

**GOLD STANDARD FOR THE GLOBAL GOALS (GS4GG)  
REPORT  
-  
DESIGN CERTIFICATION (VALIDATION)**



**Project/PoA Title:** *Dissemination of Improved Cookstoves in India by Greenway*  
**GS project ID:** *GS10818*  
**Internal ID:** *BELL\_CDM\_2020\_IND CC in India\_GS\_PoA\_VAL\_VER*  
**Customer:** *Greenway Grameen Infra Pvt Ltd*  
**Date:** *28/07/2021*  
**Revision:** *2*

SUMMARY			
Reference No.	Date (first version)	Version No.	Date (last version)
BELL_CDM_2020_IND CC in India_GS_PoA_VAL_VER	21/0/6/2021	02	28/07/2021
<b>Client</b>	Greenway Grameen Infra Pvt Ltd		
<b>Project/PoA Title</b>	Dissemination of Improved Cookstoves in India by Greenway		
<b>Project Developer</b>	Greenway Grameen Infra Pvt Ltd		
<b>Project Location</b>	India		
<b>Contact Person</b>	Mr. Achal Mehra		
GS4GG Version: 1.2 GS4GG Activity Requirements: Programme Of Activity Requirements Applied Methodology Version: AMS II.G V12.0 Current Methodology Version: AMS II.G V12.0		GS4GG Sectoral Scope: 2 UNFCCC CDM Sectoral Scope: 3 Technical Area: TA 3.1	
First PoA-DD Version: 01 Date: 07/07/2020		Final PoA-DD Version: 04 Date: 14/06/2021	
Estimated outcomes of each SDG: NA (will be provided in the VPA-DD)			
Selected Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDG 3; SDG 5; SDG 7; SDG 13			
Design Certification Summary			
<p>LGAI Technological Center, S.A. (hereafter referred to as Applus+ Certification) has been contracted by Greenway Grameen Infra Pvt Ltd to perform the GS VER validation of the PoA titled "Dissemination of Improved Cookstoves in India by Greenway" applying the methodology AMS II.G version 12.</p> <p>The purpose of the PoA is to provide access to clean and affordable energy to the rural households in India. This PoA involves promotion and dissemination of efficient cook stoves to households in India and enables the end users to switch from traditional mud stoves (chulhas) to rural households to a modern energy-efficient stoves.</p> <p>Replacement of the traditional cooking stoves with ICS will reduce the exposure of the family members, specifically women, to the indoor air pollution and therefore result in reducing risk of health-related issues. Each stove disseminated under the project will potentially reduce the firewood consumption by half. The project involves promotion of improved cooking stoves (ICS) to the people of socially deprived community, in different states of India. Thus, the PoA will reduce a significant number of emissions that would have been generated in the baseline scenario, where the traditional cookstoves would have been used. The CME of the PoA is Greenway Grameen Infra Private Limited (Greenway).</p> <p>The project activity involves dissemination of ICS in various states of India. In the absence of the proposed PoA the traditional cookstoves with the biomass fuel consumption by the HH user.</p> <p>The management of Greenway Grameen Infra Pvt Ltd is responsible for the preparation of the GHG emissions data and the reported GHG emission reductions.</p> <p>A desk review and a site visit (remotely) have been conducted to verify the data submitted in the GS4GG PoA-DD and VPA-DD. Applus+ Certification confirms the following have been reviewed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The PoA-DD and VPA-DD.</li> <li>b. The applied monitoring methodology.</li> <li>c. Relevant decisions, clarifications, and guidance from the CMP and the CDM Executive Board.</li> <li>d. GS4GG guideline and related Annex.</li> <li>e. All information and references relevant to the programme of activity resulting in estimated emission reductions.</li> </ol> <p>The scope of the validation is defined as an independent and objective review of the programme design document, against the Kyoto Protocol requirements, UNFCCC rules, applicable CDM requirements and</p>			

**SUMMARY**

requirement of Gold Standard. The validation report is finalized based on the assessment of the Gold Standard GS4GG PoA-DD and applying standard auditing techniques including but not limited to document reviews, follow up actions (e.g. remote site visit, telephone or e-mail interviews) and also the review of the applicable approved methodology and underlying formulae and calculations.

The report and the annexed validation checklist describe a total of 6 findings which include:

- 04 Corrective Action Requests (CARs);
- 02 Clarification Requests (CLs/CRs);
- 00 Forward Action Requests (FARs).

The PP has responded these findings by modifying the Gold Standard PoA-DD and providing adequate additional explanations and evidence. Applus+ Certification confirms that all the findings have been "closed out" before submitting the request for registration to GS board.

As a summary of the validation, the review of the Gold Standard GS4GG PoA-DD and the subsequent follow-up interviews have provided Applus+ Certification with sufficient evidence for the determination of the project's fulfillment with all stated criteria. In our opinion, the project meets all relevant UNFCCC requirements for the CDM and requirement of Gold Standard. Therefore, Applus+ Certification recommends the project for registration by the GS Registry as GS VERS project.

**ASSESSMENT TEAM**

Team Members	Type of Resource <sup>1</sup>	Organization (for OEs)
Lead Auditor: Ravi Kant Soni	<input type="checkbox"/> IR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EI <input type="checkbox"/> OE	Not applicable
Auditor: Ravi Kant Soni	<input type="checkbox"/> IR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EI <input type="checkbox"/> OE	Not applicable
Technical Expert: Ravi Kant Soni	<input type="checkbox"/> IR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EI <input type="checkbox"/> OE	Not applicable
Technical Reviewer: Simon Shen	<input type="checkbox"/> IR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EI <input type="checkbox"/> OE	Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> IR (Internal Resource); EI (External Individual); OE (Outsourced Entity)

<b>ABBREVIATIONS</b>	
<b>AMS</b>	Approved Methodology Small Scale
<b>Applus+ LGAI / Applus+</b>	LGAI Technological Center, S.A. (Applus+ Certification)
<b>BM</b>	Build Margin
<b>CAR</b>	Corrective Action Request
<b>CDM</b>	Clean Development Mechanism
<b>CDM EB</b>	CDM Executive Board
<b>CER</b>	Certified Emission Reduction
<b>CL / CR</b>	Clarification Request
<b>CM</b>	Combined Margin
<b>CMP</b>	Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol
<b>DNA</b>	Designated National Authority
<b>DOE</b>	Designated Operational Entity
<b>EF</b>	Emission Factor
<b>EIA</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment
<b>ER</b>	Emission Reduction
<b>FAR</b>	Forward Action Request
<b>GHG</b>	Greenhouse Gas(es)
<b>GS4GG (or GS)</b>	Gold Standard for Global Goals
<b>IPCC</b>	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
<b>KP</b>	Kyoto Protocol
<b>MP</b>	Monitoring Plan
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goal
<b>TAC</b>	Gold Standard Technical Advisory Committee
<b>OM</b>	Operational Margin
<b>PP</b>	Project Participant
<b>PS</b>	Project Standard
<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change
<b>VVB</b>	Validation and Verification Body
<b>VVS</b>	Validation and Verification Standard

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**Appendix:**

**Appendix 1:** Corrective Action Request / Clarification Request / Forward Action Request resolution table.

**Appendix 2:** Audit Team CVs.

**Appendix 3:** GS Safeguarding principles and Requirements.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### Description of PoA:

The purpose of the PoA to introduce Improved Cook Stoves (ICS) in household's premises that use traditional mud stoves (chulhas) for cooking.

The PoA located in India aims to distribute ICS that will replace the traditional stove and lead to reduction caused the existing biomass based traditional stoves. The CME of the PoA is Greenway Grameen Infra Private Limited (Greenway). Under the program, Greenway Grameen Infra Private Limited (Greenway) in association with producers, suppliers and distributors of ICS will develop the VPAs. The assessment team has confirmed the same during the remote audit and also through the desk review of the PoA-DD & supporting documents.

The ICS has higher thermal efficiency that is achieved through optimizing the dimensions of the combustion chamber and effective air flow to aid complete combustion of biomass. The ICS will deliver 65% fuel savings and can be run on all type of solid biomass fuels. Thermal efficiency of the ICS is verified through the efficiency test certificate/09/ was and found to be in line with the methodology requirements/03/. The PoA follows the host country rules and regulations.

The project spans across all states within the territorial boundary of India. The PoA-DD includes further details in the location of the project activity:

Latitude	20.5937 <sup>0</sup> North
Longitude	78.9629 <sup>0</sup> East

The co-ordinates of the location of the site were appropriately included in the PoA-DD/01/. The location has also been confirmed through website <https://www.google.co.in/maps> .

The technical description of the programme of activity has been validated by assessing the manufacture specification evidence /10/ and the actual photographs/09/. All the information was correctly mentioned in the PoA-DD /01/.

The summary of the proposed PoA and the technology involved are described in the PoA-DD /01/ with sufficient details and clarity. The accuracy of the project description was determined based on the remote site visit as part of validation audit, review of supporting documents (as mentioned in Appendix 03), and interaction(remote) with the key personnel as listed under section C.3 of the validation report.

The baseline scenarios have been found in accordance with the applied methodologies AMS II.G - Energy efficiency measures in thermal applications of non-renewable biomass, Version 12.0 /03/.

The start date of the PoA has been selected in accordance to section 3.4.3 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements. And a renewable crediting period of 5 years with the operational lifetime of the product as more than 5 years.

The sustainable development goals and their outcome is transparently discussed under section A.1 of the PoA-DD/01/. The assessment team has checked and reviewed the PoA-DD with supportive evidence and found the details to be correct.

The validation team looked out for the signs of any ODA that project might have received but did not find anything in this regard. Therefore, it can be confirmed that proposed PoA did not receive any ODA. Additionally, a declaration /13/ in this regard was obtained from CME.

The proposed GS PoA is described as Type II and has applied AMS II.G - Energy efficiency measures in thermal applications of non-renewable biomass, Version 12.0/03/ and PoA falls into the small-scale category.

The proposed GS PoA is not a CPA that has been excluded from a registered PoA because of erroneous inclusion of CPAs and did not find anything to contradict the same.

