

ArboRise Participative Reforestation in Upper Guinea

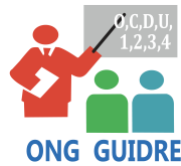
The NGO arboRise whose mission is to fight against climate change in the most effective, ethical, human, and natural way, in association with GUIDRE, an NGO specialized in rural and environmental development in Guinea, and with South Pole a company that, develops and implements emissions reduction projects and strategies; are consolidating the design phase of arboRise's reforestation project in Guinea with the aim of earn a carbon credit certification to provide value addition to actions on territory. As the climate crisis across the world grows and global warming affects many countries disproportionately to their contribution to the causes, there is a need to find a way to both address the cause and mitigate the impact of climate change.

Trees are recognized to be one of the most effective solutions to the climate challenge as they absorb CO₂ from the air, utilize the Carbon (C) and release Oxygen (O₂) back into the atmosphere. Therefore, the retention, protection and planting of trees is a primary toll in the fight against climate change.

ArboRise Participative Reforestation in Upper Guinea is a project that proceeds by cycles of 3 years. During each cycle it visits 25 villages to engage 250 'seed families' and 250 'field families' to reforest 1500 hectares. Thus, over 4 cycles, in 12 years, the project aims to cover 6000 hectares with the help of 2000 local families in 100 villages. The project started reforestation activities in 2021 and will continue until 2033. 150 hectares were reforested in 2021 and 500 hectares in 2022. Every following year, 500 hectares will be reforested until 2033 as described in Table 1.

The project applies natural reforestation methods that strengthen biodiversity and seeks to maximize the involvement of local populations to ensure the long-term sustainability of the reforested areas. We use a mix of 40 forest species, whose seeds are directly harvested around the villages, and are thus adapted to the area, to ensure sustainability. The project disperses seeds on the land in direct sowing with the help of the local population. With the support of our partner GUIDRE, we collect the seeds of the 40 forest species directly from many local growers, so called 'seed families', to which we provide an income that helps enhance their forest heritage and promote agroforestry practices. "Seed families" have a seed tree, from which 20,000 seeds are collected per year. In addition, landowners wishing to revitalize their land may invite arboRise to reforest a few hectares, we call them 'field families', and there is no change in land ownership. 'Field families' each make 6 hectares available. The project sows 10,000 seeds per hectare, expecting 6000 to germinate and add to natural regeneration. Reforestation activities take place from January to June, when the forest seeds mature. During these 6 months, to take into account the stages of maturity of each species, the activities are repeated in 3 groups of villages.

Following the planting phase, the "field families" will maintain firewalls, assess biomass growth, enrich, if necessary, with cuttings or new seeds, establish, if necessary, half-moon structures to



avoid runoff, and harvest tree products (fruits, seeds, fodder, etc.) following the principles of agroforestry. There is no commercial logging activity in this project, only targeted thinning and pruning may be done to promote the growth of trees with high sequestration potential.

Annex 4 below presents the additional measures that will be implemented by the project, following the stakeholder consultations.

Project locations

The project is located in Guinea, in the east of the Kérouané prefecture, covering the Linko, Damaro and Kounsankoro sub-prefectures. Figure 1 in Annex 1 below shows the maps of the 150 hectares reforested in 2021 and of the 500 hectares reforested in 2022. The maps in figure 2 in Annex 1 below show the areas of potential expansion of the project.

Project objectives

1. To mitigate the climate change through the tons of CO₂ sequestered thanks to reforestation with a diverse tree species mix.
2. To increase biodiversity and ensure the resilience of the forest.
3. To reforest in a participatory manner, involving the people directly concerned, while providing support and training to families in the local communities.
4. To create an incentive for local communities to take care of their forest heritage through the promotion of local species and the revalorization of traditional practices linked to the use of wood products.
5. To generate quality carbon credits certified under the Gold Standard to make this project possible.

Project targets

1. To reforest 6150 hectares in the eastern region of Kérouané with the involvement of local communities over 13 years.
2. To ensure food production from the forest by planting species that can be used for their fruits, nuts and other non-timber forest products and to ensure sustainable management.
3. To increase biodiversity over 6150 hectares by planting 40 locally adapted species.
4. To fully protect over 10% of the whole project area to enhance the biological diversity.
5. To develop and implement a monitoring system to measure the project impacts over the whole project period.
6. To generate over 38000 Gold Standard Verified Emission Reductions per year on average throughout the 30-year project crediting period.

Project planting schedule

The below table presents the planting schedule of the project, which started in 2021 and will end in 2033.

Table 1: Planting schedule

Year	Planted area (ha)
2021	150
2022	500
2023 to 2033	500 ha per year

Project timeline

Below figure 1 shows the proposed project schedule for project development and implementation. It comprises three phases that will take the project through design, implementation and monitoring phases over its lifetime.

Project development timeline



Figure 1: Project development timeline of the arboRise Participative Reforestation in Upper Guinea

Summary of the potential economic, social and environmental impacts of the project

The following are the foreseen positive impacts in the short and long-term:

1) Economic

- Create direct and indirect work.
- Maximize the participation in the project of the families in the villages, which provides a valuable additional income, half of which is, in general, spent in the villages.

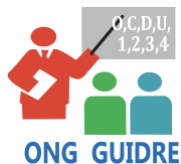
2) Social

- Develop agroforestry practices and food production from the forest in the project area through the selection of forest species that are useful to the local population, in particular food species that can enhance the dietary diversity of the communities by providing an additional quality input to their usual diet.
- Full participation and involvement of the community local families in the project
- Protect forests that are identified of importance to the communities (i.e. sacred forests) as a result of consultations.
- Provide women with an additional income and a stronger status in the community by engaging as seeds-families.
- Share and disseminate knowledge broadly by facilitating access to science and innovation to local partners and building capacity in the villages through training.
- Foster the exchange of best practices among the involved families within and between the involved villages

3) Environmental

- Biodiversity in the project areas will be enhanced through the restoration with a diversity of species to be planted and the conservation of 10% of the total project area.
- Enhance the ecosystem health, its resilience and improve species habitat through ecological restoration with a diversity of locally adapted species and the conservation of the ecosystem.
- Reforestation activities combat climate change by sequestration of CO₂.
- Water bodies will be conserved as the locally adapted trees consume water from rainfall.
- Improve soil stability and to reduce erosion through increased forest cover.
- Protect the environment by applying natural, non invasive, methods such as direct sowing.

