

Decision
on the eligibility
of an applicant carbon-crediting program
GB/P-PLANVIVO (PVCLIMATE)/2026-13

NAME OF PROGRAM: PLAN VIVO (PV CLIMATE)

1. The Governing Board considered the Draft Assessment Report and the recommendation from the Standards Oversight Committee for a draft Decision and decides to:
 - a) Approve the carbon-crediting program as CCP-Eligible¹
Where the following conditions are met:
 - PV Climate Project Requirements v5.7 or later is applied
 - Mitigation activities are validated and verified by accredited Validation and Verification Bodies.

¹ *Note: In accordance with Section 2.17 of the Assessment Procedure, where the Integrity Council identifies issues that require changes to the carbon-crediting program's program documents, or other carbon-crediting program processes in order to meet the CCPs and the criteria and requirements of the Assessment Framework, the Secretariat will notify the carbon-crediting program of the required changes. These may be classified as minor changes, such that approval is not subject to completion of those changes.*

Rationale for Decision

In accordance with the Assessment Procedure, the Integrity Council has considered the Application by the carbon-crediting program, Plan Vivo, its standard (PV Climate) and documentation related to PV Climate Project Requirements version 5.7, the draft Assessment Report for adherence to part I and to CORSIA requirements of part II of the Assessment.²

Following a thorough review of the application, additional information was sought from and provided by the Program in order to determine adherence with the requirements.

During the assessment and clarification process, the Program has introduced amendments to its rules in order to align with the requirements of the Assessment Framework. These include the following:

1. On requirement 1.1 9): implemented a formal dissolution and continuity framework, that includes transition procedures, stakeholder communication protocols, buffer pool management arrangements, project migration pathways, financial reserve measures in the event of dissolution;
2. On requirement 1.1 12): formalised the separation between oversight functions and the independently operated registry services provided by S&P Global, supported by documented conflict-of-interest controls, divisional independence measures, employee disclosure requirements, and updated governance and registry procedures;
3. On requirement 1.1 13): formalised conflict-of-interest procedures for its externally administered registry, including requiring registry staff and contractors to declare actual or potential conflicts, and implemented mitigation measures where conflicts arise;
4. On requirement 1.1 14) increased its professional liability insurance coverage to meet the required USD \$5 million threshold and renewing the policy to ensure continuous, up-to-date coverage
5. On requirement 1.1 a) 4): strengthened its risk-based KYC and customer due diligence procedures, registry transaction controls, project-level financial transparency and audit requirements, and oversight of third-party service providers.
6. On requirement 1.2 8): updated its guidance to explicitly clarify that the PV Climate Standard applies only to project-level and grouped-project activities, and does not certify jurisdictional or sub-national activities.
7. On requirement 1.2 9): updated its "Certify a Project" webpage and FAQs to clearly define eligible sectors, project types, and geographic applicability.
8. On requirement 1.2 a) 1): updated its project-level consultation procedures in the PV Climate Project Requirements to require projects to document stakeholder engagement and grievance mechanisms in Project Design Documents.
9. On requirement 1.2 a) 2): introduced a standalone grievance mechanism with explicit principles covering accessibility, transparency, impartiality, confidentiality and no-cost access.
10. On requirement 2.1 a) 1): updated the registry retirement process to require disclosure of the beneficiary name and retirement purpose.
11. On requirement 2.1 a) 2): updated the registry retirement process to require disclosure of the beneficiary name and retirement purpose.

² See Part I of the [Assessment Framework](#). The carbon-crediting program application can be found [here](#).

12. On requirement 2.1 a) 3) updated the Procedures Manual v3.9 with procedures for erroneous issuance, including procedures for remedial action.
13. On requirement 4.1 13): Procedures Manual v3.5 has been updated to explicitly address that only ex-post credits meet the CCP eligibility requirements.
14. On requirement 4.1 a) 2): The Validation and Verification Procedures Manual v1.1 has been revised to include the evaluation process for VVBs, as well as the sanctions applicable in cases of poor performance.
15. On requirement 6.1 a) 1): updated Project Requirements v5.6 to specify that projects actively registered under another carbon-crediting program are ineligible for registration under PV Climate.
16. On requirement 5.2 a) 2): strengthened methodological requirements for quantification of emissions reductions/removals.
17. On requirement 6.2 a): the Procedures Manual v3.9 was updated to clarify that retirement is irreversible and permanent.
18. On requirement 7.5) a) 4): updated the PDD template to include, under Annex 9, a screening question requiring the project developer and VVB to assess whether the project poses a risk of soil degradation, including erosion, nutrient depletion, reduced soil fertility, contamination, salinisation, or other impacts affecting soil health.
19. On requirements 7.9 a) 1): strengthened benefit-sharing requirements.
20. On requirement 7.10 a): updated Project Requirements v5.6 to clarify that projects must align with the UNFCCC Cancun REDD+ Safeguards (Decision 1/CP.16, Appendix I, Paragraph 2).
21. On requirement 7.11 a) 1): updated Project Requirements v5.6 to require Livelihood Indicators and Ecosystem Indicators to link to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and, where relevant and feasible, the host country's Sustainable Development Goal objectives.
22. On requirement 7.11 a) 3): updated PDD template to require projects using standardised tools or methodologies for assessing SDG impacts to identify those tools, describe how they have been applied, explain how they align with the selected livelihood and ecosystem indicators, and set out how the results will be integrated into the monitoring and reporting of those indicators.

During the Category Assessment, ICVCM will review in detail how the methodology requirements ensure that methodologies specify the exact GWP values to be applied.

After assessing PV Climate's responses to clarification requests, supplemental information and the amendments introduced, PV Climate was found to satisfy the requirements of the Assessment Framework. Plan Vivo is recommended for approval as a CCP-Eligible program.

Decision Timeline

Date of Application Submission	09 September 2024
Date of Completeness Check	17 September 2024
Date Assessment Complete	23 April 2026

Date of Standards Oversight Committee Recommendation for Decision	5 May 2026
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Date of Board Decision	23 July 2026
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