



Date:

28/01/2025

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TEMPLATE

TAB Meeting n°5

SUMMARY

This report summarises the fifth meeting of the ERS Technical Advisory Board. During this meeting, the Secretariat introduced Hannah Robinson as the new Director of Secretariat, presented key 2024 milestones, and shared important updates on accreditations, upcoming methodology developments, the expansion of the Secretariat team, and the growth of ERS's VVB network.



Introduction *Meeting*

MEETING INFORMATION

Date: 28/01/2025

TAB Participants:

- Nathalie Flores
- Eduard Müller
- Amy Bann
- Sara Löfqvist
- Fidel Chiriboga
- Robin Cole

ERS Participants:

- Priscille Raynaud, Managing Director
- Hannah Robinson, Director of Secretariat



MEETING NOTES

1. Introductions

The meeting commenced with a round of introductions to welcome Hannah Robinson, the newly appointed Director of Secretariat. This session allowed Hannah to get acquainted with the Technical Advisory Board (TAB) members.

2. Recap of 2024 Milestones

A summary of ERS's key achievements in 2024 was presented:

- ERS applied for key accreditations: **ICROA, ICVCM, and CORSIA**.
- ERS published **version 1.1** of its standard.
- ERS conducted field testing of applications and certification processes, refining supporting tools and standard requirements accordingly.
- Over **1 million hectares** are now under certification.
- ERS successfully closed a **\$5 million seed round**.
- ERS launched a **new registry on APX**, enhancing transparency. Continuous improvements are planned for 2025.

3. Secretariat Updates

Accreditations

- **ICVCM:** A first Programme Clarification Request (PCR) was answered in November. ICVCM communicated that they will submit a second PCR in early February.
- **ICROA:** Conditional approval was granted at the end of 2023; the requirement to have two projects on the Registry with Verified Restoration Units (VRUs) issued is on track for completion by the end of Q1.
- **CORSIA:** The application was not assessed; ERS plans to reapply in 2026.



Version 1.2 Developments

- RP003 was approved in Q4 2024; RP004 is currently being drafted and will soon be sent for review to TAB members.
- Improvements were made to the revision process for greater efficiency and better incorporation of feedback.
- Fidel Chiriboga, co-chair of the TAB, noted that since there is a majority voting rule, the public consultations can proceed with the existing votes from TAB members.

New Methodologies

ERS plans to develop three additional methodologies this year:

1. Agroforestry
2. Mangrove Restoration
3. Landscape-scale Restoration

Each team member will take ownership of a methodology. ERS is expanding the Secretariat team to ensure adequate capacity to implement the roadmap.

Symbiosis Coalition

- ERS has been approved as an eligible standard for the Symbiosis Request for Proposals (RfP).
- At least five projects are expected to apply before the priority deadline.
- ERS will also work towards approval of the Mangroves methodology under development for the upcoming Mangroves RfP.

Validation & Verification Bodies (VVBs)

- The first Validation & Verification (V&V) site visit was conducted last week, providing key learnings for ERS that will be applied in Q1.
- Three VVBs are currently active.
- Six VVBs are undergoing the accreditation process.
- Expanding the VVB network is a priority to ensure sufficient V&V resources worldwide.



Secretariat Team Updates

- Hannah Robinson has officially joined as the Director of Secretariat.
- Recruitment is ongoing for a Secretariat Agent and a Methodology Lead.
- A new Mangrove Specialist will be joining the team in March.
- A former Secretariat member, Henry Brabant is transitioning to the product team.

Project Pipeline

A dedicated page on the ERS website, updated weekly, now displays the ERS project pipeline on an interactive map. This page serves as a complement to the ERS Registry, where detailed project information and certification documents are available.

4. Discussion Points

- **Symbiosis Coalition:** Fidel Chiriboga and Amy Bann inquired about its market significance and organisational structure.
- **Project Pipeline:** Fidel Chiriboga inquired about the locations and sizes of ERS projects undergoing certification.

5. Closing Remarks

TAB members expressed enthusiasm for ERS's roadmap and the new methodologies in development. Priscille Raynaud, Managing Director at ERS, assured the members that she and Hannah Robinson are preparing a detailed timeline to help TAB members organize their workload effectively for the year ahead.



SIGNATURES

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