The following is a summary of the identified potential economic, social, and environmental positive and negative impacts as per the Safeguarding Principles & Requirements, and how they are addressed, including the updates following the consideration of the Local Stakeholder Consultation feedback:



Principle 1 Human rights.

The project complies with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other related national and international requirements, which are established in the project's Human Resources Management Plan and in its Ethics Code. Likewise, the project does not discriminate and promotes inclusion by setting engagement criteria which foster the integration of disadvantaged people such as poor families and women.

Concerning the stakeholders, they do not perceive any affectation or violation of human rights by the project, according to the feedback received during the local consultation.

Principle 2 Gender equality.

Gender equality is a fundamental aspect managed within the Human Resources Plan and the Code of Ethics, which follow the corresponding legal framework such as Guinea's National Economic and Social Development Plan (PNDES 2021-2025). Both the project's Human Resources Plan and the Code of Ethics contemplate the promotion of gender equality, equal treatment and equal pay for equal work and aim to prevent discrimination. Accordingly, the project equally encourages the participation of women and men in project activities and promotes the engagement of women with seed families and field families.

The stakeholders' perception of gender equality in the project is positive, as it represents one of the first projects that directly involves women in specific activities for which they are paid.

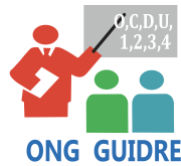
Principle 3 Community health, safety and working conditions.

The project implements measures to ensure the health and safety of the community members and the workers through the implementation of measures that are adapted to the risks identified for each activity which are described in its Forest Management Plan. Overall, the project's impact is expected to reduce health risks, thanks to ecosystem services provided by the forests.

According to the Local Stakeholder Consultation feedback, both workers and project families expressed concerns about the exposure to wild fauna contact risk. To mitigate this risk, the project will develop two specific activities addressing the community's and workers' health and safety. The first will be related to a guide-type document for proper and safe fieldwork, and the second will be the allocation of resources from the carbon project to purchase and update the equipment and elements. Regarding this second action, a hierarchy of needs will be established among the families of the villages, and then at each crediting period, part of the project budget will be used to gradually fulfil the needs by importance, per village.

Principle 4.1 Sites of cultural and historical heritage.

The project does not involve and is not complicit in the alteration, damage or removal of any sites, objects, or structures of significant cultural heritage, nor is it intending to use any cultural heritage.



On the contrary, from the selection and feasibility analysis of the project areas to the local consultation spaces, the project sought to include the traditional use and management of the territory as well as the identification of areas of cultural relevance and importance for the well-being of the local communities, such as the sacred forests and water sources.

Principle 4.3 Land tenure and other rights.

The land used for plantation in the project remains the property of selected field families, that are local smallholder farmers. The land tenure rights are guaranteed by each family and village authorities. In each village, the chief signs a convention certifying the land ownership by the field families and each field family signs a convention confirming its land tenure and their commitment. This process was therefore performed through consultation of the village chiefs and the landowners.

The project designed a strategy for recruiting land to be included in the project and for ensuring continuous operations on the land, working closely with landowners during the duration of the project. All land used by the project undergoes early discussions with the community chiefs and landowners and a consequent Stakeholder Consultation in the concerned communities to ensure their free, prior and informed consent. The project follows relevant laws and regulations such as the Forest Law in Guinea.

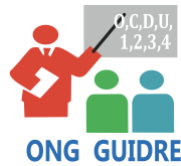
During the consultation spaces, some comments proposed to strengthen the land tenure certificates through the involvement of the prefectural authorities and potential heirs of the landowner (adults, in accordance with human rights, may be officially involved in the process, while minors may continually be kept informed of the project and are free to express their opinions). This is welcomed by the project, to safeguard the families and the continuity of the project itself.

Principle 6.1 Labour rights.

The project implements measures such as agreements, equipment, and training to ensure the following:

- Compliance of all employment with national labour occupational health and safety laws and with the ILO fundamental conventions.
- Freedom for employees to establish and join labour organisations, and compliance of working agreements with the minimum requirements.
- Implementation of measures that are adapted to the risks identified for each activity, including the use of appropriate equipment, training of workers, reporting of accidents and incidents, and emergency preparedness and response measures.

Likewise, through the consultation spaces, the families and current employees mentioned the need for equipment and protection elements for the field activities. Accordingly, the project will develop two specific activities addressing the community's and workers' health and safety. The first will be related to a guide-type document for proper and safe fieldwork, and the second will be



the allocation of resources from the carbon project to purchase and update the equipment and elements. Regarding this second action, it will establish a hierarchy of needs among the families of the villages, and then at each issuance period part of the project budget will be allocated to the gradual fulfilment of the needs by importance, per village.

Principle 8.2 Erosion and/or water body instability.

The reforestation activity is expected to improve soil stability and reduce water and wind erosion. Moreover, the project activities are designed to avoid any impact on the soil and avoid any additional erosion, water body instability or disruption of the natural pattern of erosion. Therefore, as compared to the common practice in the area, where the fallows are regularly grazed and burnt and the trees on the land cut down, the erosion is expected to be reduced in this project. Indeed, the project activities are designed to avoid any negative impact and to implement erosion control measures, as described in the Forest Management Plan.

Principle 9.2 Vulnerability to natural disaster.

According to the Think Hazard tool, the project is classified as high hazard for wildfire, and medium for river flood and extreme heat. Risks are identified at the project area level and are described and addressed in the Forest Management Plan, which includes mitigation measures such as building firebreaks around the reforested areas, an emergency preparedness plan and response strategies to address these events, if they occur.

Likewise, the project implements mitigation measures, when possible, to mitigate the identified risks of impacts caused by natural or man-made hazards such as fire, erosion and extreme heat. For example, firebreaks are implemented for fire prevention, measures to minimise impact on soil during land preparation and planting are implemented for erosion prevention, and species that are locally adapted are planted to prevent potential risks linked to heat and drought. Moreover, the project considers involving the groups of hunters ('watons') for the protection of the forests from fires.

Principle 9.5 Hazardous and non-hazardous waste.

The project does not promote or require the use of hazardous chemicals and materials for the development of activities. However, within the framework of the Forest Management Plan, guidelines for waste management (non-hazardous) are established.

