

# KEY PROJECT INFORMATION & PROGRAMME DESIGN DOCUMENT (POA-DD)

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VERSION **v. 1.1**

RELATED SUPPORT

- **TEMPLATE GUIDE Key Project Information & PoA Design Document v.1.1**

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This document contains the following Sections

Key Project Information

0 – General description of PoA

SECTION B - Management System and Inclusion Criteria

SECTION C – Demonstration of additionality

SECTION D. – Duration of PoA

SECTION E – Safeguarding principles assessment

SECTION F - Outcome of Stakeholder Consultations

0 – Contact information of coordinating/managing entity and responsible person(s)/ entity(ies)

## KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>GS ID of Programme</b>	GS11009
<b>Title of Programme:</b>	TASC Clean Cooking PoA
<b>Start Date of POA</b>	
<b>Date of Design Certification</b>	
<b>POA Period Start Date</b>	25/08/2020
<b>Version number of the PoA-DD</b>	1
<b>Completion date of the PoA-DD</b>	
<b>Coordinating/managing entity</b>	The African Stove Company Ltd. (TASC)
<b>Project Participants and any communities involved</b>	The African Stove Company Ltd. (TASC)
<b>Host Country (ies)</b>	Zambia Zimbabwe
<b>Activity Requirements applied</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Services Activities <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy Activities <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Forestry Activities/Risks & Capacities <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<b>Other Requirements applied</b>	
<b>Methodology (ies) applied and version number</b>	Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC), version 3.1
<b>Product Requirements applied</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> GHG Emissions Reduction & Sequestration <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy Label <input type="checkbox"/> N/A

## SECTION A. General description of PoA

### A.1. Purpose and general description of the PoA

#### a) *Policy/measure or stated goal that the PoA seeks to promote:*

The goal of the proposed Programme of Activities (PoA) is to distribute improved cookstoves (“ICS”) in the households/small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in Zambia and Zimbabwe (with a possibility of expansion to other countries in Africa in future).

The project ICS combust biomass fuels more efficiently, reducing the greenhouse gas (GHG) and particulate matter (PM) emissions, thus improving the indoor air quality in project households/SMEs. Due to the higher thermal efficiency of the ICS relative to the traditional/baseline stoves, the ICS reduce the amount of non-renewable biomass fuel required for meeting similar thermal energy needs.

In the absence of the proposed PoA, inefficient traditional / 3-stone fires / charcoal pots would have been used for cooking. Thus, replacement of the baseline inefficient stoves with project ICS shall reduce non-renewable biomass fuel consumption and hence equivalent amount of GHG emissions.

VPA implementers will be encouraged to participate in the PoA. The participation of VPA implementers shall be decided and approved by the CME. Participation will depend, amongst other things, upon the VPA's compliance with PoA eligibility criteria and any mutual or commercial agreement between CME and VPA implementer on the management of the project.

VPAs included in this PoA are unique and, although operating in geographical regions where other Gold Standard or CDM projects are being implemented, measures are in place to ensure that there is no double-counting of efforts. The distribution process ensures that each household (via GPS) and each stove (via serial numbers) is unique and the baseline and project scenarios are monitored to ensure that cookstoves replace open fires and that multiple stoves are not present in a household.

Ownership of the carbon emissions reductions is governed by the End User Agreements between the CME/VPA Implementer and end users at the VPA-level. It shall be made clear to each end user via this End User Agreement what their obligations are for joining the VPA and how they benefit directly from the carbon revenues that the VPA generates.

Stakeholders were identified and invited to a Design Consultation on the PoA, which was conducted electronically in accordance with the GS4GG COVID-19 interim measures. Emails was sent separately to stakeholders in Zambia on 04/02/2021 and in Zimbabwe on 05/02/2021.

Furthermore, direct contact was sought with stakeholders with an aim to increasing the number of respondent to the consultation. Feedback forms were collected and reported in a feedback matrix.

### ***b) Framework for the Implementation of the PoA***

This PoA will be managed by The African Stove Company Ltd. (hereinafter referred as TASC) as the Coordinating/Managing Entity (CME). The CME will coordinate with the VPA Implementer in the management of each VPA included in the PoA. The VPA Implementers will be supported by local partners for distribution and installation of ICS. The local partners will be trained accordingly by the VPA Implementer/CME. The VPA Implementer will be responsible for ensuring that end user information is captured at the point of installation, to facilitate the monitoring of stoves over the crediting period.

The PoA will have a system of avoiding double counting by unique identification of the stove (either GPS location, unique serial number, contact details of the End User, physical location, address etc.). The data collected during the distribution/installation will be captured and archived in a data management system or monitoring database.

The CME will also be responsible for communications with the Gold Standard Board and will coordinate all work relating to validation, verification, registration and issuance of Verified Emissions Reductions (VERs) generated by the PoA.

### ***c) Confirmation that the PoA is a voluntary action by CME***

The proposed PoA is a voluntary action undertaken by CME. There is no local regulation or law that mandates the CME to implement the cookstove PoA in either Zambia or Zimbabwe.

## **A.2. Physical/ Geographical boundary of the PoA**

The PoA boundary covers Zambia and Zimbabwe.

## **A.3. Technologies/measures and eligibility under Gold Standard**

The VPAs under the PoA will introduce energy-efficient, biomass fuel-based cookstoves (technology/measure), or Improved Cookstoves (ICS), compatible with the requirements of the applied methodology TPDDTEC version 3.1.

### **PoA Baseline Scenario:**

The use of three stone/open fire or conventional inefficient stoves/charcoal burners for cooking by the project stove users is the applicable pre-project scenario. Traditional biomass remains the main energy source for cooking in rural areas and poor urban clusters in Zambia and Zimbabwe.

