf. This letter written on behalf of the Ministère de l’environnement et des ressources forestières expresses the support and interest of the organisation in the project activities.

In Togo, many people are illiterate and most project participants can only read or write very limited. In addition, the official language in Togo is French, which is, however, learned properly only in school. Many Togolese therefore have only poor knowledge of French.

Therefore, it was necessary to present all project information in public discussions in their tribal language to the inhabitants of the villages, in the region Agou this is Ewé.

The project team on site in Togo consists of representatives of various Ethien, to cover many tribal languages and dialects.

Information sessions and meetings with the residents of the project villages belong to the core work of the project. They are held regularly and always in the presence of all interested parties. All project workshops that are mandatory for the workers in the project are also open to other interested parties. So everyone can participate on the training on first aid and safety at work, among others.

In principle meetings are held on a fixed place in the village .

The project participants in the various villages are also regularly informed about the status of the project at other locations.

To ensure an open expression of the people regularly interviews were performed with villagers and workers.

The flow of information is necessary and important in both directions and will therefore be realized in various ways. Due to illiteracy, the way of first choice is the direct approach and touch the spot.

(supported through pictures: ...)

(b) **Prior** to the implementation of the different activities.

Starting in December 2011, employees of natureOffice, together with a regional NGO – A.V.E.S. Togo, arranged meetings in various villages in the prefecture Agou in the region Plateaux to select potential areas for a CO2 reforestation project. The inventory concluded at first the village Fokpo was the best place to start out a reforestation project, not only because the project would have full support of the local chief (Mr. Togbui Ameko II) but also because of the fact that sufficient land appeared to be available for reforestation.

Starting in January 2012, field work was carried out in Fokpo to elaborate a Project Idea . Some meetings were arranged with the representatives and the community of Fokpo. After these meetings it was decided to work with Fokpo.

In February 2012, another field visit was carried out. During these meetings, the villagers were informed about the planned reforestation activities, the project objectives and their responsibilities. The objective of these meetings was to create a better awareness and understanding about the consequences of the activities among the villagers. For the employees of natureOffice these meetings were important to verify if the villagers were fully supporting the planned reforestation activities and were fully aware of the impact that these activities would have on their lives and areas. After having verified this, ‘contracts of agreement’ (see

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11_Landnutzungsvertrag_Fokpo_JAN2012; 12_Erklärung der Bevölkerung von Fokpo_MAR2012) were signed by the representatives of Fokpo.

In March 2012 a number of additional field visits were carried out to collect more field data with GPS and to collect household data. Also some more informal interview and meetings with the villagers were made to generate commitment among the villagers and mutual trust between the villagers and the project management.

After signing the contract agreement, Project Togo started with the implementation of project activities.

After the start in Fokpo, a new project area in Agotimè was added, the process of consultation and information was the same as in Fokpo. (reference document: 13_Landnutzungsvertrag Abouzokope_2013)

(c) **Informed;** all the relevant information shall be made available to the stakeholders that will be affected by the different project activities. This information shall be in a language that the stakeholders can easily understand.

Illiteracy rate is very high in the project area. To keep the farmers informed and updated, a field technician of Project Togo is present in the project area on a continuous basis. The field technician is living in the village Avétònou and is very easily accessible to all project areas. Furthermore, this technician is providing technical assistance to the workers during nursery and tree planting activities and provides training to the farmers. He also keeps the villagers informed on all decisions made by the project management.

During the design phase of the project, presentations were given to the villagers during local stake holder meetings. During the presentation, the villagers were informed about the planned activities, the project objectives and the responsibilities of each stakeholder. This was done in a manner that was easily understandable for everyone.

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The land use contracts were translated into the Togolese official language which is French.

To the poorly trained villagers in Fokpo, the contract was read by the village secretary and translated into the tribal language Ewé.

The discussion and signing of the land use contract with the family unit for the area in Abouzokope was carried out in the office of the relevant Préfet for the region Agou. Again, the agreement was read aloud and translated into Ewé.

By definition, stakeholders are person or groups of person who have an interest in the course of the project.

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Following this definition, land owners and neighbors of the project area - the village communities - are important stakeholders. But the governing bodies, government agencies and research institutes in Togo and organizations that realize projects in similar areas, will also be counted as stakeholders.

With all stakeholders regular dialogues take place to discuss the progress and planning of the project and exchange information.

(d) **Consent** requires that the stakeholders involved/affected by the project can say “Yes” or “No” to the different project activities at various stages throughout the project. The decisions must be in-line with a decision-making process that suits the circumstances.

The project is highly participatory. The field technician that is present in the field is very easily accessible for feedback and comment. Furthermore a letter box has been installed in the village of Fokpo and Abouzokope wherein the villagers can post their complaints about the project. In the Stakeholder agreement between Project Togo and the communities of Fokpo and Abouzokope (see reference: 07_Stakeholder Agreement Villagecommunity Fokpo_AUG2013 and 08_Stakeholder Agreement Villagecommunity Abouzokope_AUG2013) it is mentioned that in case of complaints or conflicts of interests (‘inconvenientes’), a solution will be found that is acceptable for all participants, taking the project objectives in mind. This means that the stakeholders have the power to influence the project decision making process. The director of Action Durable togo and the field technician of Project Togo also have regular meetings with the Village Committees and CVDs.

5. Removal of invasive species in the buffer zone of water bodies.

As part of Project Togo, the field work will be realized through community work. This means that the field workers come from the family or community which is associated with the land.

In the case of Fokpo, the area is property of the village community, therefore all field workers are recruited from the community of Fokpo. On the implementation of community work with the community, a community work contract were closed.

In the case of Abouzokope the area belongs to a family unit. Therefore all field workers are recruited from the family who is the owner of the land and from the community of the adjacent area. The commitment of additional villagers is necessary because the family alone is not able to provide, the necessary number of field workers. There is also an agreement about this employment relationship.

(reference: 14_Vertrag mit Fokpo zur Gemeindearbeit_APRIL2012),

The project owner has any proprietary interest in the area. The area remains one of the village community (Fokpo) or the composite family (Abouzokope). The land of the project owner is therefore smaller than the regional average.

Therefore Project Togo can be manage das a smallholder project according to the small holder guideline. According to the guideline this criterion can be removed.