

Official Statement No. 12

Official Statement 12: Cercarbono Strengthens Its Certification Programme with mandatory New Social and Environmental Safeguards

We are pleased to announce that from September 24th Cercarbono has updated its Safeguarding Principles and Procedures of Cercarbono Certification Programme an essential document that reinforces our commitment to the protection and sustainable development of environmental projects. This update underscores Cercarbono's dedication to ensuring environmental and social integrity, guaranteeing that all projects certified under our standard adhere to the highest principles of human rights, community participation, and responsible natural resource management.

The newly implemented social and environmental safeguards consist of a comprehensive set of principles designed to prevent risks and maximize the benefits of projects certified by Cercarbono. These updates further promote the well-being of local communities and ensure the long-term sustainability of the projects we certify.

Effective immediately, the updated safeguards apply to both current verifications and all future projects. The key highlights of this update include:

- **Alignment with the Global Compact principles:** Strengthening respect for human rights and promoting sustainable development.
- **Enhanced due diligence processes:** Ensuring the highest level of integrity throughout the project lifecycle.
- **Inclusion of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC):** Vital to ensuring the active participation of local communities in decision-making processes.
- **Clear reporting, declaration, and validation requirements:** Guaranteeing continuous compliance with safeguards for the entire duration of the project.
- **Detailed risk analysis and management plans:** Coupled with ongoing monitoring to proactively manage potential impacts.

Cercarbono's approach to social and environmental safeguards highlights our commitment to differentiated treatment for indigenous peoples and local communities, ensuring that their rights and perspectives are consistently protected and respected. By updating this document, Cercarbono continues to lead in carbon project development, providing robust tools not only to minimize risks but also to generate positive impacts on communities and ecosystems.

The updated "Safeguarding Principles and Procedures of Cercarbono Certification Programme" document can be accessed at the following link: <https://www.cercarbono.com/wp-content/uploads/2024.10.02-Safeguarding-Principles-and-Procedures-of-Cercarbono-V2.0.pdf>.

Cercarbono
Voluntary Certification Programme