More than 700 million Africans (82%) use solid fuels, such as wood, charcoal, dung, crop waste, and coal, for their primary cooking needs. This high level of solid-fuel use, combined with household reliance on inefficient and unsafe traditional cookstoves, constitutes a first-order public health crisis: household air pollution (HAP) from solid-fuel cooking emissions kills nearly 600,000 Africans annually and is now recognized as the second-

largest health risk factor in terms of death and disability in the region. Solid-fuel cooking in Africa accounts for up to 1% of global greenhouse gas emissions and 6% of global black carbon, an important additional driver of climate change because it both absorbs solar radiation in the atmosphere and deposits soot on snow and ice surfaces. Solid-fuel cooking also imposes significant costs on African households and economies, with a mid-range estimated opportunity cost of 3% of regional annual gross domestic product (GDP)—including avoidable spending on solid fuels, time losses due to firewood collection, the economic costs of increased mortality and morbidity burdens, and the environmental and climate costs of deforestation and carbon dioxide emissions.<sup>1</sup>

Only 11% of Africans use “clean” cookstoves that run on modern fuels, such as liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) (5%) and electric stoves (6%), as their primary cooking appliances. Many of these households continue to use traditional biomass-burning stoves as their secondary cooking device due to the common phenomenon of fuel and stove “stacking” (simultaneous usage of multiple fuels and stove technologies). Kerosene, which is used by 7% of Africans, likely does not qualify as a clean cooking solution in many instances, given the increasing evidence of harm from typical kerosene stoves in Africa. Stoves that run on such renewable fuels as biogas, ethanol, and solar are uncommon (less than 1%), and the penetration of “advanced” biomass gasifier cookstoves (less than 0.1%) that can come near the International Organization for Standardization’s (ISO’s) Tier 4 emission performance is still at a pilot stage. A small, but growing number of households (about 3.5%) use intermediate ICS (e.g., rocket stoves), which are substantially more fuel efficient but do not achieve the emission reductions needed to realize the full health and environmental benefits of clean cooking. Another 9–10% of African households have access to both basic ICS (less than 5%) and legacy cookstoves (less than 5%) that offer only moderate improvements in fuel efficiency and emissions over traditional cooking technologies. In aggregate, Africa has a significantly lower rate of access to clean and improved solutions (25%, excluding legacy stoves) than any other region globally.

#### **PoA Project Scenario:**

The project ICS will replace existing 3 stone fires / traditional inefficient stoves / charcoal burners in the beneficiary households/SME facilities. The ICSs are designed to deliver a higher thermal efficiency relative to that of baseline devices, thus reducing heat loss and transferring more heat to the cooking pot, whilst also being suitable for local cooking practices. The improvement in the thermal efficiency is achieved by optimizing the dimensions of the ICS combustion chamber, construction material, insulation and ensuring effective air flow to aid complete combustion of fuel.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/22521/Clean0and0impr000a0landscape0report.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

## Eligibility under Gold Standard

As per section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements, Eligibility criteria is defined below:

Eligibility Criteria Category	Eligibility criterion - Required condition	Justification
1. Types of Project	Eligible projects shall include physical action/implementation on the ground. Pre-identified eligible project types are identified in the Eligibility Principles and Requirements section.	The PoA started implementation in Zambia in August 2020 with the first ICS being distributed. It is one of the pre identified types as per section 3.1.1 (b) and automatically eligible for Gold Standard Certification as per section 4.1.3 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements.
2. Location of Project	Projects may be located in any part of the world.	Location of the project is Zambia and Zimbabwe.
3. Project Area, Project Boundary and Scale	The Project Area and Project Boundary shall be defined. Projects may be developed at any scale although certain rules, requirements and limitations may apply under specific Activity Requirements, Impact Quantification Methodologies and Products Requirements. In order to avoid double counting the Project shall not be included in any other voluntary or compliance standards programme unless approved by Gold Standard (for example through dual certification). Also, if the Project Area overlaps with that of another Gold Standard or other voluntary or compliance standard programme of a similar nature, the Project shall demonstrate that there is no double counting of impacts at design and performance certification (for example use of similar technology or practices through which the potential arises for double counting or misestimation of impacts amongst projects)	<p>The boundary for the PoA in terms of a geographical area is defined as the political boundary of Zambia and Zimbabwe. All voluntary programme activities (VPAs) associated with this PoA will be implemented within the geographical boundary of the PoA. To avoid inclusion of any stove which is a part of another registered carbon project/ programme, all ICS under this programme shall have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a unique ID serial number</li> <li>• a GPS tag (where possible)</li> <li>• End User data (name/address/physical location/phone number/govt. ID number)</li> <li>• Records of baseline stove type and fuel type used</li> </ul> <p>This data will uniquely identify the ICS, avoiding any double counting and trace its user for future monitoring and verification.</p>
4. Host Country Requirements	Projects shall be in compliance with applicable Host Country's legal, environmental, ecological and social regulations.	This shall be defined at the VPA level according to the host country covered in a VPA.
5. Contact Details	As part of the Project Documentation the Project Developer shall provide (i) name and (ii) contact details of all Project Participants; AND in case of an organisation (iii) the legal registration details and (iv) documentation by the governing jurisdiction that proves that the entity is in good standing (defined as being a	Contact details of organisation is given in the Appendix 1.