Principle 9.10 High Conservation Value Areas and critical habitats.

The project will promote the protection of the ecosystems around the villages, as well as water sources or wetlands. The project includes the conservation of 10% of the project area that is identified and managed to protect (and potentially enhance) the biological diversity of native ecosystems that include the sacred forests. The project also includes a buffer zone of 15 metres near water bodies with specific protection measures, and the conservation of single and patches of native tree species in the project area.

The local consultation process has helped identify areas of high cultural value, including the sacred forest and water source zones surrounding the villages. These identified areas have the potential to support the creation of natural corridors, as indicated by the dialogues with NGOs and other stakeholders specialising in biodiversity issues, such as Biotope and IUCN.

Principle 9.11 Endangered species.

Endangered species are potentially present in the project area, as described in the Forest Management Plan. The project will restore the land with a species mix and is expected to have a positive impact on the ecosystem health and improve habitats for such species. The project includes the conservation of 10% of the project area that is identified and managed to protect (and potentially enhance) the biological diversity of native ecosystems that include the sacred forests. The project also includes a buffer zone of 15 metres near water bodies with specific protection measures, and the conservation of single and patches of native tree species in the project area.

In light of the discussions held with entities such as Biotope, the IUCN and the Ministry of the Environment, the possibility of articulating efforts around programmes for the protection of endangered species and their associated ecosystems was explored.

In Annex 2 below presents the Summary of the Safeguarding Principles Assessment draft.

Likely Contributions to Sustainable Development Goals

The project identified the contribution to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDG):

4 QUALITY
EDUCATION



8 DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH



13 CLIMATE
ACTION



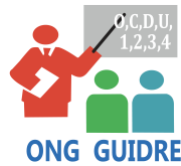
15 LIFE
ON LAND



The table in Annex 3 below presents the SDG Impacts the project expects, including detailed information on the targets, the impacts and the potential monitoring indicators.

Local Stakeholder Consultation Feedback Round

Following the Local Stakeholder Consultation meetings that were held, an analysis of the feedback received led to the update of the project design through the changes and additional measures the project will implement, presented in Annex 4. The Safeguarding Principles



Assessment draft, which summary is presented in Annex 2, and the summary of the identified potential economic, social and environmental positive and negative impacts was updated considering the comments received.

Further details on how comments received in the physical meetings have been considered are available in the Feedback and Impact Assessment table.

From **May 30th, 2023 to July 30th, 2023**, we are seeking further comments from all stakeholders through a Stakeholder Feedback Round. During this period, you can download the updated project documents and submit your comments online at the following link :

<https://www.southpole.com/gold-standard-and-other-stakeholder-consultations>

Alternatively, and for further information, you can contact ArboRise or GUIDRE, which contact details are available below.

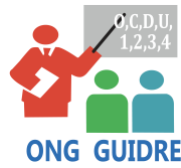
Mechanism for continuous feedback & input and grievance

During the entire duration of the project, all stakeholders will have the opportunity to submit feedback and express concerns and grievances.

ArboRise Participative Reforestation in Upper Guinea has established a mechanism for suggestions and grievances, allowing stakeholders to provide suggestions for improvements, ideas, concerns, grievances, or wishes.

Following the Local Stakeholder Consultation meetings, it was agreed that a **book for recording grievances and suggestions** would be made available at the sub-prefecture office and periodically checked (with the next check date indicated at each visit).

To ensure accessibility to the grievance management mechanism, especially for illiterate individuals, the project is considering the option of setting up a toll-free number. This number will be published on posters distributed after the stakeholder consultations. It will be communicated to the families involved in the project and shared in the villages, taking into account that each family has access to at least one mobile phone. Comments and complaints will be received through the voice mailbox, while calls will be directed to an answering machine to avoid influencing the caller. The recorded messages will be transcribed by a GUIDRE employee at the Faranah headquarters who is not part of the project. The transcriptions will then be passed on to the project management for consolidation and a proper response. The project manager will subsequently contact the person through the same channel to provide the response or propose a solution if the project is the cause of the complaint. If the conflict is unrelated to the project, mediation will be proposed. Comments can be submitted through the toll-free number indicated on the posters distributed in the villages.



Alternatively, comments can also be submitted online via the project's website link or by contacting arboRise or GUIDRE using the [contact details provided below](#).

Every 2 months, GUIDRE will compile the feedback received through all communication channels into a table, and arboRise will respond within 30 days after receiving that table. During monitoring visits, the comments and responses from each village will be printed and handed over to the village chief to share with the community.

Comments may also be submitted directly to Gold Standard at help@goldstandard.org.

More information and contact details

For more information, please contact:

ArboRise

Address: Av. Louis-Ruchonnet 41, 1003 Lausanne, Switzerland

Website: <https://www.arborise.org>

Email: philippe.nicod@arborise.org

GUIDRE

Address: Bureau de Kérouané, près de la station Shell

Website: <https://guidre-gn.org>

Email: guidre2000@gmail.com

Annex 1 : Maps of the project location

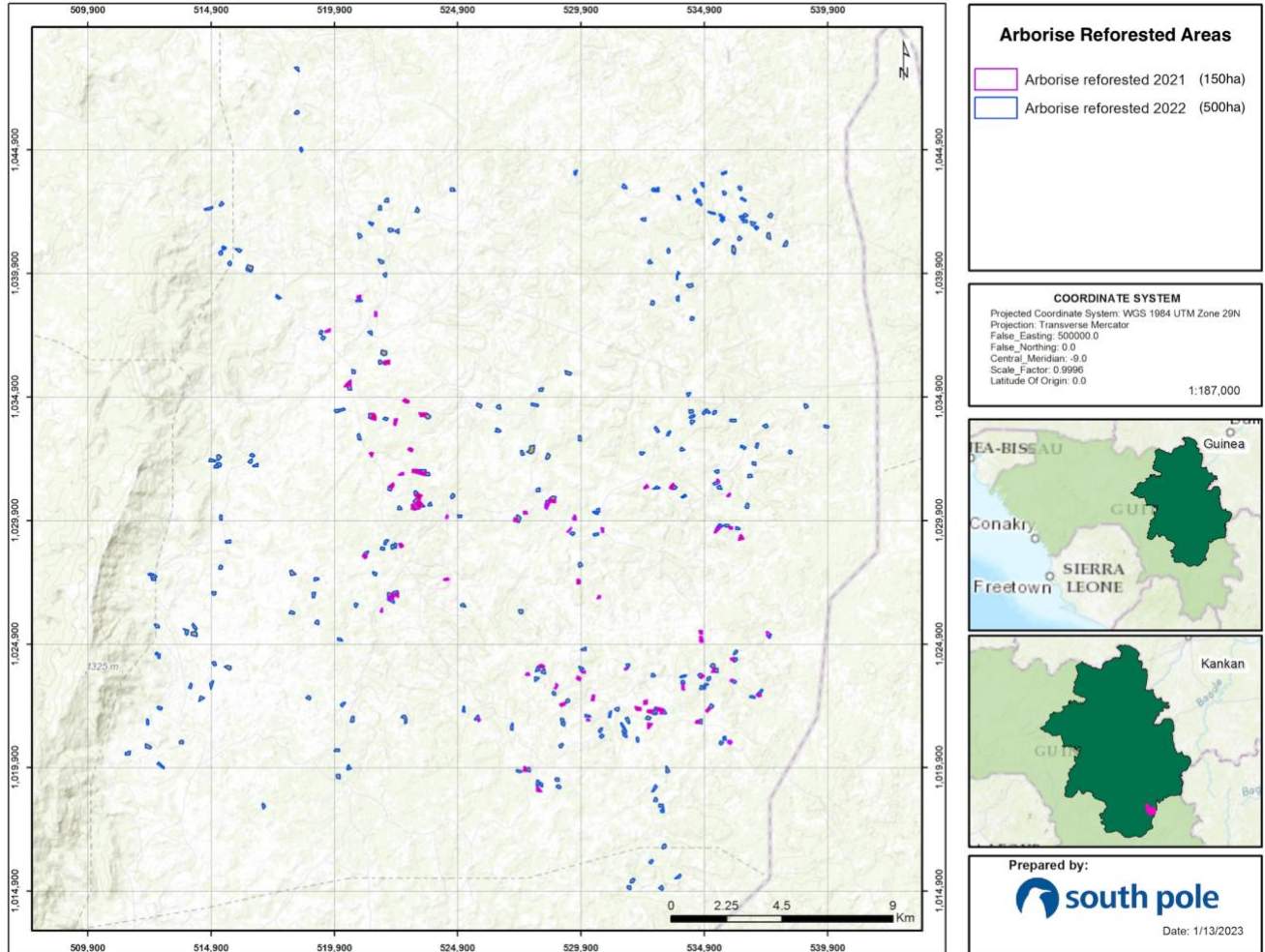


Figure 2: map of the areas that were reforested in 2021 and 2022 in the sub-prefecture of Linko

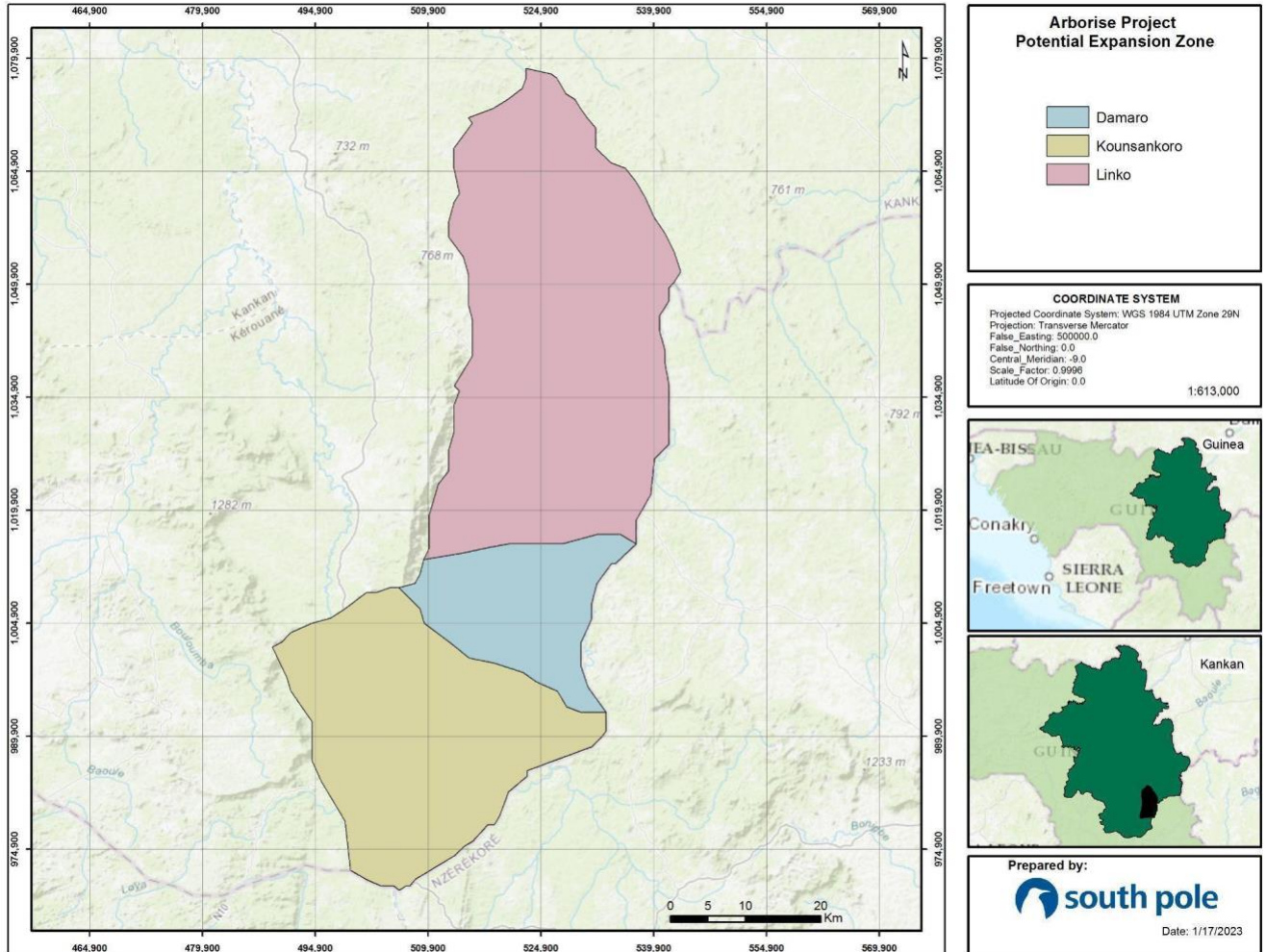
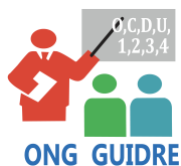


Figure 3: map of the areas where the project will expand in the future : the sub-prefecture of Linko, Damaro and Kounsankoro.

