



# CAFI Executive Board Decision

## Independent Verification of Projects

Adopted by email on 11.09.2024

EB.2024.33

Considering:

- The [Monitoring and Evaluation Guidelines of CAFI \(section E\)](#), and their annex on spatial monitoring,

The Executive Board:

1. **Decides** that projects with a land-use component (reforestation, agroforestry, agriculture, regeneration, or even conservation and sustainable management of forests), including projects with a Payment for Environmental Services (PES) component, will be subject to periodic independent verification of a sample of the results reported.
2. **Stresses** that this verification is intended to guarantee the accuracy and quality of the results reported and to ensure the overall integrity of the project monitoring and evaluation system, and hence of CAFI, to identify opportunities for improvement and to make the chain of stakeholders responsible for results fulfilment more accountable.
3. **Decides** that this measure shall apply to any project for which funding has been approved after August 2023, whether directly by CAFI or via FONAREDD in the DRC, and for any request for disbursement of instalments (tranches) as from the entry into force of this decision, on the recommendation of the CAFI Secretariat. The cost of independent verifications will be borne by CAFI.
4. **Decides** that these verifications will be carried out in accordance with a methodology defined between CAFI and the independent auditor, taking into account ISO 14064 standards.
5. **Decides** that these independent verifications will inform CAFI's decisions regarding the disbursement of instalment (tranches) of funding and the possible renewal of projects. The results of independent verifications of individual projects implemented by an implementing organisation will also be considered in decisions on the approval of new projects by that same organisation.
6. **Decides**, therefore, that each relevant project will be subject to at least one full independent verification (audit of the means of verification provided as well as field visits), as defined in the project document and/or on the recommendation of the CAFI Secretariat.
7. **Instructs** the CAFI Secretariat to prepare a schedule for carrying out these independent verifications in discussion with the implementing organisations.
8. **Instructs** the Secretariat of CAFI to commission and instruct these independent verifications, including in the DRC in collaboration with the FONAREDD Secretariat.
9. **Requests** implementing organisations to include these requirements in the monitoring and evaluation section of the project document for approval. These measures will then define which disbursement installment(s) will be subject to independent verification.



## CAFI Executive Board Decision

---

10. **Requests** implementing organisations to anticipate and facilitate the conduct of these verifications by the independent verifier. This includes, in particular, making information available, answering questions raised, supporting verifications in the field, etc.
11. **Emphasizes** that, in accordance with decision EB.2023.21, an analysis of compliance with social and environmental safeguards will be carried out jointly, also commissioned by CAFI.