Eligibility Criteria Category	Eligibility criterion - Required condition	Justification
	<p>legal or other appropriate entity registered in or allowed to operate within the required jurisdiction and with no evidence of insolvency or legal/criminal notices placed against it or any of its Directors). Gold Standard retains the right (at its own discretion) to refuse use of the Standard where reputational concerns are highlighted.</p>	
<p><b>6. Legal Ownership</b></p>	<p>Full and uncontested legal ownership of any Products that are generated under Gold Standard Certification, (for example carbon credits) shall be demonstrated. Where such ownership is transferred from project beneficiaries this must be demonstrated transparently and with full, prior and informed consent (FPIC). Note that for certain Project types there is a requirement for full and uncontested legal land title/tenure to be demonstrated. These are contained within specific Activity or Product Requirements. All projects shall immediately report to Gold Standard any land title/tenure disputes arising.</p>	<p>TASC shall retain full and uncontested ownership of the Products generated under GS certification by the PoA: This shall be confirmed via an End User Agreement signed at the time of distribution. Consent may be collected via the monitoring app etc. or collecting stakeholder feedback on this issue during local stakeholder consultation (LSC) or Stakeholder Feedback Round (SFR).</p>
<p><b>7. Other Rights</b></p>	<p>As well as legal title and ownership, the Project Developer shall also demonstrate where required uncontested legal rights and/or permissions concerning changes in use of other resources required to service the Project (for example, access rights, water rights etc.). Any known disputes or contested rights must be declared immediately to Gold Standard by the Project Developer and resolved prior to further project implementation in affected areas.</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
<p><b>8. Official Development Assistance (ODA) Declaration</b></p>	<p>All Project Developers applying for project activities located in a country named by the OECD Development Assistance Committee's ODA recipient list and seeking Gold Standard Certification for carbon credits shall declare the Official Development Assistance (ODA) support. The Project Developer shall follow the GHG Emissions Reduction &amp; Sequestration Product Requirements and submit the declaration at the time of Design Certification.</p>	<p>No ODA is involved in the PoA.</p>

## Eligibility under Gold Standard Community Services Activity (CSA) Requirements

As per section 3.1.1 of Community Services Activity Requirements, Eligibility criteria is defined below:

Eligibility Criteria Category	Eligibility criterion - Required condition	Justification
<p><b>1. Eligible Project Types</b></p>	<p>All CSA Projects shall lead to climate change mitigation and/or adaptation by providing or improving access to services/resources at the household or community or institution level. Eligible services include electricity and energy, water and sanitation, waste management, housing, etc.</p>	<p>The goal of the proposed PoA is to distribute ICS in the households/SMEs in Zambia and Zimbabwe</p>
<p><b>2. GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA - Type of project</b></p>	<p>(b) End-use energy efficiency: Project activities that reduce energy requirements as compared to baseline scenario without affecting the level and quality of services or products, where the end-user of the products and services are clearly identified and when the physical intervention is required at the user end. For example, efficient cooking, heating, lighting, etc.</p>	<p>The PoA involves distribution of energy efficient ICS.</p>
<p><b>3. GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA – Project Area, Boundary and scale</b></p>	<p>Project Area and Boundary shall be defined in line with the applicable Impact Quantification Methodologies and Product Requirements.</p>	<p>The project area is location of ICS End Users in the Host Country of the VPA, defined by a GPS location (where possible).</p> <p>The project boundary is the geographical boundary of the Host Countries.</p> <p>The PoA is a large scale PoA with each independent subsystem (in case of PoA = ICS) contributing to less than 1% of the methodology threshold.</p>
<p><b>4. GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA – Legal Ownership</b></p>	<p>(a) Projects involving the distribution of a large number of devices for services such as heating, cooking, lighting, electricity generation, water treatment technology such as water filter, etc. shall provide a clear description of the ownership of the Products that are generated under Gold Standard Certification all along the investment chain. In line with the FPIC requirement, the proofs that end-users are aware of and willing to give up their rights on Products shall be provided.</p> <p>(b) The transfer of Product ownership shall be discussed during local stakeholder consultations for projects.</p>	<p>The ownership of carbon credits lies with the CME. This will be confirmed via the End User Agreement collected at the point of distribution (refer Eligibility under GS4GG section above).</p> <p>This has been discussed during LSC and distribution sensitization meetings.</p>

**A.4. Target/Indicator for each of the minimum three SDGs targeted by the POA**

<b>Sustainable Development Goals Targeted</b>	<b>Most relevant SDG Target</b>	<b>SDG Impact Indicator (Proposed or SDG Indicator)</b>
<b>SDG 1: No Poverty</b>	1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance	Via distribution of ICS, the PoA avoids cooking on traditional stoves. This results in increased access to basic services (efficient cooking), new technology (improved stoves) and reduces poverty by reducing purchased fuel consumption.  1.4.1 Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services
<b>SDG 3: Good Health and Well Being</b>	3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination.	Via distribution of ICS, the PoA results in reduction in exposure to indoor air pollutants associated with biomass fuel based traditional cooking.  3.9.1 Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution
<b>SDG 5: Gender Equality</b>	5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate	In the poorest communities, the burden of collecting and/or purchasing fuel for cooking often falls on women and children. By reducing fuel collection and cooking time, the PoA provides women in project households with more time to invest in other productive economic development activities.  5.4.1 Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location
<b>SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy</b>	7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services	The PoA involves dissemination of efficient, modern technology for cooking and helps in using available energy sources more efficiently.

		7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology
<b>SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth</b>	8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value	<p>The PoA will generate employment in the Host Country in distribution, logistics, management and monitoring activities.</p> <p>8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities</p>
<b>SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production</b>	12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources	<p>Via distribution of ICS, the PoA will reduce the consumption of non-renewable biomass in participant households by as much as 50%, depending on stove model.</p> <p>12.2.2 - Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP</p>
<b>SDG 13: Climate Action</b>	13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning	<p>The PoA contributes towards avoidance of GHG emissions by reducing the use of non-renewable biomass in cooking.</p> <p>Amount of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions reduced by the project per year.</p>

## **A.5. Coordinating/managing entity**

The African Stove Company Ltd. (TASC)

## **A.6. Funding sources of PoA**

The CME confirms that no public funding or ODA is involved in the PoA.