The eligibility of technology under section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements version 1.2 and Community Services Activity Requirements version 1.2 /17/ is as follows:

Eligibility Criteria	Justification from PP	Validation assessment
<p>3.1.1 (a) 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.</p>	<p>The PoA involves implementation on the ground i.e. distribution of ICS which comes under section 3.1.1 (b) of the approved Gold Standard Activity Requirement - Community Services Activity Requirements Version 1.2 Published October 2019. Therefore, there is approved Gold Standard Activity Requirements and thus the project is automatically eligible.</p>	<p>The assessment team has reviewed the PoA-DD and interviewed the CME during remote audit ,it is confirmed that the PoA/VPA involve distribution of ICS.</p> <p>Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles &amp; Requirements version 1.2.</p>
<p>3.1.1 (b) Location of Project             Projects may be located in any part of the world.</p>	<p>PoA is located in India.</p>	<p>PoA is located in India as confirmed through the remote interview of the CME. Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria</p>
<p>3.1.1 (c) 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</p>	<p>Physical/ Geographical boundary of the PoA is India. The same has been defined in detail in section A.3 of the PoA DD.  <b>Scale:</b>            Small-scale. Project Scale- The aggregate annual energy savings of each VPA shall not exceed 180 GWh.  <b>Double counting:</b>            The ICS will bear a unique serial number and project database will record user location details. Unique serial number and user location details will identify the project</p>	<p>The Project Area, Project Boundary and Scale of each VPA will be checked at VPA level.</p> <p>It will also be confirmed that the small-scale VPA included under this PoA will not be included by any other carbon standard and will not exceed the energy output of 180GWh per year as per GS product requirements.</p> <p>The ICS will bear a unique serial number and project database will record user location details to avoid double counting. This is verified through the baseline survey report and baseline database submitted by the CME.            Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria</p>

<p>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>	<p>devices individually and will separate it from other programs, if any in the present or in the future.</p>	
<p>3.1.1 (d) Host Country Requirements</p> <p>Projects shall be in compliance with applicable Host Country's legal, environmental, ecological and social regulations.</p>	<p>Projects is in compliance with applicable Host Country's legal, environmental, ecological and social regulations.</p>	<p>PoA is in compliance with host courtly (India) requirements and same can be checked from the MOEF (Ministry of Environment &amp; Forest) &amp; MNRE (Ministry of New &amp; Renewable Energy) websites.  Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria</p>
<p>3.1.1 (e) Contact Details</p> <p>As part of the Project Documentation the Project Developer shall provide</p> <p>(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</p>	<p>Name and Contact details of the project developer have been provided in the Appendix 1 of the PoA DD.</p> <p>Legal registration details has been provided in the Appendix 1 of the PoA DD.</p> <p>Company Registration certificate has been provided.</p>	<p>Name and contact details of the CME have been provided in appendix 1 of the PoA-DD /01/,found to be in accordance with the registration certificate.</p> <p>The details of Local partner organizations and staff involved in the implementation of each VPA will be checked at VPA level.</p> <p>The CME has provided the company registration certificate /32/ and found to be satisfactory.</p> <p>Declaration that no evidence of insolvency or legal/criminal notices</p>

<p>the governing jurisdiction that proves that the entity is in good standing (defined as being a 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>placed against it or any of its Directors has been submitted by the CME /27/. Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria</p>
<p>3.1.1 (f) Legal Ownership 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</p>	<p>There is a provision in the project device purchase agreement with manufacturer that emission reductions achieved by the project technology are owned by the project developer.</p> <p>Provision in the project device sales agreement (retailer) that emission reductions achieved by the project technology are owned by the project developer.</p> <p>The CME has signed the sales agreement for end users including the provision that emission reductions achieved by the project technology are owned by the CME.</p>	<p>The legal ownership of each VPA will be checked and confirmed at VPA level. Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria</p>

disputes arising.		
<p>3.1.1 (g) Other Rights          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>The PoA does not involve any kind of production activity or use of natural resources. Therefore, legal rights and/or permissions concerning changes in use of other resources required to service the project is not required.</p>	<p>This will be checked and confirmed at VPA level.          Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria</p>
<p>3.1.1 (h) Official Development Assistance (ODA) Declaration           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>The project developer has submitted Official Development Assistance (ODA) Declaration.</p>	<p>The assessment team has verified the ODA declaration of the PoA and VPA /13/ and also confirmed during the remote audit interviews with the representatives of CME and hence it can be concluded that there is no diversion of ODA PoA/VPA.          Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria.</p>

**General Eligibility Criteria as per section 3 of Community Services Activity Requirements version 1.2:**

Eligibility Criteria	Justification from PP	Validation assessment
<p>3.1.1 Types of project            – Pre-identified CSA project types are noted below.            (a) Renewable energy Project Developers may submit new project types to Gold Standard for approval following the Principles &amp; Requirements.            (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>Applicable criteria (b)            End-use energy efficiency.            PoA involves dissemination of fuel efficient stoves that reduce energy requirements as compared to baseline scenario without affecting the level and quality of services or products.</p>	<p>The applicable criteria selected by the CME is found to be correct and the same has been confirmed from the review of the documents and through the remote interviews.</p>
<p>3.1.2 Project Area, Boundary and Scale            Project Area and Boundary shall be defined in line with the applicable Impact Quantification Methodologies or Product Requirements.             The definition of scale is the same for all Projects, except Microscale which is defined as:            (a) CSA Project issuing emission reductions less than or equal to 10,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>e<sub>q</sub> per annum            (b) CSA Project seeking any Gold Standard Certified Impact or Product other than emission reductions and</p>	<p>The PoA has applied UNFCCC methodology-AMS II.G V12.0 “Energy efficiency measures in thermal applications of non-renewable biomass”             Project boundary- India             Project scale- Small scale.            The project activity will remain under the limit of small-scale project activity types (annual energy savings below 180 GWh<sub>th</sub>) during every year of the crediting period.</p>	<p>The PoA will be implemented in all states of India, project boundary is India. The same is confirmed through the remote interview and the Geo-coordinates as mentioned in the of PoA-DD /01/.            In each VPA, the number of distributed ICS would be limited to the small-scale threshold (The aggregate annual energy savings shall not exceed 180 GWh<sub>th</sub> as confirmed from CME during remote interview.</p>

<p>meeting one of the following criteria:</p> <p>(a) Installed capacity less than equal to 2 MWeI /6 MWth that employs renewable energy as the primary technology</p> <p>(b) Energy savings at a scale of no more than 20 GWh per year where energy efficiency is the primary activity</p> <p>Achieve GHG emissions reductions at a scale of no more than 20,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq per annum where project activity type is not included in the above two criteria.</p> <p>(c) For the purpose of applying UNFCCC methodologies for quantification of GHG reductions, 'small scale' is defined as in CDM Modalities and Procedures for three projects types; Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Others.</p>		
<p>3.1.3 Certain Impact Quantification methodologies allow projects to account Suppressed Demand scenario when establishing a baseline. In such cases, the application of Suppressed Demand baseline is limited to Small Scale and Microscale Projects. Where a Suppressed Demand baseline is applied, it is not possible to 'stack' Gold Standard Certified Impact</p>	<p>The concept of suppressed demand has not been used in establishing the baseline.</p>	<p>The concept of suppressed demand has not been used while establishing the baseline, the assessment team has confirmed through the remote inview with CME and via document review.</p>

Statements or Products as the definition of the baseline may be contradictory.		
<p>3.1.4          Legal ownership:</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>Legal ownership:</p> <p>(a) End user sales agreement with a clear description of the ownership of the Products that are generated under Gold Standard Certification.</p> <p>(b) Transfer and ownership of the Product was discussed during the local stakeholder meeting.</p>	<p>It is noted that distribution of the ICS has started under the PoA/VPA. The assessment team has checked the sales agreement/07/ and confirm that the ownership of the GS VERs would be with the CME.</p> <p>It was also confirmed from the stakeholders interview that the transfer of Product ownership was discussed during local stakeholder consultations.</p>

The assessment team has identified some changes in the programme of activities during the design certification and summarized in the below table:

Sr.No-	Changes identified	Description	Validation assessment
1	Exclusion of water filtration technologies	As per description as provided in the initial version of PoA, the programme involves the dissemination of cookstoves and water filtration technologies, however later the PP/CME has decided not to distribute the water purifiers under the PoA.	The CME has planned to set up manufacturing unit for water purifiers but due to the COVID-19 pandemic situations it was not possible to execute the same, hence the CME has decided not to include the technology in the PoA.  The assessment team has interviewed the CME representatives during the remote audit and confirm the

			<p>reason for the change.          The assessment team has also verified the baseline survey report/08/, HH users database/11/, Design consultation report/34/, performance results of ICS/09/ and confirmed that the technology &amp; ICS considered at the time of design consultation is the same as described in the final PoA-DD/01/.</p>
2	Change in PoA/VPA title	<p>Title of the programme is changed from "Dissemination of Clean Cookstoves &amp; Water Purifiers in India by Greenway."          To          "Dissemination of Improved Cookstoves in India by Greenway"</p>	<p>Since the water purifiers were excluded from the PoA, hence the title of PoA is changed accordingly.</p>
3	Methodology change	<p>The methodology (Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption Version 3.1(TPDDTEC) was initially applied, however in the final version of PoA the CME has applied the methodology AMS II.G "Energy efficiency measures in thermal applications of non-renewable biomass" V 12.0</p>	<p>As the water purifiers dissemination is not considered under PoA and as per the applicability conditions of methodology TPDDTEC, the Kitchen Performance Test (KPT) is mandatory, and it was not possible to conduct the same due to the prevailing lockdown and inter-state travel restrictions in India.          Hence the CME has changed the applicable methodology as AMS II.G V.12.</p>

Applus+ Certification confirms that:

- 1) The proposed PoA is a voluntary action by the CME.
- 2) The first VPA, part of the PoA-DD/02/ (hereinafter referred to as VPA- DD) has been prepared for the ICS dissemination with UNFCCC methodology /03/ and thereof, the technology is stated in the first VPA-DD/02/ in accordance with the relevant requirements in the "CDM project standard for programmes of activities"/05/.
- 3) Since, the ICS consumes less fuel because of better thermal efficiency, it cuts fuel expenditure, provide access to new clean technology and produces less smoke (less indoor air pollution), and thus, the PoA has social, economic and environmental benefits and contributes to sustainable development of host country.