Annex 2 : Summary of the Safeguarding Principles Assessment Draft

Assessment Questions/Requirements	Justification of Relevance	How Project will achieve Requirements through design, management or risk mitigation.	Mitigation Measures added to the Monitoring Plan (if required)
Principle 1. Human Rights			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Project Developer and the Project shall respect internationally proclaimed human rights and shall not be complicit in violence or human rights abuses of any kind as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights The Project shall not discriminate with regards to participation and inclusion 	Yes	<p>The Project complies with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other related national and international requirements. The project policy and related measures are defined in the Project Human Resources Management Plan and in its Ethics Code available on the arboRise website.</p> <p>The Project doesn't discriminate and promotes inclusion by setting engagement criterias which foster the integration of disadvantaged people, such as poor families and women.</p> <p>For each verification period, it will develop public and open spaces for dialogue, around the socialization of the results and progress of the project. Developing in these spaces, strategies to promote the effective participation of women and vulnerable populations.</p>	
Principle 2. Gender Equality			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Project shall not directly or indirectly lead to/contribute to adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women Projects shall apply the principles of non-discrimination, equal treatment, and equal pay for equal work The Project shall refer to the country's national gender strategy or equivalent national commitment to aid in assessing gender risks 	Yes	<p>As described in the Human Resources Management Plan of the Project, measures are in place to promote gender equality, equal treatment, and equal pay for equal work and to prevent discrimination. The project equally encourages the participation of women and men in project activities and promotes the engagement of women as seed-families and as field-families.</p> <p>The project respects and follows the legal framework that in terms of human rights and gender equity are in force at the national level. Such as Guinea's National Economic and Social Development Plan (PNDES 2021-2025), which considers gender mainstreaming as a priority for mitigation and adaptation measures that involves technical training and support for economic activities.</p>	



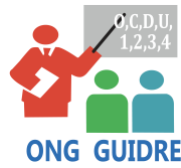
<p>4. (where required) Summary of opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder(s)</p>		<p>Following the priorities established at the national level, concerning gender, the project is supporting the economic empowerment of women through their specific integration in grain activities.</p> <p>Likewise, periodically meeting with the national entity that responds to climate change mitigation and adaptation (the Ministry of the Environment, Water and Forests) is going to be developed.</p>	
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Principle 3. Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions

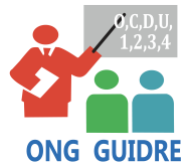
<p>1. The Project shall avoid community exposure to increased health risks and shall not adversely affect the health of the workers and the community</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Project implements measures to ensure the health and safety of the community members and the workers through the implementation of measures that are adapted to the risks identified for each activity and that are described in its Forest Management Plan. Overall, the project's impact is expected to reduce health risks, thanks to ecosystem services provided by the forests.</p>	<p>The project will develop two specific activities addressing the community's and workers' health and safety. The first will be related to a guide-type document for proper and safe fieldwork, and the second will be the allocation of resources from the carbon project to purchase and update the equipment and elements. Regarding this second action, a hierarchy of needs will be established among the families of the villages, and then at each crediting period, part of the project budget will be used to gradually fulfill the needs by importance, per village.</p>
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Principle 4.1 Sites of Cultural and Historical Heritage

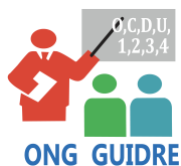
<p>Does the Project Area include sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture? >> The Project shall not involve or be complicit in the alteration, damage or removal of any sites, objects or structures of significant cultural heritage >> Where a Project proposes to utilise Cultural Heritage, including the knowledge, innovations, or practices of local communities, affected communities shall be informed of their rights under Applicable Law, the scope and</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The project does not involve and is not complicit in the alteration, damage or removal of any sites, objects, or structures of significant cultural heritage, nor is intending to use any Cultural Heritage. On the contrary, the project seeks to include the conservation of sites of importance to the communities (i.e. sacred forests and water sources) and to protect them through adapted measures in line with the community expectations. The identification and inclusion of these areas in the Project is the result of a Stakeholder Consultation in the concerned communities, as described in the Project Forest Management Plan.</p>	<p>The project includes measures to enhance the conservation of sacred forests.</p>
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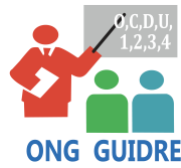
<p>nature of the proposed commercial development; and the potential consequences of such development</p> <p>>> The Project shall provide for equitable sharing of benefits from commercialisation of such knowledge, innovation, or practice, consistent with their customs and traditions</p> <p>>> The opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder(s) shall be sought and demonstrated as being included in the project design</p>			
<p>Principle 4.2 Forced Eviction and Displacement</p>			
<p>Does the Project require or cause the physical or economic relocation of peoples (temporary or permanent, full or partial)?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The project does not require or cause the physical or economic relocation of peoples as the land remains the properties of farmers, who benefit from the project.</p>	
<p>Principle 4.3 Land Tenure and Other Rights</p>			