## SECTION B. MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND INCLUSION CRITERIA

### B.1. Management System

The CME has overall responsibility for establishing and implementing the operational and management system for the implementation of the PoA. The description of this management system includes:

*i. A clear definition of roles and responsibilities of personnel involved:*

**The CME:**

- General management of the PoA, including appointing all personnel / groups of personnel involved in the PoA development and VPA implementation;
- Communicating with the Gold Standard / SustainCERT on matters related to the project cycle;
- Communicating with Designated Operational Entities (DOEs) on matters related to VPA inclusion and verification audits;
- Ensuring that the same approved baseline and monitoring methodology is applied to all VPAs;
- Identifying and appointing eligible VPA Implementing organizations;
- Establishing and managing the data collection processes and monitoring database for ICS distribution;
- Overseeing field monitoring exercises and calculating emissions reductions based on monitoring data received from the VPA Implementer; and
- Improvement of the PoA management system as and when required.

**Key staff:**

Director of Carbon	Overall management responsibility of the PoA, contract signing, quality/technical reviews etc.
Carbon Projects Development Manager	Documentation writing, emissions calculations, database QA/QC etc.

**The VPA Implementers (VPAs):**

- the distribution of the ICS through their own distribution network, or that of local partners (as approved by the CME), under the VPA
- collecting and recording the distribution data (as instructed by the CME) in accordance with the PoA management system and monitoring plan
- notifying the ICS beneficiary that any emission reductions generated by the ICS shall be owned by the CME & training end users on the usage of the stove
- Coordinating the ex-post monitoring of distributed ICS (either directly or via externally outsourced agency /institution) as per monitoring requirements set out in the registered monitoring plan
- Any other task and responsibilities assigned by CME to the VPA implementer, as and when required.

**Key staff:**

Operations Director	Logistics, financial & personnel management
Project Manager	Data capture, monitoring, community sensitization/stakeholder engagement
Field teams	Stove distributions, monitoring surveys

*ii. Records of arrangements for training and capacity development for personnel*

The CME will maintain records of all personnel, or groups of personnel, appointed to undertake the above roles. CME will be responsible for the training and capacity development of personnel, as applicable, required to complete their roles in respect of the PoA's requirements and Gold Standard / SustainCERT rules.

Records of such training and capacity building will be maintained in CME's document management system.

**iii. A procedure for technical review of inclusion of CPAs**

VPA's will be designed and written by the CME in partnership with the relevant VPAI. The CME will conduct a technical review of all documentation and emissions reductions calculations prior to submission to the DOE.

**iv. A procedure to avoid double counting (e.g. to avoid the case of including a new VPA that has already been registered either as a CDM project activity or included as a VPA in another registered CDM PoA)**

The CME will complete an analysis of registered CDM projects and PoAs in the VPA-DD.

Furthermore, each VPA's monitoring plan will include a specific procedure to avoid double counting, which may include:

- A unique ICS identification code entry in the monitoring database
- Specific GPS coordinates that identify the ICS exact location (if available)
- The exact type of ICS distributed to the end user
- Unique end-user data, including: name, address/physical location, phone number, government ID number, if any, etc.
- Date of distribution

This combination of methods will ensure that the VPA is not double-counting climate mitigation efforts.

**v. Records and documentation control process for each VPA under the PoA**

The CME will train the VPAI and its personnel on the data collection and recording process.

The CME will define a data collection system for ICS distributions under each VPA. The ICS will be distributed by the VPA Implementer, or its local distribution partner, and distribution / end user data will be collected at the point of distribution in an electronic or paper-based format.

ICS distribution data that is collected by the VPA Implementer will be uploaded to the monitoring database either automatically via an upload of digitally collected data or via the physical transcription of paper-based data.

The monitoring database will be maintained by the CME who will conduct a QA/QC process to ensure that collected data is accurate, unique and not double-counted/duplicated.

**vi. Measures for continuous improvements of the PoA management system**

The CME will review the PoA management system defined above on a regular basis to ensure the continuous improvement of the above processes that will result in greater accuracy of the collected data and additional capacity building for VPA Implementers.

## B.2. Application of methodologies

Applied methodology:

Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption, version 3.1, August 2017

Applicability Criteria	Justification
<p>This methodology is applicable to programmes or activities introducing technologies and/or practices that reduce or displace greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the thermal energy consumption of households and non-domestic premises. Examples of these technologies include the introduction of improved biomass or fossil fuel cookstoves, ovens, dryers, space and water heaters (solar and otherwise), heat retention cookers, solar cookers, bio-digesters</p>	<p>The PoA involves distribution of fuel efficient improved cookstoves (“ICS”) in the households/SMEs in Zambia and Zimbabwe.</p>
<p>The project boundary needs to be clearly identified, and the technologies counted in the project are not included in any other voluntary market or CDM project activity (i.e. no double counting takes place). In some cases, there may be another similar activity within the same target area. Project proponents must therefore have a survey mechanism in place together with appropriate mitigation measures so as to prevent any possibility of double counting.</p>	<p>The project boundary and provisions to avoid double counting are mandatory eligibility criteria # 1 and #2 for inclusion of a VPA. Any VPA included in the PoA will automatically meet compliance with this methodology requirement.</p>
<p>The technologies each have continuous useful energy outputs of less than 150kW per unit (defined as the total useful energy delivered from start to end of operation of a unit divided by time of operation). For technologies or practices that do not deliver thermal energy in the project scenario but only displace thermal energy supplied in the baseline scenario, the 150kW threshold applies to the displaced baseline technology.</p>	<p>Under eligibility criteria #7, the ICS capacity is limited to 1.8GWh<sub>th</sub> energy savings per annum which is deemed much less than 150kW equivalent.</p>
<p>Using the baseline technology as a backup or auxiliary technology in parallel with the improved technology introduced by the project activity is permitted as long as a mechanism is put into place to encourage the removal of the old technology (e.g. discounted price for the improved technology) and the definitive discontinuity of its use. The project documentation must provide a clear description of the approach chosen and the monitoring plan must allow for a good understanding of the extent to which the baseline technology is still in use after the introduction of the improved technology.</p>	<p>The PoA provides a subsidized ICS technology that offers a ‘step-change’ in the efficiency of cooking in end user households. Training will be provided to end users during ‘sensitization meetings’ to encourage them to move away from their traditional inefficient appliances.</p>