The description in the PoA DD/01/ includes all information in line with the guidelines provided under paragraph 32-35 of PS for PoA version 2.0, and The Gold Standard For The Global

Goals Programmes of Activities Requirements ver 1.2 Published October 2019 /18/. Hence, it can be concluded that the description of the PoA in PoA-DD/01/ is accurate and complete.

### **Management system:**

The coordinating/managing entity has established the operational and management system for the implementation of the proposed GS PoA in line with PS for PoA version 2.0, para 36 and 37/05/.

The CME of the PoA is Greenway Grameen Infra Private Limited. The CME will either implement the CPA itself or may contract a VPA implementer for implementation of VPA.

### **Roles and responsibilities:**

The CME will either implement the VPA itself or may contract a VPA implementer for implementation of CPA. The Greenway members were interviewed during the remote audit to confirm the roles that would be assigned to the VPA implementer.

Records of arrangements for training and capacity development for personnel:

The manufacturing team, testing teams working operation labs, monitoring teams are trained directly by the CME. CME representatives were interviewed during the remote audit to corroborate these roles. The trainings will be conducted regularly and records for the same will be maintained.

### **A procedure for technical review of inclusion of VPAs:**

The internal technical review of the inclusion of VPAs would be done by the CME. CME representatives interviewed during the remote audit ascertained that the Carbon Asset Manager will conduct technical review and submit the reports to the CME Managing Director for approval. Appropriate measures are incorporated in the process to ensure independence of the review process.

### **A procedure to avoid double counting:**

To avoid double counting of ICS, all ICS under the PoA will bear the unique serial number. Unique serial number and user location details will identify the project devices individually and will separate it from other programs, if any in the present or in the future. The unique serial number can be verified with the product database.

Records and documentation control process for each CPA under the PoA:

Records and documentation of each VPA will be archived for two years after the end of the final crediting period or the last issuance of CERs, whichever occurs later.

Applus+ Certification confirms that the management system described in the PoA DD/01/ is in accordance with the CDM PS for PoA version 2.0, para 36/05/, and the coordinating/managing entity has the competencies to check the features of potential VPAs and ensure that each VPA meets all requirements and eligibility criteria for inclusion of VPAs in the proposed GS PoA before its inclusion as per 37of PS for PoA version 2.0/5/.

### **Conclusion:**

The review of the PoA-DD & VPA-DD, supporting documentation and subsequent follow up actions have provided Applus+ Certification with sufficient evidence to determine the fulfilment of stated criteria. Applus+ Certification is of the opinion that the PoA "Dissemination of Improved Cookstoves in India by Greenway" as described in the final PoA DD meets all relevant requirements of GS4GG and has correctly applied the methodology AMS.II.G version 12. Therefore, the project is recommended for request for registration.

## **1.1 Objective**

The purpose of a validation is to have an independent third-party assessment of the GS4GG PoA-DD and compliance with the GS requirements as described in the Gold Standard documentation and supporting documents by the CME. Validation is part of the GS VER project

cycle and will finally result in a conclusion by Applus+ Certification whether a programme of activity is valid and should be submitted for registration of a proposed project activity rests at the GS and the Parties involved.

## 1.2 Scope

The scope of the services provided by the LGAI Technological Center, S.A. (hereafter referred to as Applus+ Certification) for the PoA is to perform validation of Programme of Activity and the VPA. The scope of validation is to assess the claims and assumptions made in the PoA-DD against the GS4GG criteria, UNFCCC criteria, including but not limited to, CDM PS, CDM VVS, applied methodology and other relevant rules and requirements established for the GS project activities.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

The validation process is undertaken by a competent validation team and involves the following:

- (i) The desk review of documents and evidence submitted by the project participant in context of GS for GG criteria along with CDM rules and guidelines issued by CDM EB,
- (ii) Undertaking/conducting remote site visit, interview, or interactions with the representative of the project participant, reporting audit findings with respect to clarifications and non-conformities and the closure of the findings, as appropriate and
- (iii) Preparing a draft validation opinion based on the auditing findings and conclusions.
- (iv) Technical review of the draft validation opinion along with other documents as appropriate by an independent competent technical review team finalization of the validation opinion (this report)
- (v) An independent technical review team reviews the validation report made by the validation team. After the final report is accepted by the technical reviewer it is then approved by Applus+ Certification which is processed further according to the GS and CDM procedures.

The GS overview documents which is referred as DVR is as below:

Validation Checklist Table 3: Resolution of Audit Findings			
<b>Type:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> CAR	<input type="checkbox"/> CL/CR	<input type="checkbox"/> FAR
<b>Number:</b>			
<b>Raised by:</b>		<b>Ref. to checklist in table 1&amp;2:</b>	
<b>Description of the audit finding</b>			<b>Date:</b>
The description of the audit finding should be clearly included here.			
<b>Project Participant's response</b>			<b>Date:</b>

The responses given by the project participants during the communications with the validation team should be included here.

**Documentation provided as evidence by Project Participant**

The evidences provided by the project participants should be included here.

**Auditor's assessment comment**

**Date:**

This section should include how the audit finding is assessed by the assessment team.

The Complete List of CAR/CL/FAR is included as Appendix 1 of this report

## 2.1 Appointment of the assessment team

According to the sectoral scope / technical area and experience in the sectoral or national business environment, LGAI Technological Center, S.A. (Applus+ Certification) has composed a project assessment team in accordance with the appointment rules in the internal Quality Management System of LGAI Technological Center, S.A. (Applus+ Certification).

The composition of audit team shall be approved by the LGAI Technological Center, S.A. (Applus+ Certification) ensuring that the required skills are covered by the team.

The four qualification levels for team members that are assigned by formal appointment rules are as presented below:

- Lead Auditor (LA).
- Auditor (A) / Auditor in Training (AiT).
- Technical Expert (TE).
- Technical Reviewer (TR).

The sectoral scope / technical area knowledge linked to the applied methodology/ies shall be covered by the assessment team.

Name	Role	SS Coverage	TA Coverage	Financial aspect	Host country experience
Ravi Kant Soni	Lead Auditor/Technical expert	3	3.1	NA	Y
Simon Shen	Technical Reviewer	3	3.1	NA	NA

The complete list of CVs is included as Appendix 2 of this report.

## 2.2 Document review

The validation of the Programme of Activities is performed primarily as a document review of the PoA design document version 01 dated 07/07/2020 and the final version 04, dated 14/06/2021. The cross checks between information provided in the PoA DD, VPA DD and information from sources other than those used, if available, the validation team’s sectoral or local expertise and, if necessary, independent background investigations.

The complete list of documents/evidence assessed by validation team is included under section 4 of this report.

## 2.3 Follow up Interviews

\*No site visit was conducted for this validation due to outbreak of global pandemic Covid-19 and increased risk of exposure and contraction due to travel. However, following section-4 of the GS4GG’s Rule Update- “COVID-19: INTERIM MEASURES”/20/, the assessment team opted and applied the alternative means of conducting the remote audit.

As per para 4.1.1 (b) of COVID 19 Interim Measures/20/, Validation team has used the following alternative means for its assessment and to justify that, they are sufficient for the purpose of validation of the PoA. Along with desk review, assessment team has conducted remote audit interview corresponding to the PoA as follows:

- (a) Desk review of the PoA-DD & VPA-DD (all versions) and the all applicable country legal requirement and supportive evidences have been checked by the assessment team.
- (b) Video conferencing with representatives of the CME and stakeholders in order to check the implementation, current situation, management system of the PoA, programme technology, location, training provided, start date etc.
- (c) Photographic evidences of the ICSs , Installed ICSs with Unique Serial IDs/09/, baseline survey reports /08/.
- (d) Information’s congregated during the remote audit are further verified through the PoA-DD and other supporting documents.

List of CME personnel interviewed during remote site visit on 09/04/2021:

Interviewed Personnel	Functions	Organization	Subject
Shiji Pavithran	President, Sales	Greenway Grameen Infra Pvt Ltd	PoA description, Project boundary, Technical description,
Chitra Lakhera	Impact Associate	Greenway Grameen Infra Pvt Ltd	Monitoring plan, baseline scenario, Technical description
Ankit Mathur	Co-founder & CTO	Greenway Grameen Infra Pvt Ltd	Additionality, Project boundary, Ex- ante and Ex- post parameters

			fNRB value, EIA requirement, DNA comments,  Local stakeholder consultation
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List of end-users interviewed during remote audit:

Sr.No	Name	Mobile number	Location	Key points discussed:
1	Ashwini	6363146242	Hubli	1. How long the customers are using the Product?  2. What was baseline device used by the customer?  3. Is the household still using the old device?  4. Number of meals cooked in a day  5. Are they Facing any issues with the Stove
2	Meenakshi	9880140945	Magadi	
3	Janawa S Patil	9591943471	Ramdurga	
4	Bharathi	9743555160	Vitla	
5	Akkamma	7829511204	Hirekerur	
6	Mahalakshmi	8151039087	Maddur	
7	Bhagya	9535823992	Kunigal	
8	Vijayalakshmi	9972571608	Tumkur	
9	Hemalatha	9980290820	Kunigal	
10	Ramya	6362597251	Chamarajanagara	
11	Guduma Sanadi	9902328945	Athani	

### Sampling approach:

VVB has applied acceptance sampling, and as per para 29 and 30 of the guidelines 'Sampling and Surveys for CDM project activities and program of activities /31/ 8 samples had to be selected, however the 11 samples are selected from the samples surveyed by the CME. Sampling has been conducted regarding validation of project description (PoA-DD) in accordance with the "Standard for sampling and surveys for CDM project activities and programme of activities"/25/.

### 2.4 Resolution of Clarification and Corrective Action requests

The objective of this phase of the validation was to resolve the requests for corrective actions and clarification and any other outstanding issues which needs to be clarified for Applus+ Certification positive conclusion on the PoA-DD. The Corrective Action Requests and Clarification Requests raised by Applus+ Certification were resolved during communications between the Client and Applus+ Certification to guarantee the transparency of the validation process, the concerns raised, and responses given are summarized in Appendix 1 of this report.

The Gold Standard GS4GG PoA-DD version 04 submitted on 14/06/2021 serves as the basis for the final assessment presented.

