

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

**KwaZulu-Natal Sustainable Landscapes Program
VCS and CCB Validation Services**

Submission Deadline

Extended:

18 June 2026

1. Introduction

Sayari Earth invites quotations from qualified and active Validation and Verification Bodies (VVBs) approved by Verra to conduct validation and verification of the KwaZulu-Natal Sustainable Landscapes Program (KZNSLP) under the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and the Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) Standards.

The project is listed on the Verra Registry at <https://registry.verra.org/app/projectDetail/VCS/5703>.

The purpose of this RFQ is to appoint a suitably qualified VVB to undertake an independent validation of the project in accordance with all applicable Verra requirements.

This RFQ is for validation services under the Verified Carbon Standard and the Climate, Community & Biodiversity Standards. We aim to have our project listed on the Verra registry as "under validation" by October 30, 2026, with the validation process set to commence by this date, followed by verification in 2027. Unless expressly agreed otherwise, verification services are not included in the current scope but may be added in by mutual agreement in 2027. Respondents are encouraged to indicate their availability to provide future verification services in 2027, subject to Verra requirements and an addition to the scope of work.

2. Project Overview

Item	Description
Project title	KwaZulu-Natal Sustainable Landscapes Program (KZNSLP)
Project ID	5703
Project proponent	Sayari Earth Limited (Mauritius)
Project lifetime	Minimum 40 years
GHG accounting / crediting period	30 years, with renewal options
Geographic scope	KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
Initial Phase 1 project area	173,363 hectares of degraded rangeland
Program goal	Partner with Traditional Authorities to help regenerate degraded rangeland through sustainable land management practices
Verra Registry listing	The project is listed on the Verra Registry at https://registry.verra.org/app/projectDetail/VCS/5703
VCS project type	AFOLU / ALM / rangeland restoration
Applicable VCS methodology	VM0032
Project structure	Grouped project
CCB target	CCB Triple Gold
Validation boundary	The current validation scope is expected to cover the Initial Phase 1 project area of approximately 173,363 hectares

3. Technical Clarifications

Respondents should base their quotations on the information provided in this RFQ and clearly state any assumptions made regarding the applicable VCS methodology, AFOLU activity type, project structure, CCB level, project boundary, site visit requirements and document readiness.

The selected VVB will be expected to conduct validation against the applicable versions of the VCS Program rules, VCS Standard, CCB Standards, AFOLU requirements, methodology, Verra templates and relevant Verra guidance in force at the time of validation.

4. Scope of Work

The selected VVB will be responsible for conducting validation of the KZNSLP against all applicable VCS and CCB requirements. The scope of work is expected to include, at minimum:

- reviewing all project documentation, including the Project Description, monitoring plan, stakeholder engagement records and supporting evidence;
- assessing the project's compliance with the applicable VCS and CCB Standards, rules, methodologies and program requirements;
- assessing the project's baseline, additionality, project activities, monitoring approach, safeguards, stakeholder engagement and benefit-sharing arrangements;
- assessing the applicable VCS methodology, tools, modules and program requirements used by the project;
- assessing the project's AFOLU classification, activity type, eligibility criteria and land-based carbon accounting approach;
- assessing the project structure, reviewing grouped project eligibility criteria, inclusion procedures and future expansion arrangements;
- reviewing spatial boundaries, GIS files, stratification, land eligibility, maps, shapefiles and consistency between spatial data and project documentation;
- assessing evidence relating to land tenure, resource rights, carbon rights, legal authority to implement project activities, participation agreements and benefit-sharing arrangements;
- assessing whether the project overlaps with any other registered or proposed carbon projects, protected areas or relevant land-use designations, to the extent required by Verra rules;
- conducting site visits, interviews and stakeholder consultations where required;
- assessing compliance with applicable CCB requirements, including community, biodiversity and climate criteria, and Gold Level criteria pursued by the project;
- assessing stakeholder consultation processes, local participation, grievance redress mechanisms, information disclosure, community impacts, biodiversity impacts and benefit-sharing arrangements;
- assessing social and environmental safeguards, including potential impacts on livelihoods, grazing access, vulnerable groups, biodiversity, water resources, fire management and local land-use practices;
- reviewing and addressing, where applicable, public comments received through the Verra public comment process;
- identifying findings, non-conformities, clarifications and areas requiring further evidence;
- engaging with Sayari Earth during the validation process to support timely resolution of findings;
- preparing and submitting the required validation report and associated documentation in the format required by Verra.