	If baseline stoves are found operational during ex-post monitoring, emission reductions would be adjusted accordingly.
The project proponent must clearly communicate to all project participants the entity that is claiming ownership rights of and selling the emission reductions resulting from the project activity. For technology producers and the retailers of the improved technology or the renewable fuel in use, this must be communicated by contract or clear written assertions in the transaction paperwork. If the claimants are not the project technology end users, the end users will need to be informed and notified that they cannot claim for emission reductions from the project.	The signed End User Agreement confirms that the rights of ownership of VERs from the ICS usage lie with the CME.
Project activities making use of a new biomass feedstock in the project situation (e.g. shift from non-renewable to green charcoal, plant oil or renewable biomass briquettes) must comply with relevant Gold Standard specific requirements for biomass related project activities, as defined in the latest version of the Gold Standard rules. If the biomass feedstock is sourced from a dedicated plantation, the criteria must apply to both plantations established for the project activity AND existing plantations that were established in the context of other activities but will supply biomass feedstock.	No new biomass feedstock usage is envisaged in the project activity.

### B.2.1. Multiple technologies/measures

No multiple technologies/measures are being applied under the PoA.

### B.3. Eligibility criteria for inclusion of a VPA in the PoA

No.	Eligibility Criterion	Description/ Required condition	Means of Verification/Supporting evidence for inclusion
1	Geographic Boundary and target area	Each SSC VPA shall involve installation of ICS within the geographical boundary of PoA.	Monitoring database, listing the location of ICS distributed under the VPAs and GPS location of End User household (where possible)
2	Double Counting	Each SSC VPA shall be added to the monitoring database with a unique set of distribution data.	All ICS distributed in the VPA shall have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a unique ID serial number</li> <li>• a GPS tag</li> <li>• End User data (name/address/physical location/phone number/govt. ID number - where possible)</li> </ul>

- Records of baseline stove type and fuel type used

to uniquely identify the ICS, avoiding any double counting and trace its user for future monitoring and verification.  
This distribution data will be held securely in the monitoring database.

3	Exclusiveness of VPA	The VPA shall not be previously be registered as a project activity or included as a VPA in any other registered PoA, or deregistered as a VPA of a PoA.	Confirmation by CME
4	Specifications of Technology/ Measure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Type</b> - The VPA will promote dissemination of improved biomass ICS in PoA.</li> <li>2. <b>Capacity</b> - The rated annual thermal energy savings of ICS included under the VPAs shall not be more than 1.8GWh<sub>th</sub>.</li> </ol>	<p>Technical details of the ICS (including thermal efficiency and energy) will be provided in the baseline emissions calculations of the specific VPA.</p> <p>As specific VPA may have ongoing distribution of ICS, and new stove models may be introduced during the crediting period of the VPA, this may be checked at the time of subsequent verification.</p>
5	Start Date	Date on which first ICS was installed under the VPA. The start date of any proposed VPA will be on or after the start date of the PoA	The date of the End User Agreement for the first ICS distributed in the VPA, as entered into the Monitoring Database.
6	Applicability of the methodologies	VPA must follow TPDDTEC version 3.1. The applicability criteria of the methodology are listed in section B.2 of the PoA-DD. Technology related requirements stipulated by the methodology have been specified in criteria #4 above.	Applicability of the methodology is described in Section B of the VPA-DD.
7	Additionality	VPAs will apply the Positive List justifications (see Section C of PoA-DD): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ICS shall be distributed to households or SMEs</li> <li>2. The rated annual thermal energy savings of ICS included under the VPAs shall not be more than 1.8GWh<sub>th</sub></li> </ol>	<p>ICS shall be distributed to households or SMEs substantiated via the monitoring database.</p> <p>This is covered in criteria #4 above.</p>
8	Official Development Assistance (ODA)	Affirmation that funding from Annex I Parties, if any, does not result in a diversion of ODA	A Declaration from CME and VPA Implementer will be made that no funds for official development assistance will be used for program implementation
9	Target Group and Distribution Mechanism	Target Group: Households/Small institutions/SMEs Distribution Mechanism: Via VPAI / local partners	<p>The ICS by virtue of their size, output and design are usable only in households/ SMEs. The monitoring database will confirm distribution to households.</p> <p>A bespoke distribution mechanism will be defined in each VPA-DD.</p>
10	Sampling	VPAs under the program will adhere to all sampling requirements in TPDDTEC, version 3.1	VPAs will follow monitoring plan described in PoA-DD as applicable.
11	SSC Threshold	Not applicable as per section B.1 above	N/A
12	Eligibility of Technologies	As per TPDDTEC, version 3.1: "Examples of these technologies include the introduction of improved biomass or	VPAs will include improved biomass cookstoves as defined by being >20% thermal efficiency in the manufacturer's specifications