## **2.5 Internal Quality Control**

As final step of a validation the final documentation including the validation report and the protocol must undergo an internal quality control by the technical review committee. Each report must be finally approved either by the head of technical review committee or the deputy. In case one of these two persons is part of the audit team, approval can only be given by the other one.

After confirmation of the PP the validation opinion and relevant documents are submitted to the GS Registry.

## **3. PROJECT DESIGN CERTIFICATION ASSESSMENT**

### **3.1 Start date and duration of PoA**

In accordance with the para 3.1.3 of GS4GG 'Programmes of Activities Requirements' version 1.2 "The PoA start date for a Gold Standard voluntary PoA is the date when the PoA Design Consultation Report is submitted for Gold Standard Review. This event is the time of first submission of the PoA. The start date for a CDM Gold Standard PoA follows the definition of start date of a CDM PoA". The Design Consultation Report for proposed GS PoA was submitted to gold standard on 24/08/2020 and this date is considered as start date of PoA. This was confirmed through the preliminary review confirmation mail received from GS /33/.

### **3.2 Crediting period type and duration**

The duration of PoA as 20 Years 00 Months as mentioned under section D.2 of the PoA-DD and the CME has chosen renewable crediting period for the PoA. This choice is also found in-line with the GS4GG 'Programmes of Activities Requirements' version 1.2 /18/. The PoA crediting period start date is the crediting period start date of the earliest VPA included in the PoA.

Applus+ Certification confirms that the selected duration of the PoA is as per para 13.1.1 of GS4GG 'Programmes of Activities Requirements' version 1.2.

### **3.3 Scale of the project**

The CME has identified the type of PoA and it intends to design as per the latest version of the following:

- (i) Gold Standard for The Global Goals Principles & Requirements Version 1.2
- (ii) Gold Standard For The Global Goals Programmes of Activities Requirements Version 1.2
- (iii) Gold Standard for The Global Goals Community Services Activity Requirements Version 1.2
- (iv) CDM project standard for programmes of activities Version 02.0

The PoA will consist of only small-scale non-A/R VPAs.

The assessment team has verified the final PoA-DD and confirms that the PoA-DD complies with the latest forms of the guidance documents for completion of PoA-DD /01/.

In view of the discussion with CME representatives/stakeholders during remote site visit, the assessment team can confirm that the CME has correctly identified the PoA type and will include only small-scale non-A/R VPAs.

### **3.4 Environmental impacts**

This PoA involves the distribution of Improved Cook Stove (ICS). As per the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Government of India) notification dated 14/09/2006, the implementation of the PoA does not require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Hence, environmental impact analysis is not conducted for the PoA and for the VPA.

This is deemed appropriate in the context of the PoA and also in conformance to the requirements of § 44, § 45 and § 46 of CDM PS for PoAs (version 02.0) and § 51 to § 55 of CDM VVS for PoAs (version 02.0).

Applus+ Certification confirms that the programme of activity complies with the local environmental regulations of the host country.

### **3.5 Socio-economic impacts**

In accordance with Ministry of Environment and Forests (Government of India) notification dated 14/09/2006, a socio-economic impacts analysis is not required for the distribution and implementation of improved cookstoves, the substitution of non-renewable biomass. The validation team has reviewed the Ministry of Environment and Forests notification and found that the technology in question is not included. Hence socio-economic impacts analysis is not required for this PoA.

Applus+ Certification determined that the analysis of socio-economic impacts are not required to be conducted for PoA. Hence accepted at the PoA level.

### **3.6 Baseline Scenario**

The CME has applied an approved baseline and methodology AMS.II. G version 12 which is approved under CDM programme. This PoA is about the dissemination of Improved Cook Stoves (ICS) which provides access to the clean energy by providing clean cooking solution. The total energy savings per year from the cookstove is 0.012 GWh<sub>th</sub> which is well below 180 GWh<sub>th</sub> limit of small-scale project Type II. In the absence of the project the HHs were relying on the less efficient traditional cookstoves.

In line with applied methodology AMS-II.G /03/ the baseline scenario is "Use of fossil fuel to meet the similar thermal energy needs as those provided by the project devices."

The assessment team during remote site visit interview found that users are dependent on firewood to use as fuel for cooking. Therefore, baseline scenario is identified transparently for the PoA. It has been noted that PP has done a pre project survey to access the baseline scenario and quantify the amount of firewood in use prior to the project activity. The results of the report as verified by VVB confirms that users were solely using firewood prior to project.

The assessment team has reviewed the PoA-DD in line with the applied methodology and it is confirmed that the PP has correctly identified the baseline scenario.

Applus+ Certification confirms that the baseline scenario is identified as per the applied methodology. All data parameters are used correctly while estimating the baseline emissions. The baseline scenario represents the most possible scenario in absence of the proposed PoA.

### 3.7 Project Boundary

As per applied methodology, the project boundary is the physical, geographical site of the efficient devices that utilize biomass. Therefore, the project boundary covers each project ICS location. As the project ICS are spread in India, the project boundary covers all the states in India where the project ICS are installed. The project ICS installation point is verified from installation database/07/.

The project boundary is correctly identified in accordance with the methodology AMS-II.G (Version 12). All greenhouse gas emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>) occurring within the proposed project activity boundary because of the implementation of the proposed PoA have been appropriately addressed in the PoA-DD.

### 3.8 Eligibility Principles Assessment

- **Principle 1. Contribution to Climate Security & Sustainable Development**

The PoA employs the approved baseline methodology AMS.II.G version 12. The applicability condition of the methodology AMS-II.G version 12 is presented as follows:

Applicability Criteria as per methodology	Justification from PP	MoV
This methodology comprises efficiency improvements in thermal applications of non-renewable biomass. Examples of applicable technologies and measures include the introduction of high efficiency biomass fired project devices (cookstoves or ovens or dryers) to replace the existing devices and/or energy efficiency improvements in existing biomass fired cookstoves or ovens or dryers.	This project includes the dissemination of the high efficiency biomass fired cook stoves having the efficiency $\geq 20\%$ compared to traditional stoves. This project will save non-renewable biomass which otherwise would have been consumed by less efficient cooking appliances.	This project activity involves dissemination of efficient cookstoves and access to clean energy as verified from the ICS test report/09/ and the sales database/11/ provides evidence for the dissemination in the rural households. Hence this criterion is applicable for this project activity
In the case of cookstoves, the methodology is applicable to the introduction of single pot or multi pot portable or in-situ cookstoves with rated efficiency of at least 20 per cent. The	The efficiency of the disseminated biomass fired forced draft cook stoves is having the efficiency $> 20\%$ compared to traditional stoves. Also, WBT test has been conducted to determine the efficiency of the new cookstoves.	The disseminated cookstoves were found to be more efficient than the traditional stoves. The thermal efficiency as per the KIRDI test report was found to be 38%/09/.

<p>Water Boiling Test (WBT) method shall be used to test the efficiency of the cookstove to meet this eligibility requirement, following the requirements indicated in "Data / Parameter table 11" which details the options for testing and certification as well as supporting documentation (e.g. certificate issued by third party or test results) that needs to be presented to the validating DOE.</p>		
<p>The aggregate energy saving of a single project activity shall not exceed the equivalent of 60 GWh per year or 180 GWh thermal per year in fuel input.</p>	<p>The project activity will remain under the limit of small-scale project activity types (annual energy savings below 180 GWhth) during every year of the crediting period.</p>	<p>The assessment team will check the ER calculation sheet at VPA level and confirm that the annual energy savings is under 180 GWh. Thus, this criteria is applicable and acceptable for this project activity.</p>
<p>Non-renewable biomass has been in the project region since 31 December 1989, using survey methods or referring to published literature, official reports or statistics.</p>	<p>In rural India, firewood and chips is used as principal source of energy for cooking by more than three-quarters (76.3%) of households. In urban India, firewood and chips is being used as primary fuel for cooking by 17.5% households 2 . Also, over 160 million households cook with inefficient and polluting biomass and coal cookstoves 3 which is around 95% of the total solid fuel using household population in India.</p>	<p>As per the published articles:           i) Energy Sources of Indian Households for Cooking and Lighting, NSSO, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, Report 2012, it was found out that Non-renewable biomass has been in use in the project location since 31 December 1989. The source of information was found credible since it is published by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India. The report is a part of the Nation Sample Surveys which have been</p>

		<p>conducted since October 1972. The assessment team also reviewed published research, which shows that India's forest cover declined by ~1% between 1989 to 1997 /24/. Further, FAO Forestry Outlook Study /08/ states that the gap between wood demand and supply is widening supporting the non-renewability of recent (and future) biomass consumption.</p>
<p>For cases where the biomass is sourced from renewable sources, the project participants should use a corresponding Type-I methodology</p>	<p>Conventional non-renewable fuelwood would be used in the project cook stoves distributed.</p>	<p>Since the ICS distributed under the PoA will only use the non-renewable biomass, hence this criteria is not applicable.</p>
<p>The CDM-PDD or CDM-PoA-DD/CPA-DD shall explain the proposed method for distribution of project devices including the method to avoid double counting of emission reductions such as unique identifications of product and end-user locations (e.g. programme logo).</p>	<p>A unique serial numbering or identification system for the ICS disseminated under the PoA will applied per CPA.</p>	<p>UIDs provided by the PP to the HH was found to be unique for each of the HH user and could be traced from the HH user database provided by the PP/11/. UIDs were listed in the HHs user database for each of the HH user listed. No repetitive entries were observed in the HH user database.</p>
<p>The CDM-PDD or CDM-PoA-DD/CPA-DD shall also explain how the proposed procedures prevent double counting of emission reductions, for example to avoid that project stove manufacturers, wholesale providers or others claim credit for emission reductions from the project devices.</p>	<p>The specific stove numbering or identification regime will be applied for all ICS included in each specific VPA. A statement will be included in the VPA-DD that no ICS distributed under the specific VPA will be part of another single CDM/GS project activity or VPA under another PoA. Further, the default ICS purchase contract for end users.</p>	<p>The assessment has checked the contract/07/ signed between CME and end-users. One of the clauses is about the right to claim carbon credit. As per the agreement, the rights of claim of carbon credit lies with the CME only. The households concede the rights to the CME. The agreement contains the stove unique ID, date of sale, Name, and address of the enduser with GPS are recorded.</p>

Applus+ Certification confirms that.