<p>Does the Project require any change to land tenure arrangements and/or other Rights? >>For Projects involving land use tenure, are there any uncertainties with regards to land tenure, access rights, usage rights or land ownership? Examples include, but are not limited to water access rights, community-based property rights and customary rights.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The project designed a strategy for recruiting land to be included in the project and ensure the land continuous operations working closely with landowners during the duration of the project. Likewise, the project follows specific proceedings for land inclusion which is in the Project Area that is described in the Forest Management Plan.</p> <p>All land included in the project undergo early discussions with the community chiefs and landowners and a consequent Stakeholder Consultation in the concerned communities to ensure their free, prior and informed consent. The land used in the Project for plantation remains the property of selected "field-families", that are local smallholder farmers. Which have a guarantee of land rights given by each The land tenure rights are guaranteed by each village authority. Where, in each village, the village chief signs a convention, certifying the land ownership by the "field-families" and each "field-family" signs a convention confirming its land tenure and their commitment. This process was therefore performed through consultation of the village chiefs and the landowners. Moreover, a letter of the Ministry of the Environment guarantees the support of the government to the project and a Memorandum of Understanding with the Head of the Water & Forest authorities was also signed, which provided support and supervision to the pilot project. Also, the project seeks to include the protection of the sacred forests owned by the communities through adapted measures in line with their expectations. The identification and inclusion of these areas in the Project is the result of a Stakeholder Consultation in the concerned communities, as described in the Project Forest Management Plan. The Project land use is compliant with relevant local laws and regulations.</p>	<p>The identification and inclusion of these areas in the Project is the result of a Stakeholder Consultation in the concerned communities, as described in the Project Forest Management Plan. The Project land use is compliant with relevant local laws and regulations.</p>
<p>Principle 4.4 Indigenous people</p>			



<p>Are indigenous peoples present in or within the area of influence of the Project and/or is the Project located on land/territory claimed by indigenous peoples?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The communities within which the project collaborates are not considered as indigenous people according to the commonly accepted definitions. Indeed, the ancestors of the inhabitants of the region settled on these uninhabited lands a few hundred years ago, the inhabitants of the project region clearly feel that they belong to the Republic of Guinea, they are clearly included in society both politically and economically, and manifestations of self-identification as indigenous people have not been observed.</p>	
<p>Principle 5. Corruption</p>			
<p>The Project shall not involve, be complicit in or inadvertently contribute to or reinforce corruption or corrupt Projects</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The project has a code of ethics that all project participants commit to comply with along with planned trainings that include rules to not be involved in corruption. The project doesn't pay authorities for their work as authorities. Village chiefs are encouraged to engage as field-families.</p>	
<p>Principle 6.1 Labour Rights</p>			
<p>1. The Project Developer shall ensure that all employment is in compliance with national labour occupational health and safety laws and with the principles and standards embodied in the ILO fundamental conventions</p> <p>2. Workers shall be able to establish and join labour organisations</p> <p>3. Working agreements with all individual workers shall be documented and implemented and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Working hours (must not exceed 48 hours per week on a regular basis), AND b) Duties and tasks, AND c) Remuneration (must include provision for payment of overtime), AND d) Modalities on health insurance, AND e) Modalities on termination of the 	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Project implements measures such as agreements, equipment, and training to ensure the following: Compliance of all employment with national labor occupational health and safety laws and with the ILO fundamental conventions. That employees feel free to establish and join labor organizations, to compliance of working agreements with the minimum requirements. The implementation of measures that are adapted to the risks identified for each activity, including the use of appropriate equipment, training of workers, reporting of accidents and incidents, and emergency preparedness and response measures.</p> <p>Likewise, through the consultation spaces the families and current employees mention the need to count with equipment and protection elements for the development of field-activities.</p>	<p>The project will develop two specific activities addressing the community's and workers' health and safety. The first will be related to a guide-type document for proper and safe fieldwork, and the second will be the allocation of resources from the carbon project to purchase and update the equipment and elements. Regarding this second action, it will establish a hierarchy of needs among the families of the villages, and then at each issuance period, part of the project budget will be allocated to the gradual fulfillment of the needs by importance, per village.</p>



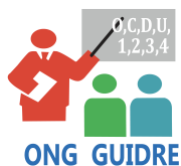
<p>contract with provision for voluntary resignation by employee, AND</p> <p>f) Provision for annual leave of not less than 10 days per year, not including sick and casual leave.</p> <p>4. No child labour is allowed (Exceptions for children working on their families' property requires an <u>Expert Stakeholder</u> opinion)</p> <p>5. The Project Developer shall ensure the use of appropriate equipment, training of workers, documentation and reporting of accidents and incidents, and emergency preparedness and response measures</p>			
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Principle 6.2 Negative Economic Consequences

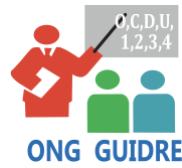
<p>Does the project cause negative economic consequences during and after project implementation?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The project does not cause negative economic consequences. A partnership with a university allowed to perform an impact assessment of the project and assess the risks and impacts of the project. A role-playing game was set up to study the possible crop choice strategies of field-families and analyse the effect of introducing reforestation as a new kind of crop. The land recruited in the plantation project was unused by the landowners and the project provides an opportunity to make it more profitable. In each village the project creates Community Management Committees which supports the involved families and may provide advice on pooling efforts and revenues. The project intends to bring family landowners together in a cooperative to foster the exchange of good practices in income management. Also, the carbon revenues will have a positive economic impact.</p>	
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Principle 7.1 Emissions

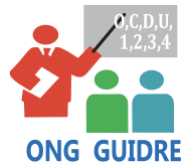
<p>Will the Project increase greenhouse gas emissions over the Baseline Scenario?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The project restores unused agricultural land owned by local farmers to reforest land that is unused or unsuitable for cultivation. These are mainly savannahs and sometimes fallow land that are 95% tree-free because the land has</p>	
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		been deforested for a long time. The project will not increase the greenhouse gas emissions over the baseline scenario, but rather increase because the main activity of the project is establishment of a native species mixed plantation in the underutilized land with the aim of reforestation.	
Principle 7.2 Energy Supply			
Will the Project use energy from a local grid or power supply (i.e., not connected to a national or regional grid) or fuel resource (such as wood, biomass) that provides for other local users?	No	No significant power consumption from the local grid and fuel resources are required to perform the project activities.	
Principle 8.1 Impact on Natural Water Patterns/Flows			
Will the Project affect the natural or pre-existing pattern of watercourses, groundwater and/or the watershed(s) such as high seasonal flow variability, flooding potential, lack of aquatic connectivity or water scarcity?	No	The project is not expected to affect the natural or pre-existing pattern of watercourses, groundwater or the watersheds as it doesn't use water, doesn't discharge any wastewater, and doesn't use any pesticide or fertilizer. Reforestation is rather expected to enable better water infiltration, which should improve groundwater availability. Also, according to the Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas Tool, the project area is located in a low level (<10%) of water stress. Moreover, the project activities are designed to avoid any negative impact to the catchment, as described in the Forest Management Plan. For example, land preparation before sowing the seeds in the soil is of minimal impact. The sowers dig a small hole and cut the weeds around it. The seed is put in the hole and earth is put into it. Other sowers use their cows and dig a furrow with the plough to sow the seeds. These activities have the minimal impact on the soil and will not affect water catchments. The Project is not involved in the abstraction of water resources to support biodiversity and other ecosystem services.	
Principle 8.2 Erosion and/or Water Body Instability			
Could the Project directly or indirectly cause additional erosion and/or water body instability or disrupt the natural pattern of erosion?	No	No negative impact on erosion water body instability or disrupting the natural pattern of erosion is expected. The reforestation activity is expected to improve soil stability and reduce water and wind erosion. Moreover, the project activities are designed to avoid any impact on the soil and avoid any additional erosion, water body instability, or disrupt the natural pattern of	