		fossil fuel cookstoves, ovens, dryers, space and water heaters (solar and otherwise), heat retention cookers, solar cookers, bio-digesters, safe water supply and treatment technologies that displace the boiling of water, thermal insulation in cold climates, etc.”	
13	Conditions to be met by each VPA regarding SDG outcomes assessment	SDG outcomes, and the methods of monitoring these outcomes, are defined in the PoA-DD Section A.4	VPAs will include the SDG outcomes in the monitoring parameters and report on these in each monitoring report.
14	Conditions to be met by each VPA regarding safeguarding principles	Safeguarding Principles, and the methods of monitoring these principles, are defined in the PoA-DD Section E	VPAs will include the Safeguarding Principles in the monitoring parameters and report on these in each monitoring report.
15	Conditions to be met for retroactive VPAs	N/A	N/A
16	Conditions to be met for CER Labelling	N/A	N/A
17	Conditions to be met in multi-country PoAs	Conditions that might apply for a single country PoA will apply to each country that is included in the PoA including <i>inter alia</i> baseline parameter assessments, Design Consultations and LSC etc.	VPAs will apply the applicability and eligibility criteria bespoke for each Host Country included in the PoA.

## SECTION C. DEMONSTRATION OF ADDITIONALITY

According to GS4GG Community Services Activity Requirements version 1.2, Para 4.1.9:

*Projects that meet any of the following criteria are considered as deemed additional and therefore are not required to prove Financial Additionality at the time of design certification:*

- (a) Positive list (Annex B of this document)*
- (b) Projects located in LDC, SIDS, LLDC*
- (c) Microscale projects*

VPAs included in LDCs (e.g. Zambia) are automatically additional. For other Host Countries, according to the Requirements, Annex B – Positive list, VPAs will be designed as a community service project applicable under the positive list, Para 1.1.3:

*Project activities solely composed of isolated units where the users of the technology/ measure are households or communities or institutions and where each unit results in  $\leq 1.8$  GWh<sub>th</sub> of energy savings per year or  $\leq 600$  tonnes of emission reductions per year.*

Each ICS distributed under the PoA shall be considered as an 'isolated unit' and unit threshold, ensuring the VPA is automatically additional. This will be mandated via the eligibility criteria (ICS to demonstrate annual energy savings of less than 1% of meth threshold at design efficiency) to include a VPA in the PoA.

## SECTION D. DURATION OF POA

### **D.1. Date of first submission of PoA to Gold Standard**

The PoA Design Consultation Report was submitted to the Gold Standard on 24/03/2021.

### **D.2. Duration of the PoA**

The PoA shall have a 20 year duration

## SECTION E. SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES ASSESSMENT

### E.1. Justification for Safeguarding Principles Assessment at PoA level

Safeguarding principles and SDG outcome assessment done at PoA level, due to the homogeneity of VPAs and the single CME that has overall responsibility for the implementation of the VPAs.

### E.2. Assessment of safeguarding principles, if undertaken at PoA level

Assessment Questions/ Requirements	Risk Relevance (yes/potentially/ no)	How Project will achieve Requirements through design, management or risk mitigation.	Mitigation Measures added to the Monitoring Plan (if required)
<b>Social Impacts</b>			
<b>Principle 1. Human Rights</b>			
1. The Project Developer and the Project shall respect internationally proclaimed human rights and shall not be complicit in violence or human rights abuses of any kind as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights	No	The PoA is developed with respect to human rights and its development is not complicit in violence or human rights abuses.	Not required
2. The Project shall not discriminate with regards to participation and inclusion	No	The PoA does not discriminate with regards to participation and inclusion	Not required
<b>Principle 2. Gender Equality and Women's Rights</b>			
3. The Project shall not directly or indirectly lead to/contribute to adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women:			
a. Sexual harassment and/or any forms of violence against women – address the multiple risks of gender-based violence, including sexual exploitation or human trafficking.	No	The project indirectly reduces some risk of gender-based violence by reducing the time required in collecting fuel wood.	Not required

b. Slavery, imprisonment, physical and mental drudgery, punishment or coercion of women and girls.	No	The PoA indirectly reduces some risk of drudgery by reducing the time required in collecting fuel wood and in cooking.	Not required
c. Restriction of women's rights or access to resources (natural or economic).	No	The project indirectly increases access for women to economic resources by reducing time and money spent in collecting fuel & cooking.	Not required
d. Recognise women's ownership rights regardless of marital status – adopt project measures where possible to support to women's access to inherit and own land, homes, and other assets or natural resources.	No	Not relevant	Not required
4. Projects shall apply the principles of non-discrimination, equal treatment, and equal pay for equal work:			
a. Where appropriate for the implementation of the Project, paid, volunteer work or community contributions will be organised to provide the conditions for equitable participation of men and women in the identified tasks/activities.	Yes	The PoA will not discriminate in employment conditions for male and female workers. Employment opportunities will be granted equitably and on merit.	Employment contracts will demonstrate this.
b. Introduce conditions that ensure the participation of women or men in Project activities and benefits based on pregnancy, maternity/paternity leave, or marital status.	No	Not relevant	Not required
c. Ensure that these conditions do not limit the access of women or men, as the case may be, to PoA participation and benefits.	No	Not relevant	Not required
5. The Project shall refer to the country's national gender strategy or equivalent national commitment to aid in assessing gender risks	Yes	The PoA acknowledges the National Gender Policy of 2014 <sup>2</sup> in the "advancement of gender equality and empowerment of women". The PoA is designed to empower women and improve livelihoods and no gender risks are envisaged.	Not required
6. (where required) Summary of opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder(s)	No	Not relevant	Not required

<sup>2</sup> <http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/zam152916.pdf>