- a) It has critically assessed each applicability condition listed in the selected methodology and the relevant information contained in the PoA-DD against these criteria.

- b) The selected methodology for the proposed GS project activity is applicable.
- c) The methodology was found to be in accordance with the applicable requirements in GS4GG requirements.

- **Principle 2: Safeguarding Principles**

The safeguarding principles assessment are done at PoA level. The VPAs included under this PoA will deploy a similar technology, i.e. improved cook stoves. The management structure of the VPAs, the target population and other stakeholders of the VPAs will be similar, hence safeguarding assessment at PoA level is accepted.

The validation opinion of the GS Safeguarding Principles Assessment is detailed in Appendix 03 of this report.

- **Principle 3: Stakeholder Inclusivity**

**Local Stakeholder Consultation:**

Since the local stakeholder consultation has been done only at PoA level, hence in line with the requirements as outlined under paragraph 6.1.7 of “GS4GG Programme Of Activity Requirements v.1.2 *“In cases where only PoA level consultations are being conducted, a physical meeting for stakeholders is required at the PoA level in parallel to the design consultation. The physical meeting shall be followed by a Stakeholder Feedback Round at PoA level. The CME shall use the PoA Design Consultation Report template for this process and shall give at least one month notice to stakeholders invited to attend the meeting”.*

The consultation process was started on 17/06/2020 and remained open for one month period as verified through the design consultation report/34/.

The stakeholder meeting was held on 18/07/2020 at the venue Greenway Grameen Infra Pvt. Ltd, 23/A, GIDC Manjusar, Savli Road, Vadodara, Gujarat. The stakeholders were invited via local newspaper advertisement, notice in public places and personal invitations and the relevant documents are submitted to the validation team. The same also confirmed from stakeholders during the remote site visit. All the steps found performed as per the guideline.

The assessment team has verified the list of invitees/21/ and attendance list/21/ and confirmed that relevant stakeholder was part of the local stakeholder meeting. The CME has submitted the LSC report that includes the photographs of the physical meeting/35/.

The assessment team has verified the minutes of meeting, stakeholders feedback forms and it is observed that no negative comment or grievance found recorded during the stakeholder meeting. Furthermore, the assessment has interviewed the local stakeholders during remote site visit that no negative comments from stakeholders received.

It is to be noted that the LSC has been conducted at PoA level only, since the PoA is located in India only and technology and its impacts will be similar in the entire PoA, hence the stakeholder consultation at PoA level is found to be appropriate and acceptable.

**Stakeholder Feedback Round (SFR):**

As per the GS guidelines, PoA-level Stakeholder Feedback Round (SFR) was conducted online by seeking public consultation on the project, via greenway website - <https://www.greenwayappliances.com>, where project documents were made available from 26/11/2020 to 27/01/2021 (2-month period). The stakeholders who were invited in the first consultation were also invited through email to share their feedback in the SFR. The validation team verified the availability of the consultation notice from 26/11/2020 till 27/01/2021 on the company website of Greenway by using the internet archiving website – [www.waybackmachine.com](http://www.waybackmachine.com).

To further strengthen the stakeholder engagement during project implementation, an additional physical consultation for local stakeholder from Karnataka was conducted on 07/12/2020 in Kolar and on 11/01/2021 in Tumkur district in Karnataka state, respectively. All the stakeholders have been invited through public notice to attend the stakeholders meeting while the GS, locals NGO, other local NGOs, Research organizations/institutes, government departments were informed via personal invitation letter and phone/22/.

The local stakeholders meeting was attended by local persons including local villagers, local vendors, and technology suppliers.

The stakeholders identified by the project participant were local villagers who are the major population of the particular area, local communities and gram panchayat (Village head), , CME representatives. Validation team verified the list of participants who attended the stakeholder meeting and feedback form and confirms the stakeholders identified are relevant. The validation team also verified the minutes of meeting to note that no negative comments were received and the same was cross checked with the information obtained during follow up interviews with the stakeholders during remote site visit. The assessment team has verified the stakeholder meeting records and confirmed that all the stakeholders invited during the first stakeholder consultation were also invited for further comments during the stakeholder feedback round. Thus, validation team is of the opinion that the stakeholder meeting was adequate and appropriate. The assessment of SFR is carried out below:

- i. Different representative of stakeholders like local villagers, head of panchayats, NGOs, project employees were invited for stakeholders feedback round /22/
- ii. The people were invited by using different mode like telephone, public notice and personnel invitations /22/.
- iii. The personnel invitation letter was also sent to representative of local panchayat and NGOs /22/.
- iv. The meeting was organized at site office in Kolar and Tumkur district where greenway cookstoves have been distributed and the local was considered convenient and easily approachable to all.
- v. The queries raised by stakeholders has been addressed properly and recorded in the evaluation forms /22/
- vi. The minutes of the meeting which includes the list of participants and topic discussed has been made and recorded/22/.
- vii. The meeting was facilitated by Mr. Kumar (Greenway Group) and Ms. Latha (NGO –SKDRDP) in Kolar and by Mr. Ganesh in Tumkur /22/.

- viii. No negative comments were received, and stakeholders were very satisfied with the PoA implementation and operation in their area.
- ix. For any cases of public grievance, the grievance register will be placed at site office.

The assessment team is in opinion after witnessing the consultation process and document review and interaction with the local stakeholders during remote site visit that SFR has been conducted in line with GS guidelines and a grievance/input mechanism is established. No negative comments were received during the stakeholder feedback round. It is concluded that the stakeholder consultation carried out adequately.

Applus+ Certification confirms that LSC and SFR were conducted in accordance with the Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements Version 1.2 and Programme of Activity Requirements Version 1.2.

- **Principle 4: Demonstration of real outcomes**

The sustainable development co-benefits are reported in PoA-DD. Further, it is also confirmed that PP/CME will monitor the sustainable development co-benefits of the following SDG's indicators:

- **SDG 3- Good Health and Well Being**

As the PoA will deploy the efficient cookstoves by replacing the traditional cookstoves. Thereby, reducing the indoor air pollution and emissions.

- **SDG 5- Gender Equality**

The project will employ local women and distribute stoves to vulnerable communities. The project does not reduce or put at risk women's access to or control of resources, entitlements, and benefits. On the contrary, the project will have many benefits for women.

- **SDG 7- Affordable and clean energy:**

As the project involves access to the affordable energy to the rural households, it ensures replacement of fossil fuel based cookstoves with an efficient biomass based cookstove. The project is designed to provide cleaner, safer, more affordable, and more efficient cooking equipment than traditional stoves to poor household by means of carbon finance. The indicator to monitor the access to affordable and clean energy is the increase in number of households using clean cooking devices such as Improved Cook Stoves

- **SDG 13- Climate action:**

The efficient cookstoves will use less fuelwood for the cooking task and thus reduce GHG emissions compared to the traditional way of cooking. The indicator to monitor the target is the amount of the reduced GHG emissions annually through the project as contribution to a lower greenhouse gas emission development path of India it will contribute to the reduction of the emission of GHG.

The PP has mentioned the contribution of the project towards these SDG's clearly in the PoA-DD. Applus+ Certification confirms the technology which is implemented reflects

the good practice in the host country also contributing to sustainable development of the host country.

**Eligibility criteria for inclusion of VPAs:**

No.	Eligibility criterion - Category/Required condition	Means of validation	Conclusion
1.	<u>Location of Project/ Geographic Boundary</u>  The cookstove under the VPA must operate within the geographical boundary of the PoA i.e. in India	Sales database listing all the installed cookstoves will be checked by the validation/verification team to confirm that the ICS are installed within India.	The eligibility criterion for inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the proposed GS PoA are defined in accordance with the project standard for PoA, para 124(a)/05/. The criterion is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.
2.	<u>Double Counting</u>  The emission reductions claimed by the VPA should be unique and not counted more than once	Each cookstove has a unique ID number which avoids double counting of the same ICSs. The unique id shall be checked by the team involved in inclusion of VPA.	The eligibility criterion for inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the proposed GS PoA are defined in accordance with the project standard for PoA, para 124(b)/05/. The criterion is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.
3.	<u>Avoiding Double Counting of Programme Activities</u>  CME shall check GS and UNFCCC's project database and ensure that VPAs are neither registered as CDM/GS project activities, included in another registered PoAs, nor the project activities	Declaration from CME that VPA is neither registered as GS or CDM project activities, included in another registered PoAs, nor the project activities that have been deregistered.	The eligibility criterion for inclusion of corresponding CPAs in the proposed GS PoA are defined in accordance with the project standard for PoA, para 124(c)/05/.

No.	Eligibility criterion - Category/Required condition	Means of validation	Conclusion
	that have been deregistered		
4.	<u>Target Group and Distribution Mechanism</u>  Target Group: Households  Distribution Mechanism: Via local partners	It was confirmed through interview (remotely) of the CME representatives and some households that the target group is households and distribution is done by local partners. The same will be followed by each VPA to be included under this PoA.	The eligibility criterion for inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the proposed GS PoA are defined in accordance with the project standard for PoA, para 124(k)/05/
5.	Technology output  The specifications of technology/measure including the level and type of service, performance specifications including compliance with testing/certifications	Technical description of the cookstoves shall be shared with the DoE involved in inclusion to confirm that the annual energy savings of each ICS should be less than 600 MWh and thermal power should be less than 150 kW. VPAs will provide information on material and dimensions of stoves, based on manufacturer's specification and/ or third-party report	The eligibility criterion for inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the proposed GS PoA are defined in accordance with the project standard for PoA, para 124(d)/05/.  The criterion is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.
6.	Start date of VPA	Start date of VPA shall be the date on which first ICS was distributed. The start date of any proposed VPA will be on or after the start date of the proposed PoA	Start date of VPA shall be verified through the sales agreement with end users.
7.	<u>Applicability of the methodologies</u>  Conditions to ensure the compliance with other requirements of the applied	The VPA shall meet all the applicability criteria of AMS II.G version 12. The detailed assessment of which has been given under section D.2.3.1 of this report. The VPA to be	The eligibility criterion for inclusion of corresponding CPAs in the proposed GS PoA are defined in accordance with the project standard for PoA, para