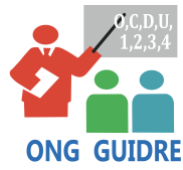


		erosion. Therefore, as compared to the common practice in the area, where the fallows are regularly grazed and burnt and the trees cut on the land, the erosion is expected to be reduced in our project. Indeed, the project activities are designed to avoid any negative impact, or to implement erosion control measures, as described in the Forest Management Plan.	
Is the Project's area of influence susceptible to excessive erosion and/or water body instability?	No	Although most of the land used in the project is located on flat or slightly sloppy land, less prone to erosion, some parts of the project area might be susceptible to some erosion in the baseline scenario if located on slopes and exposed to wind. The reforestation activity of the project is expected to improve soil stability and to reduce erosion.	
Principle 9.1 Landscape Modification and Soil			
Does the Project involve the use of land and soil for production of crops or other products?	No	The project does not involve the use of land and soil for production of crops or other products, only plantation of the species mix for reforestation. The community will only sustainably harvest non timber forest products thanks to the fruit trees planted. The reforestation project is expected to improve the functions and services provided by the landscape and soil health.	
Principle 9.2 Vulnerability to Natural Disaster			
Will the Project be susceptible to or lead to increased vulnerability to wind, earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding, drought or other extreme climatic conditions?	Yes	According to the Think Hazard tool, the project is classified as high hazard for wildfire, and medium for river flood and extreme heat.	Risks are identified at the project area level and are described and addressed in the Forest Management Plan, which includes mitigation measures, an emergency preparedness plan and response strategies to address these events, if they occur. The Project implements mitigation measures, when possible, to mitigate the identified risks of impacts caused by natural or man-made hazards such as fire, erosion and extreme heat. For example, firebreaks are implemented for fire prevention, measures to minimize impact on soil during



			land preparation and planting are implemented for erosion prevention, and species that are locally adapted are planted to prevent potential risks linked to heat and drought. The Project also implements an emergency preparedness plan and response strategies to address these events, if they occur, and these are communicated with potentially affected communities. Moreover, the project considers involving the groups of hunters ("watons") for the protection of the forests from fires.
Principle 9.3 Genetic Resources			
Could the Project be negatively impacted by or involve genetically modified organisms or GMOs (e.g., contamination, collection and/or harvesting, commercial development, or take place in facilities or farms that include GMOs in their processes and production)?	No	The project does not involve GMOs.	
Principle 9.4 Release of pollutants			
Could the Project potentially result in the release of pollutants to the environment?	No	The project does not release any pollutants and does not use any pesticides or fertilizers.	
Principle 9.5 Hazardous and Non-hazardous Waste			
Will the Project involve the manufacture, trade, release, and/ or use of hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals and/or materials?	Potentially	The project does not release any waste, nor promotes or requires the use of hazardous chemicals and materials for the development of activities. For potential waste (not-hazardous) that could be generated, the Forest Management Plan describes the measures in place to address its management, such as training and awareness workshops.	
Principle 9.6 Pesticides & Fertilisers			
Will the Project involve the application of pesticides and/or fertilisers?	No	The project doesn't use any pesticides and/or fertilisers.	

Principle 9.7 Harvesting of Forests			
Will the Project involve the harvesting of forests?	No	The project does not involve harvesting of the forest, it applies a conservation system and involves a sustainable management, such as specific pruning and thinning to enhance the ecosystem health and tree vigour, as described in the Forest Management Plan. The project enhances biodiversity by fostering the dissemination of a mix of different local tree species.	
Principle 9.8 Food			
Does the Project modify the quantity or nutritional quality of food available such as through crop regime alteration or export or economic incentives?	No	The project has selected trees which provide food to the local communities and is implemented on unused land. This is the result of consultations with communities and landowners. It would therefore have no negative but rather positive influence on the availability of food.	
Principle 9.9 Animal husbandry			
Will the Project involve animal husbandry?	No	The project does not and will not involve animal husbandry.	
Principle 9.10 High Conservation Value Areas and Critical Habitats			
Does the Project physically affect or alter largely intact or High Conservation Value (HCV) ecosystems, critical habitats, landscapes, key biodiversity areas or sites identified?	Potentially	The project will promote the protection of the ecosystems around the villages, as well as water sources or wetlands. Through the local consultation it could be identified some areas with high cultural value such as the sacred forest and water sources zones around the villages. Which potentially and according to the dialogues generated with NGOs focused on biodiversity issues (like Biotope and IUCN), may promote the consolidation of natural corridors.	The project includes the conservation of 10% of the Project area that is identified and managed to protect (and potentially enhance) the biological diversity of native ecosystems that include the sacred forests. The project also includes a buffer zone of 15 meters near water bodies with specific protection measures, and the conservation of single and patches of native tree species in the project area.
Principle 9.11 Endangered Species			
Are there any endangered species identified as potentially being present within the Project boundary (including those that may route through the area)?	Potentially	Endangered species are potentially present in the project area. But the activities implemented in the project will not have any potential impact on endangered species, but rather contribute to enhancing the ecosystem health through the conservation and protection measures described in the management plan.	The project includes the conservation of 10% of the Project area that is identified and managed to protect (and potentially enhance) the biological diversity of native ecosystems that include the sacred forests. The project also includes a buffer zone of 15
Does the Project potentially impact other areas where endangered	No	The project will restore the land with a species mix and is expected to have a positive impact on	