Respondents should propose a site visit plan appropriate to the project scale, risk profile and Verra requirements, should a validation site visit be required. The proposed plan should include the

number of site visit days with the minimum needed for cost reasons, number and type of sites to be visited, stakeholder interviews, team members attending, need for local experts or interpreters, and logistical support required from Sayari Earth.

Respondents should state whether site visit travel, accommodation, ground transport, meeting logistics, interpretation, security and other field costs are included in the quotation, treated as reimbursable expenses, or excluded.

5. Deliverables

The appointed VVB will be expected to deliver the following:

- a detailed validation workplan and proposed schedule;
- a list of documents and evidence required for the validation process;
- records of site visits, interviews and stakeholder engagement undertaken as part of validation;
- a draft validation report for review and response;
- a final validation report compliant with VCS and CCB requirements;
- all supporting documentation required for submission to Verra;
- clear documentation of findings, requests for clarification, non-conformities and how these were resolved.

6. Available Documentation

The following documents and evidence are expected to be made available to the selected VVB, as applicable and subject to confidentiality requirements:

- draft or final VCS&CCB Project Description;
- monitoring plan;
- baseline assessment;
- additionality assessment;
- methodology applicability assessment;
- spatial boundary files, maps, shapefiles and GIS data;
- land eligibility and stratification information;
- land tenure, land-use rights and carbon rights documentation;
- participation agreements or landholder agreements;
- stakeholder engagement records;
- community impact assessment;
- biodiversity assessment;
- environmental and social safeguard documentation;
- benefit-sharing framework or related documentation;
- grievance mechanism documentation;
- implementation plan;
- risk assessment;
- any other supporting evidence required for validation.

Project documentation will be provided primarily in English. Respondents should indicate whether local language interpretation or translation support is required for site visits, interviews or stakeholder consultations.

7. Qualification Criteria

Interested VVBs must meet the following minimum criteria:

- active approval by Verra to conduct VCS&CCB validations/verifications;
- evidence of current Verra approval status, including any applicable accreditation body, sectoral scope, limitations, suspensions or conditions;
- demonstrated experience validating AFOLU, land management, rangeland, agricultural land management or nature-based carbon projects;
- availability of suitably qualified personnel with relevant expertise in GHG accounting, land-based carbon methodologies, biodiversity, community impacts and stakeholder engagement;
- familiarity with validation requirements for projects in developing country contexts;
- ability to undertake site-based validation activities in South Africa;
- independence from the project proponent and any parties involved in project design or implementation;
- Ability to carry out a potential site visit in Q4 2026;
- A commitment to respond within a set period to Sayari Earth to ensure the validation tempo is efficient and effective.

8. Verra Review Support

Deliverables:

- written confirmation of the VVB's validation opinion in the format required by Verra;
- support for responses to Verra review comments relating to the validation report and validation opinion, until the validation package is accepted by Verra, subject to agreed scope and timelines;
- a final close-out matrix or equivalent document showing all findings, clarification requests, corrective action requests, non-conformities and how each was resolved.

9. Deliverable Timing Clarification

The final validation report and associated deliverables must be suitable for submission to Verra and must comply with all applicable Verra templates, formatting requirements and validation reporting requirements in force at the time of submission.

10. Submission Requirements

Quotations should include the following:

- company profile and confirmation of Verra approval status;
- summary of relevant VCS, CCB and AFOLU validation experience;
- proposed validation team, including roles, qualifications and relevant experience;
- proposed validation approach and workplan;
- proposed timeline, including key milestones and expected date for final report submission;
- detailed pricing structure, including professional fees, site visit costs, travel costs, administrative fees and any other expenses;
- Pricing should be presented in a clear and itemised format, (preferably using the structure below);
- assumptions, exclusions and validity period of the quotation;
- references from previous clients for similar validation assignments;
- confirmation of applicable Verra sectoral scope and AFOLU validation competence;

- signed conflict-of-interest and independence declaration;
- statement of assumptions regarding methodology, project type, grouped project status, CCB level, site visit requirements, document availability and Verra review support;
- proposed site visit approach, including number of days, locations, team members, stakeholder interviews and logistical assumptions;
- proposed approach for reviewing GIS data, spatial boundaries, land eligibility, stratification and potential project overlaps;
- proposed approach for assessing land tenure, carbon rights, stakeholder engagement, safeguards and benefit-sharing arrangements;
- proposed support for responding to Verra review comments after submission of the validation report;
- proposed payment schedule or milestone-based invoicing structure.