No.	Eligibility criterion - Category/Required condition	Means of validation	Conclusion
	methodologies, the applied standardized baselines and the other applied methodological regulatory documents;	included will also be checked for the same	124(f)/05/.
8.	<p><u>Additionality</u></p> <p>Technology distributed under the VPA must meet the following criteria:            (a) Positive list (Annex B. 1.1.3).</p> <p>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 <math>\leq 600</math> MWh of energy savings per year or</p> <p><math>\leq 600</math> tonnes of emission reductions per year.</p>	<p>Additionality has been demonstrated at PoA level. The ICS distributed under the VPA are isolated units where the users of the technology are households and where each unit results in <math>\leq 600</math> MWh of energy savings per year. ER calculation sheet to determine annual energy savings.</p>	<p>The eligibility criterion for inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the proposed GS PoA are defined in accordance with the project standard for PoA, para 124(g)/05/.</p>
9.	<p><u>Public Funding (Non-Diversion of ODA)</u></p> <p>Affirmation that funding from Annex I Parties, if any, does not result in a diversion of official development assistance</p>	<p>CME will provide a declaration to confirm that the VPA has receive no ODA.</p>	<p>The eligibility criterion for inclusion of corresponding CPAs in the proposed GS PoA are defined in accordance with the project standard for PoA, para 124(j)/05/.</p>
10.	Sampling plan	VPAs under the program will adhere to all requirements	Simple random sampling shall be conducted based

No.	Eligibility criterion - Category/Required condition	Means of validation	Conclusion
		as mentioned in Standard: Sampling and surveys for CDM project activities and programme of activities	on the age group of all the cookstoves distributed under VPAs at the time of verification.
11.	<p>Scale of the Activity</p> <p>Each VPA in aggregate meets the small-scale threshold criteria and remains within those thresholds throughout the crediting period of the VPA</p>	The aggregate annual energy savings of each VPA shall not exceed 180 GWh.	<p>The eligibility criterion for inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the proposed GS PoA are defined in accordance with the project standard for PoA, para 124(m)/05/.</p> <p>The criterion is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.</p>
12.	SDG outcome assessment	VPA under the PoA shall demonstrate positive impacts on the SDGs as defined under section A.3 of the PoA-DD.	SDG contribution with explanation shall be provided in section B.6 of the VPA- DD.
13.	<p>Carbon Emission Reduction Rights</p> <p>End users of technology will cede their rights to claim and own carbon emission reductions to the CME</p>	A default sales agreement for end users including the provision that emission reductions achieved by the project technology are owned by the CME	<p>This is an additional eligibility criterion added to ensure ERs ownership by the CME.</p> <p>The criterion is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.</p>
14.	Safeguarding principles	<p>Safeguarding principles assessment is done at PoA level.</p> <p>VPA- DD section D will contain description regarding compliance to Safeguarding</p>	The criterion is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.

No.	Eligibility criterion - Category/Required condition	Means of validation	Conclusion
		Principles.	

**Monitoring plan:**

Not applicable at PoA level. It is defined at VPA level.

- **Principle 5: Financial Additionality & Ongoing Financial Need**

The additionality of PoA has been determined as per para 4.1.1 of the GS4GG Programme of Activity Requirements (Version 1.2), as per the guidance as outlined under para 4.1 "The additionality shall be demonstrated at both the PoA and VPA/CPA level, where required, in line with the Principles & Requirements or relevant Activity Requirements. The CME may seek exception by providing convincing justifications validated by Validation/Verification Body (VVB) and approved by Gold Standard as to why demonstration of programme level additionality is appropriate for proposed PoA."

The additionality has been demonstrated at PoA and VPA level, this approach is found to be in line with the para 4.1.1 of the GS4GG Programme of Activity Requirements (Version 1.2), hence accepted.

As per point 4.1.9 of the GS4GG Community Services Activity Requirements Version 1.2 /17/, "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

The assessment team has verified the thermal efficiency certificate/09/ of ICS model included under VPA01 & also the corresponding ER calculation sheet, and it is confirmed that the annual energy savings of the ICS to be included under the PoA will always be less than 600 MWh<sub>th</sub>. Hence it can be concluded that, ICS to be included under the PoA qualifies the criterion mentioned under the clause 1.1.3 of the 'Annex B- Positive List' of GS4GG Community Services Activity Requirements Version 1.2 /17/; Therefore, PoA is deemed additional.

Applus+ Certification confirms that the PoA is additional and in compliance with the GS4GG Principle & Requirements, Programme of Activity Requirements and Community Services Activity Requirements /17/.

### **3.9 Calculation algorithm and/or formula used to determine emission reductions**

Estimation of emission reductions or net anthropogenic removals are not applicable at PoA level. It is defined at VPA level.

#### 4. REFERENCE

No	Author	Title	References to the document	Provider
1	CME	Project Design Document ( PoA-DD)	Version 01, dated 07/07/2020	CME
		Project Design Document ( PoA-DD)	Version 02, dated 09/02/2021	
		Project Design Document ( PoA-DD)	Version 03, dated 20/05/2021	
		Project Design Document ( PoA-DD)	Version 04, dated 14/06/2021	
2	CME	VPA-DD	Version 02, dated 09/02/2021	CME
		VPA-DD	Version 03, dated 20/05/2021	
		VPA-DD	Version 04, dated 14/06/2021	
		VPA-DD	Version 05, dated 05/07/2021	
		VPA-DD	Version 06, dated 15/07/2021	
3	UNFCCC	Small-scale Methodology AMS-II.G 'Energy efficiency measures in thermal applications of non-renewable biomass'	Version 12	Others
4	UNFCCC	PCP for PoA	Version 2.0	Other
5	UNFCCC	PS for PoA	Version 2.0	Other
6	UNFCCC	VVS for PoA	Version 2.0	Other
7	CME	Sample copies of end user agreement between EPC and end user	-	CME
8	SKDRDP	Baseline survey report	September 2020	CME
9	KIRDI	Result of performance test of ICS (Greenway Jumbo Stove)	Dated 21/10/2020	CME
10	CME	Declaration of ICS life	Dated 28/11/2019	CME
11	CME	Project ICS installation database	-	CME
12	CME	Date of first submission to GS for preliminary review-GS 10818	Dated 24/08/2020	CME
13	CME	ODA declaration for the project activity	Dated 01/04/2020	CME

14	UNFCCC	Methodological tool: Calculation of the fraction of non-renewable biomass	Version 01.0, EB 97, Annex 9	Others
15	GS registry	GS4GG Principles & Requirements	Version 1.2	Others
16	GS registry	GS4GG Stakeholder Consultation And Engagement Guidelines	Version 1.2	Others
17	GS registry	GS4GG Community Services Activity-Requirements	Version 1.2	Others
18	GS registry	GS4GG Programme Of Activity Requirements	Version 1.2	Others
19	GS registry	GS4GG Safeguarding Principles & Requirements	Version 1.2	Others
20	GS registry	COVID 19: Interim Measures	Dated 17/05/2021	Others
21	CME	<b>Local stakeholder consultation:</b>  Minutes of local stake holder consultation process  Advertisement in local news paper  Mail invitation to stakeholders  Attendance sheet of LSC  LSC evaluation forms	Dated 18/07/2020  Dated 18/06/2020  Dated 17 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> and 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2020  Dated 18/07/2020  Dated 18/07/2020	CME
22	CME	<b>Stakeholder Feedback Round (SFR):</b>  The email sent to local NGOs and International NGOs  MoM Stakeholder Feedback Round	Dated 02/12/2020  Dated 07/12/2020 & 11/01/2021	
23	UNFCCC	Tool 30: Calculation of the fraction of non-renewable biomass"	Version 03	-
24	Government of India	FSI,2011 report	2011	Others
25	UNFCCC	Standard: Sampling and surveys for CDM project activities and programmes of activities	Version 9.0	Others
26	CME	Declaration from CME that VPA is neither registered as GS or CDM project activities, included in another registered PoAs, nor the project activities that have been deregistered	Dated 01/06/2021	CME
27	CME	Declaration that no evidence of insolvency or legal/criminal notices placed against it or any of its Directors	Dated 01/06/2021	CME

28	GOI	Ministry of Labor and Employment <a href="https://labour.gov.in/">https://labour.gov.in/</a>	-	Others
29	GOI	National Prevention of Corruption Act of Government of India <a href="http://legislative.gov.in/sites/default/files/A1988-49.pdf">http://legislative.gov.in/sites/default/files/A1988-49.pdf</a>	-	Others
30	United Nation	Universal declaration of Human Rights <a href="https://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/">https://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/</a>	-	Other
31	UNFCCC	Guidelines: Sampling and surveys for CDM project activities and programmes of activities	Version 04	Others
32	GOI	Certificate of Incorporation Greenway Grameen Infra Pvt Ltd	Dated 02/12/2010	Others
33	CME	Email regarding first submission of PoA to GS for Preliminary review	Dated 24/08/2020	CME
34	CME	Design Consultation report	-	CME
35	CME	Local Stakeholder Consultation report	-	CME

## **5. FINAL PROJECT DESIGN CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

Applus+ Certification was contracted by Greenway Grameen Infra Pvt Ltd for validation of the PoA "Dissemination of Improved Cookstoves in India by Greenway". The validation was performed based on rules and requirements defined by UNFCCC for the CDM project activities and GS4GG rules and requirements.

The project activity involves dissemination Improve Cook Stoves (ICS) thereby promotes clean energy production and reduces CO2 emissions that are real, measurable, and mainly helps in mitigating climate change. It is demonstrated that the baseline scenario is equal to current practice and the emission reductions attributable to the project are, hence, additional to any that would occur in the absence of the proposed PoA.

The project correctly applies baseline and methodology A.M.S.-II.G. Version 12 and is assessed against latest valid GS4GG requirements.

Applus+ Certification applied the following validation process and methodology using a competent validation team;

- The desk review of documents and evidence submitted by the CME in context of the reference GS and CDM rules and guidelines issued by CDM EB and GS secretariat,
- Undertaking/conducting remote site visit, interview, or interactions with the representative of the project CME,
- Reporting audit findings with respect to clarifications and non-conformities and the closure of the findings, as appropriate and
- Preparing a draft validation opinion based on the auditing findings and conclusions.