**Principle 3. Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions**

1. The Project shall avoid community exposure to increased health risks and shall not adversely affect the health of the workers and the community	Yes	The PoA reduces exposure to indoor air pollutants and smoke levels, further reducing incidence of respiratory illness compared to cooking on traditional biomass stoves using solid biomass fuel.	Not required
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**Principle 4. Cultural Heritage, Indigenous, Peoples, Displacement and Resettlement**

**Principle 4.1 Sites of Cultural and Historical Heritage**

1. Does the Project Area include sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture?	No	Not relevant	Not required
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**Principle 4.2 Forced Eviction and Displacement**

1. Does the Project require or cause the physical or economic relocation of peoples (temporary or permanent, full or partial)?	No	Not relevant	Not required
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**Principle 4.3 Land Tenure and Other Rights**

1. Does the Project require any change, or have any uncertainties related to land tenure arrangements and/or access rights, usage rights or land ownership?	No	Not relevant	Not required
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**Principle 5. Corruption**

1. The Project shall not involve, be complicit in or inadvertently contribute to or reinforce corruption or corrupt Projects	No	The CME confirms that the PoA does not involve, or is not complicit in, directly or indirectly, corruption or corrupt practices.	Not required
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**Economic Impacts**

**Principle 6.1 Labour Rights**

1. The Project Developer shall ensure that all employment is in compliance with national labour occupational health and safety laws and with the principles and standards embodied in the ILO fundamental conventions	Yes	The PoA does not involve any forced labour and the CME will ensure that all employment is in compliance with local labour regulations and laws.	Employment contracts will demonstrate this.
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2. Workers shall be able to establish and join labour organisations	Yes	The CME puts no constraints / limitation on employees to form a union.	Not required
3. Working agreements with all individual workers shall be documented and implemented and include: a. Working hours (must not exceed 48 hours per week on a regular basis), AND b. Duties and tasks, AND c. Remuneration (must include provision for payment of overtime), AND d. Modalities on health insurance, AND e. Modalities on termination of the contract with provision for voluntary resignation by employee, AND f. Provision for annual leave of not less than 10 days per year, not including sick and casual leave.	Yes	The CME's policies and employment contracts are compliant with the requirement.	Employment contracts will demonstrate this.
4. Child labour is not allowed	Yes	The CME's policies and employment contracts are compliant with the requirement.	Employment contracts will demonstrate this.
5. The Project Developer shall ensure the use of appropriate equipment, training of workers, documentation and reporting of accidents and incidents, and emergency preparedness and response measures	Yes	The CME will provide training and equipment for workers, appropriate for the implementation of the PoA.	Training records and equipment provided.
<b>Principle 6.2 Negative Economic Consequences</b>			
1. Does the project cause negative economic consequences during and after project implementation?	No	No negative economic consequences are deemed applicable	Not required
<b>Environmental / Ecological Impacts</b>			
<b>Principle 7.1 Emissions</b>			
1. Will the Project increase greenhouse gas emissions over the Baseline Scenario?	Yes	The PoA reduces GHG emissions relative to baseline scenario	Not required
<b>Principle 7.2 Energy Supply</b>			

1. Will the Project use energy from a local grid or power supply (i.e., not connected to a national or regional grid) or fuel resource (such as wood, biomass) that provides for other local users?	Yes	The PoA reduces pressure on fuel resources by reducing fuel consumption	Not required
<b>Principle 8.1 Impact on Natural Water Patterns/Flows</b>			
1. Will the Project affect the natural or pre-existing pattern of watercourses, ground-water and/or the watershed(s) such as high seasonal flow variability, flooding potential, lack of aquatic connectivity or water scarcity?	No	Not applicable	Not required
<b>Principle 8.2 Erosion and/or Water Body Instability</b>			
1. Could the Project directly or indirectly cause additional erosion and/or water body instability or disrupt the natural pattern of erosion?	Yes	The PoA results in the reduction in demand for biomass fuel putting less pressure on forests for deforestation and indirectly avoiding erosion associated with tree cutting.	Not required
<b>Principle 9.1 Landscape Modification and Soil</b>			
1. Does the Project involve the use of land and soil for production of crops or other products?	No	Not applicable	Not required
<b>Principle 9.2 Vulnerability to Natural Disaster</b>			
1. Will the Project be susceptible to or lead to increased vulnerability to wind, earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding, drought or other extreme climatic conditions?	No	Not applicable	Not required
<b>Principle 9.3 Genetic Resources</b>			
1. Could the Project be negatively impacted by or involve genetically modified organisms or GMOs (e.g., contamination, collection and/or harvesting, commercial development, or take place in facilities or farms that include GMOs in their processes and production)?	No	Not applicable	Not required
<b>Principle 9.4 Release of pollutants</b>			
1. Could the Project potentially result in the release of pollutants to the environment?	No	Not applicable	Not required

**Principle 9.5 Hazardous and Non-hazardous Waste**

1. Will the Project involve the manufacture, trade, release, and/ or use of hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals and/or materials?	No	Not applicable	Not required
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**Principle 9.6 Pesticides & Fertilisers**

1. Will the Project involve the application of pesticides and/or fertilisers?	No	Not applicable	Not required
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**Principle 9.7 Harvesting of Forests**

1. Will the Project involve the harvesting of forests?	Yes	The PoA results in the reduction in demand for biomass fuel putting less pressure on forests for deforestation and indirectly avoiding erosion associated with tree cutting.	Not required
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**Principle 9.8 Food**

1. Does the Project modify the quantity or nutritional quality of food available such as through crop regime alteration or export or economic incentives?	No	Not applicable	Not required
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**Principle 9.9 Animal husbandry**

1. Will the Project involve animal husbandry?	No	Not applicable	Not required
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**Principle 9.10 High Conservation Value Areas and Critical Habitats**

