



Draft/Global Biodiversity Standard Terms and Conditions ¹

The Global Biodiversity Standard ("GBS") is a certification scheme for ecological restoration projects that improve biodiversity outcomes and will be implemented through technical partners and local biodiversity experts. Botanic Gardens Conservation International ("BGCI") is the overall GBS project co-ordinator.

Subject to the Exclusion List set out below and adapted from the Plan Vivo Standard exclusion list (a reputable Voluntary Carbon Market Standard supporting smallholders and climate sensitive communities through sustainable land-use projects), GBS welcomes applicants from a wide range of individuals, projects and/or institutions (the "Applicants").

GBS Exclusion List

In making a GBS application, Applicants hereby certify that they do not:

1. Exploit diamond mines or market diamonds where the host country has not adhered to the Kimberley Process.
2. Engage in activities involving harmful or exploitative forms of forced labour or harmful child labour. Forced labour means all work or service, not voluntarily performed, that is extracted from an individual under threat of force or penalty. Harmful child labour means the employment of children that is economically exploitive, or is likely to be hazardous to, or to interfere with, the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health, or physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development. Employees must be at least 14 years of age, as defined in the International Labour Organisation's Declaration on the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (C138 – Minimum Age Convention, Article 2), unless local laws require compulsory school attendance or a minimum working age. In such circumstances, the highest age requirement must be used.
3. Implement activities that include involuntary physical displacement and/or forced eviction of people.
4. Produce or implement activities that encroach on lands owned, or claimed or occupied by Indigenous Peoples, without full documented consent of such peoples.
5. Have an adverse effect on gender equality, including but not limited to sexual assault and harassment and gender based violence.
6. Produce or trade arms, ammunition, weaponry, controversial weapons, or components thereof (e.g., nuclear weapons and radioactive ammunition, biological and chemical weapons of mass destruction, cluster bombs, anti-personnel mines, enriched uranium).
7. Provide finances to military institutions involved in conservation or security activities.
8. Produce strong alcohol intended for human consumption or other alcoholic beverages (excluding beer and wine).
9. Produce or trade tobacco and other drugs.
10. Finance or support projects involved with gambling, gaming establishments, casinos or any equivalent enterprises and undertaking, for example, a hotel including a casino. Urban improvement plans which could subsequently incorporate such projects are not affected.
11. Implement any trade related to pornography or prostitution.
12. Produce or trade radioactive material. This does not apply to the procurement of medical equipment, quality control equipment or other application for which the radioactive source is insignificant and/or adequately shielded.

¹ These terms and conditions are in draft format only and may be updated as the project planning develops over the coming months



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13. Implement any activity leading to an irreversible modification or significant displacement of an element of culturally critical heritage. "Critical cultural heritage" is considered as any heritage element recognised internationally or nationally as being of historical, social and/or cultural interest.
14. Produce and distribute, or invest in, media that are racist, antidemocratic or that advocate discrimination against a part of the population.
15. Increase the dependency of primary participants and other stakeholders on fossil fuels.
16. Engage with organisations or individuals that have been linked to severe human rights violations in the last 10 years.

The Global Biodiversity Standard, acting through BGCI, reserves the right to turn down an application and/or remove certification from any applicant that is found to violate these terms and conditions. Applicants that are considered to violate these terms and conditions will be contacted in writing. Applicants then have a maximum of 30 days to respond before a final decision will be made.

I agree with the Global Biodiversity Standard Exclusion List

GBS Certification shall be awarded to successful Applicants on the following terms and conditions:

1. Applicants have signed the exclusion list.
2. All GBS assessments shall be carried out by in-country biodiversity experts using the methodology designed by GBS technical partners and outlined on biodiversitystandard.org/. No other methodologies shall be valid for the purposes of GBS certification.
3. GBS certification shall be dependent upon applicants achieving a satisfactory score in the GBS assessment process.
4. Certification shall be granted for an initial period of five (5) years, after which certified parties may apply to renew their certification. Certification status may be upgraded if assessment scores (e.g. relating to an increase in genetic diversity or threatened species) have increased over time.
5. Any concerns by Applicants about the application of the GBS methodology should be made in writing to BGCI who will seek to resolve them on the basis of good faith negotiation and mediation.
6. Any and all intellectual property arising out of the GBS, including database rights, trademarks and copyright and the GBS name and logo shall belong to the GBS project partners in accordance with underlying project documentation and/or applicable legislation. Applicants may apply to the GBS, through BGCI, for a licence to use such intellectual property for non-commercial purposes, such consent not to be unreasonably withhold but subject to proper acknowledgment of the underlying intellectual property owner(s) and the GBS.

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