The review of the PoA-DD, supporting documentation and subsequent follow-up actions (remote interviews) have provided sufficient evidence to determine the fulfilment of stated

criteria. The proposed PoA is meeting all the requirements of the GS4GG standards, Project Standard for PoA version 2.0 and VVS for PoA version 2.0.

**Date:** 28/07/2021


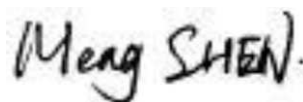
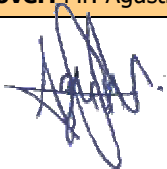
**Lead Auditor:** Ravi Kant Soni

**Tech. Expert:** Ravi Kant Soni

**Tech. Reviewer:** Simon Shen

**Approver** (*Applus+ Certification VVB Technical Manager*)

Mr. Agustín Calle de Miguel

ASSESSMENT TEAM	
<b>Lead Auditor:</b> Ravi Kant Soni	<b>Technical Reviewer:</b> Simon Shen
Signature: 	Signature: 
<b>Approver:</b> Mr. Agustín Calle de Miguel	
Signature: 	

**Appendix 1: Corrective Action Request/Clarification Request/Forward Action Request resolution table**

Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> CAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CL/CR	<input type="checkbox"/> FAR	Number:	01
Raised by:				Ref. to checklist in above tables:	3.1
Description of the audit finding				Date:	31/03/2021
<p>GS ID and start date of PoA is not mentioned in the revised PoA-DD.          The number of SDGs to be monitored as mentioned in the PoA-DD is not consistent with the VPA-DD.</p>					
Project Participant's response				Date:	21/05/2021
<p>The start date of PoA and GS ID has been mentioned as 01 April 2020 which is the start date of distribution of ICS under VPA1.          The SDGs has been synchronized in PoA-DD and VPA-DD.</p>					
Documentation provided as evidence by Project Participant					
Revised PoA-DD V 03					
Auditor's assessment comment				Date:	30/05/2021
<p>The GS ID and start date of PoA is mentioned in revised PoA-DD, found to be in accordance with the GS guidelines.          Number of SDGs to be monitored are updated in the PoA-DD and found to be consistent with VPA-DD.          CL #1 is closed</p>					

Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> CAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CL/CR	<input type="checkbox"/> FAR	Number:	02
Raised by:				Ref. to checklist in above tables:	3.8
Description of the audit finding				Date:	31/03/2021
As per the revised PoA section B.2, methodology AMS-II. G is applied for the PoA, however the initial version of POA and Design Consultation Review form mentions the applicable methodology as Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption Version 3.1. CME is requested to clarify the reason for this change.					
Project Participant's response				Date:	21/05/2021
The methodology has been changed to the AMS.II.G in all the documents. Initially CME decided to include ICS and water filtration technologies in the PoA and hence applied the GS TPDDTEC methodology, but later CME could not secure the supply of the water filters and hence CME had to exclude water filtration technology from the PoA. The methodology focusing only cookstove projects has been applied. CME did not find any requirements or restrictions to change the methodology during the design review.					
Documentation provided as evidence by Project Participant					
Revised PoA-DD V 03					
Auditor's assessment comment				Date:	30/05/2021
Initially the CME has applied the methodology TPDDTEC v 3.1, however later the CME has decided to exclude the water filtration technology from the PoA and due to COVID-19 pandemic it was not possible to conduct KPT, hence methodology is updated as AMS II.G V12. The CME has notified the GS registry about the changes in the PoA and the project web page is updated to reflect the changes ( <a href="https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/2775">https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/2775</a> ). It is observed that the VPA inclusion criteria is not described in the PoA in line with the instructions to fill PoA-DD form. Open					
Project Participant's response				Date:	15/06/2021
Inclusion criteria for VPA in the PoA are updated under section B.3 of the PoA-DD					
Documentation provided as evidence by Project Participant					
Revised PoA-DD V 04					
Auditor's assessment comment				Date:	18/06/2021
The CME has included the VPA inclusion criteria under section B.3 of the revised PoA-DD, found to be in accordance with the template instructions. CL #2 is closed.					

Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAR <input type="checkbox"/> CL/CR <input type="checkbox"/> FAR	Number:	01
Raised by:		Ref. to checklist in above tables:	3.9
Description of the audit finding		Date:	20/12/2020
<p>PP is requested to provide the following documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Declaration from the PP on the statement 'PP has declared that the proposed GS project activity is not registered with any other scheme.' under section A.4 of the PoA-DD</li> <li>b) Supportive for the technical specifications of Cookstoves and Water purifiers as mentioned in section A.4 of the PoA-DD</li> <li>c) Supportive for the stated efficiency of each model of as mentioned under section A.4 of the PoA-DD</li> <li>d) Baseline field survey report</li> </ul>			
Project Participant's response		Date:	09/02/2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Declaration form is submitted.</li> <li>b) Declaration form for the technical specification is submitted.</li> <li>c) Efficiency test report by KIRDI is submitted.</li> <li>d) Baseline survey report is submitted</li> </ul>			
Documentation provided as evidence by Project Participant			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Declaration document.docx</li> <li>b) Specification_Suraksha Plus Pro.jpg (water filter), Specification_Suraksha Plus Pro.jpg (cookstove)</li> <li>c) KIRDI Test Report.pdf</li> <li>d) Gold Standard Survey Karnataka.xlsx</li> </ul>			
Auditor's assessment comment		Date:	31/03/2021

<p>Declaration form is not submitted. Open</p> <p>Supportive for the technical specifications of each type of Cookstove as mentioned under section A.3 of the PoA is not submitted. Open</p> <p>CME has submitted the efficiency test report for Green way Jumbo Stove issued by KIRDI Stove Testing Centre, found to be satisfactory, however the similar reports for other models are not provided. Open</p> <p>CME has submitted for baseline survey records used for the baseline establishment and the survey provides critical information on demographics, user characteristics, kitchen habits, fuel use and leakage, found to be appropriate, hence accepted. Closed.</p> <p>CAR #1 is open</p>		
Project Participant's response	Date:	21/05/2021
<p>VPA Declaration Letter Submitted.</p> <p>Only Jumbo stove (JS1) is included in the VPA-01.</p> <p>There is only 1 model, Jumbo Stove, included in the VPA-0001.</p>		
Documentation provided as evidence by Project Participant		
<p>Revised VPA-DD</p> <p>Declaration for VPA</p>		
Auditor's assessment comment	Date:	30/05/2021
<p>The CME has submitted the VPA Declaration letter, found to be satisfactory.</p> <p>Technical specifications of the ICS model is submitted and found to be appropriate. It is clarified in the VPA-DD that only Jumbo stoves (JS1) are distributed under VPA-0001.</p> <p>CAR #1 is closed.</p>		

Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAR <input type="checkbox"/> CL/CR <input type="checkbox"/> FAR	Number:	02
Raised by:		Ref. to checklist in above tables:	3.6
Description of the audit finding		Date:	20/12/2020

<p>Section E.2 of PoA-DD: Assessment of safeguarding principles is not provided in line with the Table 3 of SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES &amp; REQUIREMENTS" Version 1.2.</p> <p>Under section B.4, the PP has provided measures to avoid double counting; PP is required to justify the following with supporting document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How the framework is capable of detecting situation where a household is taking part in more than one project activity</li> <li>• Uniqueness of the end users in the database, kindly justify what is the basis of identification of the system user.</li> </ul> <p>As per section 6.1.1 Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements Version 1.2 "<i>The Stakeholder Consultation shall comprise of a minimum two rounds of consultation including one mandatory physical meeting and one stakeholder feedback round lasting for at least two months</i>". Kindly clarify how this requirement is met.</p> <p>The PP is requested to explain how the requirement 4.1.3 under Stakeholder Consultation Requirement is met and submit the relevant documentary evidences.</p>		
Project Participant's response	Date:	09/02/2021
<p>Assessment of safeguarding principles is provided in line with the Table 3 of SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES &amp; REQUIREMENTS" Version 1.2.</p> <p>All the equipment's shall be distributed with a unique Identification number marked on the cookstoves and water purifier. A declaration form cum Purchase Invoice which shall include relevant clauses for carbon waiver and non-participation in other carbon offset schemes as per the requirement of Gold Standard.</p> <p>Local stakeholders' consultation was conducted on 18 July 2020 as per GS requirements and the activity is Listed.</p> <p>Stakeholders Feedback Round was conducted for the period of 2 months dated 26/11/2020 to 27/01/2021.</p>		
Documentation provided as evidence by Project Participant		
<i>LSC report enclosed.</i>		
Auditor's assessment comment	Date:	31/03/2021
<p>The CME has provided the assessment of safeguarding principles is provided in line with the Table 3 of SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES &amp; REQUIREMENTS" Version 1.2, found to be appropriate, hence accepted.</p> <p>The CME is requested to submit the relevant documentary evidence (baseline database, sample purchase invoice) to corroborate the clarification. Open</p> <p>Please clarify why information about SFR is not provided in section F.2 of the PoA, also submit the design consultation report, invitation letters/emails, MoM, attendance sheet, photographs relevant to the LSC &amp; SFR. Open</p>		
Project Participant's response	Date:	21/05/2021

The following documents are submitted along with this response as evidence:

- a) Baseline Survey Report
- b) Purchase Invoice for cookstoves (on sample basis)
- c) Proofs of ownership and legal right to emission reductions

The summary of the SFR process has been included in the PoA-DD and the VPA-DD. Detail stakeholder consultation report enclosed which include design consultation report, invitation letters/emails, MoM, attendance sheet, photographs relevant to the LSC. There was no physical meeting conducted for SFR.

Documentation provided as evidence by Project Participant

- a) Baseline Survey Report
- b) Purchase Invoice for cookstoves (on sample basis)
- c) Proofs of ownership and legal right to emission reductions

SFR evidences

Auditor's assessment comment

Date:

30/05/2021

The CME has submitted the baseline study report and sample purchase invoice, found to be satisfactory.

The CME has updated the PoA-DD /VPA-DD including the details of online SFR conducted, the information's regarding the SFR rounds are verified through the design consultation report, invitation letters/emails, provided and found to be satisfactory.

CAR #2 is closed.

Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAR <input type="checkbox"/> CL/CR <input type="checkbox"/> FAR	Number:	03
Raised by:		Ref. to checklist in above tables:	3.9
Description of the audit finding		Date:	20/12/2020

The PP is requested to demonstrate how the stated value for non-renewability fraction has been determined in accordance with the applied methodology.