<p>species may be present through transboundary affects?</p>		<p>the ecosystem health and improve habitat for such species.</p>	<p>meters near water bodies with specific protection measures, and the conservation of single and patches of native tree species in the project area.</p>
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Annex 3 : Summary of the likely contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals Outcomes

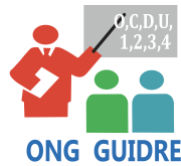
Sustainable Development Goals	Most relevant SDG	SDG Impact
		Indicator (Proposed or SDG Indicator)
4 Quality education	4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs, and entrepreneurship.	<p>Number of employees provided with skill development training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GUIDRE total number of employees trained thanks to the project. - Number of field and seed families trained.
		<p>Number of training hours provided for employees (full time, part time or temporary), disaggregated per gender:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GUIDRE total number of training hours thanks to the project. - Number of field and seed families training hours.
8 Decent work and economic growth	8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.	<p>Total number of jobs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GUIDRE total number of jobs created thanks to the project. - Number of field and seed families. <p>Direct in-field labour created:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GUIDRE total number of work hours created thanks to the project. - Number of field and seed families.

13 Climate action	13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies, and planning	Amount of GHG emissions avoided or sequestered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - tCO₂eq sequestered in the planted area.
15 Life on land	15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.	Total area of trees planted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planted area. <hr/> Total above and below ground biomass stock in forest : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biomass stock increase in the planted area.
	15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and by 2020 protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.	Total protected land area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - % protected or restored area.
	15.8 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species.	Trends in species diversity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diversity of plant species.

Annex 4 : Changes and additional measures the project will implement following the local stakeholder consultation meetings

- The project will create a guide-type document for proper and safe fieldwork.
- The conventions with the families will be reviewed, especially to integrate the health and safety measures and equipment, and to include the carbon revenues (field families).
- Allocation of resources from the carbon project to purchase and update the equipment and elements, including a hierarchy of needs among the families of the villages, and then at each crediting period part of the project budget will be intended to gradually fulfil the needs by importance per village.
- The project will consider intercropping at the beginning of the regeneration process, as a measure of the fight against weeds.
- The project will increase fire control measures and knowledge management to prevent fires. The project will increase the awareness of the field families and of the village authorities in order to increase their surveillance of the reforested fields to avoid fires and thus maximise the biomass growth and the carbon revenues. It will also establish a management framework for the reforested forest, which includes fire management.
- It will consider involving the groups of hunters ('watons') in the project with strategies like watons-patrols and encouraging the protection of the project to benefit all in the community. The integration of such fire protection measures that include the hunters will create an incentive for them to visit the fields on a daily basis during the dry season.
- The project will be improving the community's knowledge on seeding as not all seeds germinate at the same time, and the germination and growth of some seeds can favour others.
- The project will consolidate the forest management guide, including the correct process for seeding (bad management was part of the slow germination results), the species characteristics and co-benefits, the management specifications, and the monitoring. The list of species will be reviewed, and the project will focus on the pioneer species that establish themselves quickly, which motivates field families because reforestation is visible. Through their shade, these species also limit competition from herbaceous plants. Some species that are less interesting to the project will be replaced and some species identified for the hedgerows will need to have their seeds separated from the rest. The project will also prioritise the species that generate co-benefits for the communities.
- The project will mark the new arboRise fields to indicate to everyone that they must not be burned. The trunks of the trees located at the corners of the fields will be surrounded with red-and-white safety warning tape.

- Part of the activities to be developed with the project will be the strengthening of local knowledge by training and capacity building in adequate and sustainable management of the forest and its goods and services.
- One of the ideas of the consultation was to identify the relevant stakeholders for the proper development of the project. In this sense, based on the will of articulation and exchange that the stakeholders have, it will be possible to establish periodic work meetings between the teams of the stakeholders and the project.
- The project will not only contribute to the protection of the current community forests (sacred forests) but also other similar areas of cultural and social value and of potentially some water springs or wetlands, which are also candidates for such protection. It will prioritise reforestation activities around springs or bodies of water that supply the communities, where needed, in view of such protection.
- The CGC (Comité de Gestion Communautaire) will be technically and economically strengthened and will manage action lines such as productive cooperatives, knowledge management and conflict resolution.
- For building the live fences, the project will facilitate access for the families to shoots of 'Carapa procera' to build the hedgerows in the villages.
- The project will act as a social and economic catalyst fostering solidarity among communities, especially women, which could lead to the emergence of social entrepreneurship. For example, through supporting production chains (from cultivation to distribution) and strengthening economic administration knowledge and agricultural capacities.
- The project will recruit more families than initially planned, especially seed families which, in general, include the poorest in the villages. All newly recruited seed families will harvest fast-growing species.
- The project will allow several families with fewer fields than the required six hectares to engage under an 'umbrella family'.
- The project aims to involve the seed families even after the end of the plantation phase, especially to assess the biomass growth on the reforested fields.
- The project will consider involving the prefectures and the potential heirs of the landowner, for the certification of land titles, as well as in the consolidation of agreements for the development of the project.
- The families that realise their tasks according to the convention are paid on a yearly basis. Starting in 2023, only the field families that create the firebreaks and start their hedgerows will be paid.



- The project will organise periodic meetings with authorities and support initiatives that can be established for the installation and improvement of infrastructures such as schools and medical centres.
- The project contacted Climate Chance (the NGO which fosters the creation of natural infrastructures in Guinea) to exchange views and take part in the definition of the flora/fauna corridors in Guinea.
- One of the project's priorities being the participatory work management, which effectively involves men, women, youth and vulnerable populations in decision-making. Different contextualised participatory strategies will be generated by GUIDRE, with the support of the CGC.
- The mining cadastre will be taken into account for the eligibility processes of the territories that are and will be part of the project. In the same way, periodic meetings with different stakeholders such as national and local governments will be organised for an articulated management of the territory where the project is located.
- The project will engage the supervisors during 10 instead of 6 months. It will also consider focusing the recruitment on local people intrinsically motivated by this kind of field and social activity who are close to the communities. The project may also consider hiring permanent staff in the project villages.
- The specific needs of women and disabled workers will be taken into greater account to ensure the proper development of their work.
- The project will provide additional personal equipment for each coordinator/supervisor.