Cost Item	Description	Amount	Assumptions
Document review	Review of VCS, CCB and supporting documents		
Technical assessment	Methodology, baseline, additionality and monitoring review		
GIS and spatial review	Boundary, eligibility, stratification and overlap review		
Site visit preparation	Planning, sampling, agenda and logistics		
Site visit professional fees	Time for field validation activities		
Travel and accommodation	Flights, hotels, meals, ground transport		
Stakeholder engagement	Interviews, meetings, interpretation, local consultation		
Draft validation report	Preparation of draft report and findings		
Findings closure	Review of responses to findings, NCRs, CARs or CLs		
Final validation report	Final report and validation opinion		
Verra review support	Responses to Verra review comments, if applicable		
Administrative fees	Project management, administration or registry support		
Taxes	VAT or other applicable taxes		
Total	Total quotation amount		

Quotations should state the currency used. Any applicable taxes, reimbursable expenses, exclusions and exchange rate assumptions must be clearly identified.

11. Submission Instructions

Please submit your quotation by **17:00 South Africa Standard Time (SAST) on 14 June 2026** to aloha@sayari.earth. Late submissions may not be considered.

Questions or requests for clarification should be submitted by email to Daniël Düring at dduring@sayari.earth by 07 June 2026. Sayari Earth may share responses to clarification questions with all invited respondents, where appropriate.

12. Procurement Timetable

Milestone	Date
RFQ issued	01 June 2026
Deadline for clarification questions	15 June 2026
Quotation submission deadline	18 June 2026
Evaluation of quotations	19–21 June 2026
Preferred VVB selected	Late June 2026
Contracting and onboarding	Late June / early July 2026
Validation kick-off	Early July 2026, subject to contract execution and document readiness

The above timetable is indicative only and may be amended by Sayari Earth at its discretion.

13. Evaluation Criteria

Quotations will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- compliance with the submission requirements;
- Verra approval status for both VCS and CCB validation;
- relevant experience with comparable AFOLU, land management or nature-based carbon projects;
- qualifications and availability of the proposed validation team;
- proposed methodology, workplan and timeline;
- cost-effectiveness and transparency of pricing;
- demonstrated ability to support a clear, efficient and audit-ready validation process.

Weighted Criteria:

Criterion	Weighting
Verra approval status for VCS and CCB validation	Pass/fail
Independence and conflict-of-interest clearance	Pass/fail
Relevant VCS, CCB and AFOLU validation experience	25%
Qualifications and availability of proposed validation team	20%
Proposed validation approach, methodology and workplan	20%
Site visit approach and understanding of project context	10%
Proposed timeline and ability to meet required milestones	10%
Cost-effectiveness and transparency of pricing	10%
References and track record on comparable assignments	5%



Sayari Earth reserves the right to accept or reject any quotation, request clarifications, conduct interviews, negotiate with one or more respondents, cancel or amend the RFQ process, or not award a contract, without liability to any respondent.

Submission of a quotation does not create any obligation on Sayari Earth to appoint a respondent or reimburse any costs incurred in preparing a quotation.

14. Contracting and Commercial Terms

The successful respondent will be required to enter into a services agreement with Sayari Earth before commencing work. The agreement is expected to include provisions covering scope of services, deliverables, timeline, fees, payment milestones, confidentiality, intellectual property, data protection, conflict of interest, independence, anti-bribery and corruption, sanctions compliance, liability, termination and governing law.

Respondents should identify any material contracting assumptions, proposed exclusions, payment requirements or terms that may affect their quotation.

Sayari Earth looks forward to receiving quotations from qualified VVBs interested in supporting the validation of the KwaZulu-Natal Sustainable Landscapes Program.