Validation / Verification Body

Application Form

This form is for organisations applying to become a Validation Verification Body (VVB) under the Natural Forest Standard (NFS). The requirements to become an approved VVB are established in the latest Terms of Reference for Project Validation & Verification document V1.1.

Application Instructions:

* Once your VVB application form and supporting documents are received, ECO will review it within 10 Business Days. The response may include requests for further information or evidence.
* If your application and supporting documents are complete and correct, ECO will approve your application and you will be asked to sign the NFS-VVB ToR.
* Once the NFS-VVB ToR is signed and received by ECO, you can start conducting audits under the Natural Forest Standard and your organisation will then be listed on the NFS website as an approved VVB.

Please fill out the form below honestly and to the best of your ability. Alongside the application, please provide evidence of claims where accreditations, certificates, awards, or other forms of documents are cited.

Click or tap in the response boxes to add text.

Once completed, you may submit the application form to [info@ecosystemcertification.org](mailto:info@ecosystemcertification.org).

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| **1. General Information** | |
| Date of submission | DD/MM/YYYY |
| Applicant organisation name | VVB Organisation Name |
| Location | Physical address of applicant organisation |
| Application Contact | Name, email address and telephone number of person submitting the application |
| Organisation contact | Contact name(s), email address(es) and telephone number(s), Website URL |
| Main contact (to be listed on NFS website) | Contact name, position in organisation, email address and phone number |
| Geographic areas covered by operations | The geographic locations that the organisation is willing to operate within (e.g. Brazil only) |
| Brief description of organisation | A 1-2 sentence description of the organisation that can be used for the NFS website if the applicant is successful. |

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| **2. Accreditation Information** | |
| Accreditation body | Identify the standards to which the organisation has been accredited. Please provide evidence of any claims. |
| Recognised Accreditations | ISO 14065 and/or 14066 or other complementary accreditations: FSC, ISO14064-3, ISO 14064-2 |

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| **3. Validation / Verification Experience** | |
| Name(s) of the auditor staff | Please complete for each auditor the information of the AFOLU experience, Auditor Training and other environmental/social experience. |
| Evidence of AFOLU experience | Please provide CVs or biographies for all audit staff within the organisation. If preferred, the applicant may provide this information in a separate document or file.  The applicant must have staff or independent experts with at least five years of relevant work experience; of particular interest are those relating to community forestry, REDD+ and land use projects. Also experience undertaking audits of projects or initiatives providing environmental and/or social benefits would be considered |
| Auditor Training | Successful completion of carbon and any applicable lead auditor training. All lead auditors shall have participated as an auditor on that project type prior to serving as lead auditor.  If preferred, the applicant may provide this information in a separate document or file. |

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| **4. Insurance Information** | |
| Insurer | Name of organization/entity providing the indemnity insurance. |
| Amount | Professional indemnity insurance in the amount of at least US$2 million is required for all VVBs operating under the Natural Forest Standard.  Include USD equivalence if insurance is in a currency other than USD.  The VVB Terms of Reference includes further details about liability requirements. |
| Geographic coverage | State the geographic coverage of insurance (i.e., global or only certain countries/regions) |
| Certificate | Please attach a copy of the certificate of insurance |

**Declaration**

I declare that the information given in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I undertake to inform ECO immediately of any changes with respect to the application and accept full responsibility for any costs incurred because of any changes not reported to ECO in accordance with the procedures for accreditation.

I understand that if our organization has financial interest in and conflict of interest with any Natural Forest Standard Project, we cannot audit the project.

I hereby declare that the operations of my organization are in compliance with applicable local/national laws and regulations.

I hereby declare that my organization has no pending judicial processes for malpractice, fraud and/or other activity incompatible with its functions as a VVB.

I agree to immediately notify the ECO Secretariat in writing about any material change in information contained in this application.

I hereby declare that organisation agrees to sign and comply with the NFS Terms of Reference for Project Validation & Verification against the Natural Forest Standard (NFS) by a Validation & Verification Body (VVB).

By signing this document, I hereby declare that the details provided above are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I am a duly authorised representative of the organisation as of the date set forth below.

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| Signature: |  |

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| Name of Signatory: | Name |
| Job Title: | Job Title |
| Organisation Name: | Organisation Name |
| Date Signed: | DD/MM/YYYY |

Documents to be provided by email to [info@ecosystemcertification.org](mailto:info@ecosystemcertification.org):

Completed application form including signature.

CVs for each of the verification team members.

Copy of the VVBs professional liability insurance.

Any other supporting documentation.