1. Does the Project physically affect or alter largely intact or High Conservation Value (HCV) ecosystems, critical habitats, landscapes, key biodiversity areas or sites identified?	No	Not applicable	Not required
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**Principle 9.11 Endangered Species**

Are there any endangered species identified as potentially being present within the Project boundary (including those that may route through the area)? AND/OR Does the Project potentially impact other areas where endangered species may be present through transboundary affects?	No	Not applicable	Not required
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## SECTION F. OUTCOME OF STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS

### F.1. Justification for stakeholder consultation at PoA Level only

At VPA level, LSCs will be conducted for the first VPA being implemented in a given host country, as and when this is possible with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A Design Consultation was conducted at the PoA level, complete with a local stakeholder consultation for the first VPAs in Zambia & Zimbabwe. As no physical meeting was possible at the time of PoA development, this involved contacting stakeholders via email and phone, and obtaining individual paper-based feedback where remote contact was not possible.

The consultation involved inviting reviews/feedback from various stakeholders' including, but not limited to the following:

- Local people impacted by the project
- Representatives of private institutions / Corporate houses involved in the VPAs
- Local NGOs, Self Help Groups, MFIs involved in the VPAs
- Host country DNA
- Gold Standard Representatives
- GS NGO Supporters

TASC Cookstove Project - Stakeholder Consultation

  
RM Rebecca Mpumba  
To  
Cc George Barlow; Nick Marshall  
Thu 04/02/2021 13:51



 You replied to this message on 23/02/2021 10:28.  
If there are problems with how this message is displayed, click here to view it in a web browser.

 Non-Technical Summary - TASC GS PoA (1).docx  
78 KB

Dear Stakeholder,

TASC Ltd. would like to invite you to participate in a design consultation for the proposed Gold Standard programme of activities (PoA): "TASC Clean Cooking PoA". We kindly request that you please provide feedback on the proposed PoA.

TASC is developing this initiative initially in Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The PoA is described in the attached non-technical summary and we invite all stakeholders to respond using the forms provided as an annex to this document. Please send us your responses prior to: **03/03/2021**

Owing to the current COVID-19 restrictions, we are unable to conduct a physical local stakeholder consultation meeting in Zambia right now.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to respond to this email, which has been set up as a specific line of communication for feedback.

Your sincerely,

Rebecca Mpumba

for:

George Barlow  
Country Manager - Zambia  
TASC Ltd.

As part of Design Consultation / LSC, a non-technical summary of the project was distributed to all stakeholders along with a feedback questionnaire. The included important information on the proposed PoA and VPA implementation, carbon offsets, ownership of credits, grievance mechanism, Gold Standard requirements etc.

As it is envisaged that the first VPAs in Zambia and Zimbabwe are in essence transferring from a CDM PoA/CPA registration process, the CME acknowledges the physical LSC meetings that took place for the CDM process under PoA 6864: Fuel Efficient Stoves in Africa.<sup>3</sup>

With the respect to the grievance mechanism and continued stakeholder feedback throughout the lifetime of the PoA, a project email address has been established ([cookstoves@tasc.je](mailto:cookstoves@tasc.je)) for PoA-level feedback and a VPA-level mechanism will be established per VPA, to include a continuous grievance mechanism that is readily available to stakeholders locally.

## F.2. Summary of stakeholder mitigation measures at POA Level

There are no mitigation measures required from the Design Consultation, please refer to the Design Consultation report.

Please also refer to the issues raised and responded to by the CME in Section F of the PoA-DD in the PoA 6864: Fuel Efficient Stoves in Africa

## F.3. Final Continuous Input / Grievance Mechanism at POA Level

Method	Include all details of Chosen Method (s) so that they may be understood and, where relevant, used by readers.
Continuous Input / Grievance Expression Process Book (mandatory)	Grievances at the PoA-level may be logged via the CME contact email provided below. Grievances at the VPA-level will be described in each VPA-DD and each VPA Implementer will provide a mechanism by which grievances may be logged locally.
GS Contact (mandatory)	<a href="mailto:help@goldstandard.org">help@goldstandard.org</a>
CME Contact	<a href="mailto:cookstoves@tasc.je">cookstoves@tasc.je</a>

<sup>3</sup> [https://cdm.unfccc.int/ProgrammeOfActivities/poa\\_db/YC9QEKSX8NPJ5BFIDLTWZ0M3RVGUA2/view](https://cdm.unfccc.int/ProgrammeOfActivities/poa_db/YC9QEKSX8NPJ5BFIDLTWZ0M3RVGUA2/view)

## APPENDIX 1 - CONTACT INFORMATION OF COORDINATING/MANAGING ENTITY AND RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)/ ENTITY(IES)

CME and/or responsible person/ entity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CME <input type="checkbox"/> Responsible person/ entity for application of the selected methodology(ies) and, where applicable, the selected standardized baseline(s) to the PoA
Organization	The African Stove Company Ltd.
Street/P.O. Box	17A York Street
Building	-
City	St. Helier
State/Region	Jersey
Postcode	JE2 3RQ
Country	Channel Islands
Telephone	-
E-mail	<a href="mailto:hello@tasc.je">hello@tasc.je</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.tasc.je">www.tasc.je</a>
Contact person	Nick Marshall
Title	Director
Salutation	Mr.
Last name	Marshall
Middle name	Nick

## Revision History

Version	Date	Remarks
1.1	14 October 2020	Hyperlinked section summary to enable quick access to key sections Improved clarity on Key Project Information Inclusion criteria table added Clarification on POA level LSC and Safeguard Principles Assessment Improved Clarity on SDG contribution/SDG Impact term used throughout Clarity on Stakeholder Consultation information required Provision of an <u>accompanying Guide</u> to help the user understand detailed rules and requirements
1.0	10 July 2017	Initial adoption