

Official Release 01

Response to the news on carbon credits from the "BAKA ROKARIRE - IA TIR+ - DITOREDD" project

In relation to the news item circulating under the headline "US airline in the middle of millionaire fight for indigenous carbon credits", Cercarbono informs the members of the Colombian Ministry of the Environment, ASOCARBONO, the media and those interested in the process that:

1. The carbon credits generated by the project "BAKA ROKARIRE -IA TIR+ - DITOREDD" with ID 53 registered on the Ecoregistry platform successfully fulfilled the certification process under our standard.
2. The Validation/Verification Body - VVB, in charge of the auditing process of the mentioned project, authorised by Cercarbono, as an independent auditor, has a wide recognition and experience in auditing this type of projects. This organisation was at the project site when the verification was being carried out and verified that the documentation provided by the project proponent was accurate and complied with the law and with the evaluation criteria required by Cercarbono's voluntary certification Programme.
3. As this is a project involving "resguardos" or indigenous communities, the VVB had evidence of the developer's capacity for action in the project area, including:
 - Resolutions of associations (Resolution 0058 of 2015 and Resolution 0080 of 2015) and the letters of certification of the start date of the project activities, signed by the presidents representing the indigenous communities and the association.
 - Mandate 036-2021, signed by the legal representative of Asociación de capitanes y autoridades tradicionales indígenas del río Pirá Paraná- ACAIPI.
 - The mandate contracts established between the respective legal representatives of the indigenous communities, the participating association, and the project proponent.
 - Agreement 30 of 2013 by which the Vaupés indigenous reservation constituted by Resolution No.086 of 1982 is extended.
 - Resolution 0144 of 1982 of the Colombian Institute of Agrarian Reform (INCORA) by which the seventh article of Resolution No.086 of 27 July 1982 is amended, of 27 July 1982, issued by the Board of Directors of the Colombian Institute of Agrarian Reform, by means of which a parcel of land was constituted as an Indigenous Reserve for the benefit of the Cubeo, Wanano, Desano, Tucano, Caraparia, Cabiari, Taiwano, Tatuyo, Siriano, Yuruti, Barasano, Bará, Macuna, Yuruti-Tapuya,

Tuyuca, Piratapuyo, Macú, Tariano, Curripaco and others who have traditionally settled there, located in the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Mitú, Commissariat of Vaupés.

- Resolution No. 04 of 1996 ordering the registry of an association of cabildos.
- The Acts of possession of indigenous captains of San Victorino, Puerto Caimán, multi-ethnic, Puerto López and Puerto Alegría, of the municipality of Taraira in the department of Vaupés.

All the above supports the governance of the areas that are part of the project and that, as mentioned above, were reviewed and approved by the VVB and Cercarbono.

Cercarbono calls for this type of news that involves money for conservation and indigenous communities to be documented and argued, especially based on the rulings of judges and not on information that comes from only one of the parties. This, considering that, amid the circumstances of public security in the country, disclosing to the public large sums of money that will go to the communities for forest conservation can have negative consequences for all actors in the territory, especially for the communities themselves.

Likewise, from our standard, we always encourage transparency and traceability of the different processes that are carried out; for this reason, the information that can be of a public nature is housed on our website. We have also enabled all the appropriate channels for comments to be made on the projects to receive and investigate any inconsistencies from the communities or other stakeholders involved.

Finally, it should be noted that the detailed documentation supporting the certification process has been provided to the relevant judges, actors in the certification chain and relevant persons/institutions.