The number of cookstoves as stated in the VPA-DD and in the ER calculation sheet is not consistent. Please clarify the reason.

Project Participant's response	Date:	09/02/2021
<p>The f-nrb is calculated as per the latest available data of FSI 2011.          The number has been corrected.</p>		
Documentation provided as evidence by Project Participant		
PoA-DD v 02		
Auditor's assessment comment	Date:	31/03/2021
<p>Please clarify how the fNRB has been determined as per the Tool 30 version 2.          ER calculations are performed referring the GS methodology TPDDTEC, ver 3.1, however the meth is updated in the revised PoA as AMS II.G V. 12.          CAR #3 is open</p>		
Project Participant's response	Date:	21/05/2021
<p>The calculation for state level and national level fNRB value is provided in the excel workbook - fNRB for India &amp; karntaka. National Level fNRB value is used for calculation of Emission Reductions. The fNRB calculations are based on the equations provided in CDM Tool 30. In verbatim adoption of Version 2 of the tool for calculation of fNRB may not be possible since the report was published in 2011 but the tool version was published in 2017. Hence, there are information and data gaps in the published report with respect to Version 2 of the tool.          The ER calculation sheet has been revised as methodology AMS.II.G.</p>		
Documentation provided as evidence by Project Participant		
<p>ER calculation sheet          FnrB calculation sheet</p>		
Auditor's assessment comment	Date:	30/05/2021
<p>fNRB calculation was found to be in-line with the applied methodological tool "TOOL30: Calculation of the fraction of non-renewable biomass" in the fNRB calculation sheet provided.          ER calculation sheet is updated applying the methodology AMS II.G version 12 ,found to be satisfactory.          CAR #3 is closed.</p>		

Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAR <input type="checkbox"/> CL/CR <input type="checkbox"/> FAR	Number:	04
Raised by:		Ref. to checklist in above tables:	3.8
Description of the audit finding		Date:	20/12/2020
<p>Please submit the documentary evidence to substantiate the life span of the project device. Also, it is not specified if the loss of efficiency of the project device to be accounted during the monitoring period.</p> <p>Calculation and outcome of each SDG is not provided in the ER sheet.</p>			
Project Participant's response		Date:	09/02/2021
<p>Declaration document from Company head is submitted for the cookstove.</p> <p>Loss of efficiency shall be calculated during water boiling test.</p> <p>Will be done.</p>			
Documentation provided as evidence by Project Participant			
<i>Lifespan_cookstove.pdf</i>			
Auditor's assessment comment		Date:	31/03/2021
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The CME has submitted the declaration indicating the life span of the project device and confirms that the loss of efficiency of the project device shall be calculated during the monitoring period through the WBT. Closed</li> <li>2. Explanation of methodological choices/approaches for estimating the SDG Impact is not provided in the revised PoA-DD and VPA-DD. Kindly clarify the reason. Open</li> <li>3. Description of data/parameter (fixed/monitored) is not provided in the VPA-DD. Also, no information regarding the monitoring plan &amp; sampling plan is provided in the VPA-DD. Open</li> <li>4. Continuous input / grievance mechanism is not discussed under section E.2 of the VPA-DD. Open</li> </ol> <p>CAR #4 is open</p>			
Project Participant's response		Date:	21/05/2021
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. The PoA-DD and VPA-DD has been revised accordingly.</li> <li>3. The information related to monitoring plan and sampling plan is included in the relevant sections of the design documents.</li> <li>4. The table for the continuous input mechanism has been revised.</li> </ol>			
Documentation provided as evidence by Project Participant			

Revised PoA-DD v03		
Revised VPA-DD		
Auditor's assessment comment	Date:	30/05/2021
<p>The CME has described the methodological choices/approaches for estimating the SDG Impact in the revised PoA-DD and VPA-DD, found to be appropriate.</p> <p>The CME has included the data/parameter (fixed/monitored), monitoring plan and sampling plan in the VPA-DD, found to be satisfactory.</p> <p>The continuous input / grievance mechanism is discussed under section E.2 of the VPA-DD, found to be satisfactory.</p> <p>CAR #4 is closed.</p>		

**Appendix 2: Audit Team CVs**

Name	SHORT CV. BACKGROUND INFORMATION
Ravi Kant Soni	<p>He is a certified lead auditor for Lead Auditor ISO 14001:2004 &amp; Lead Auditor ISO 14064:2006 GHG Inventory and verification. He has more than 10 years of work experience across Climate Change, Environmental Management &amp; Monitoring, Health &amp; Safety Management, and Statutory Compliance. He was involved in more than 100 CDM validation and verifications activities and Gold Standard, VER projects as a team leader/technical reviewer / validator / verifier covering the sectoral scope 1 technical area 1.2. He has done Master in Technology (Energy Management) from a premier institute, School of Energy &amp; Environmental Studies, DAVV, Indore (M.P.), India and Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical Engineering) from M.I.T.S Gwalior Jiwaji University Gwalior, India</p>
Simon Shen	<p>Mr. Simon Shen (Master's Degree in Thermal Energy Engineering, Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Engineering) is an Auditor appointed by Applus+ LGAI for the GHG project assessment, auditing and technical review. He has more than 6 years of work experience in CDM/GS4GG/VCS project assessment and review with Applus+, apart from the years of experience working as GHG Auditor and ISO 9001/14001 in TUV SUD for 3.5 years before he joined Applus+.</p> <p>Mr. Simon Shen has extensive experience also as former Applus+ Shanghai CDM Technical Manager</p>

**Appendix 3: GS Safeguarding principles and Requirements.**

Safeguarding principle	Assessment question	Assessment of relevance to the project (Yes/potentially/no)	Justification	Mitigation measure (if required)	Validation Opinion
<b>1. Social Safeguarding Principles</b>					
Principle :1 Human Rights	<p>a. The Project Proponent 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.</p> <p>b. The Project shall not discriminate with</p>	No	<p>The constitution of host country (India) considers it a legal offence to violate human rights during any business activity. India endorses the United Nations Guiding</p>	Not required	<p>The project respects human rights in all points mentioned in the Safeguarding Principles (version 1.1) of the Gold Standard for Global Goals. India has ratified all necessary conventions on human rights. Hence accepted.</p>

	regards participation to and inclusion.		<p>Principles (UNGPs) on Business and Human Rights adopted in the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in 2011. The CME complies with the legal requirements of the host country. This is not violated at any point during the project.</p> <p>The targeted segment for facilitating clean cooking under this project is the rural household of India. The economically backward and marginalized, who form most of these households, will witness enhanced opportunities for participation in this programme, as this project by scaling up will reach areas where clean cooking solutions were previously unaffordable.</p>		
Principle 2: Gender Equality & Women's Rights	Does the Project directly or indirectly lead to/contribute to adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women?	No	The project enhances women's access and entitlement of benefits. Since the women will be direct user	Not required	The project does not reduce or put at risk women's access to or control of resources, entitlements, and benefits. On the contrary, the project will have many benefits for women. This was checked and confirmed through the

	<p>e.g., Is there a possibility that the Project might:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- reduce or put at risk women's access to or control of resources, entitlements and benefits?</li> <li>- adversely affect men and women in marginalized or vulnerable communities</li> <li>- is there an inequality between men and women in terms of benefitting more from the Project's activities?</li> </ul>		<p>of the stoves, it will benefit women by reducing their exposure to the indoor air pollution thereby improving their health.</p> <p>The project will not adversely affect men and women in marginalized or vulnerable communities. Implementation of the project will contribute towards preservation of common resources in form of "firewood".</p> <p>Households' duties related to firewood collection, cooking and cleaning utensils predominantly remain with women.</p> <p>The project will enhance social participation and decision-making role of women.</p> <p>Moreover, the women are expected to develop entrepreneurial skills which will enable them economically to deal with the household problems. The potential of the project to</p>	<p>discussions with CME during remote site visit.</p>
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			empower women economically will help reduce discrimination against women rather than deepening it.		
	<p>2. The Project shall not directly or indirectly lead to/contribute to adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>b. Slavery, imprisonment, physical and mental drudgery, punishment or coercion of women and girls.</p> <p>c. Restriction of women's rights or access to resources (natural or economic).</p> <p>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.</p>	No	<p>No, the project doesn't directly or indirectly lead to/contribute to adverse impacts on gender equality. In contrast, the project will contribute to health and well-being of women. Moreover, the project will deploy adequate measures to foster social status of women.</p>	Not required	The project takes into account the abilities of women or men to participate in the decisions/designs of the project's activity. This was checked and confirmed through the discussions with CME during remote site visit.
	3. Projects shall apply the principles of non-discrimination, equal treatment, and equal pay for equal	No	The project shall embrace the spirit of the Indian Labour Regulations	Not required	Men- women have equal participation and equal pay is given for equal work. The Project design does not contribute to an increase in

	<p>work, specifically:</p> <p>a. Where appropriate for the implementation of a 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>c. Ensure that these conditions do not limit the access of women or men, as the case may be, to Project participation and benefits.</p>		<p>and ILO guidelines. The project does apply the principles of non-discrimination and equal treatment in the production, distribution and the usage of the products. The CME also ensures equal pay for equal work during any activity in the project.</p>		<p>women's workload that adds to their care responsibilities or that prevents them from engaging in other activities. This was checked and confirmed through the discussions with CME during remote site visit.</p>
	<p>4. The Project shall refer to the country's national gender strategy or equivalent national commitment to aid in assessing gender risks.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The project developer abides by the National Gender Policy of India enshrined in the Constitution of India. It has a powerful mandate for equality and rights of women. India has endorsed</p>	<p>Not required</p>	<p>CME does not involve in any form of discrimination in any kind. India also ratified relevant ILO core conventions on equality, namely Equal Remuneration Convention (Convention No 100) and Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention (Convention No 111) in 1997<sup>4</sup>.</p>

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[https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---sro-new\\_delhi/documents/publication/wcms\\_650119.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---sro-new_delhi/documents/publication/wcms_650119.pdf)

			<p>the SDG 2030 Agenda as well. The project developer recognizes and respects these commitments in the course of the project as well. There are no specific gender risks identified during the project design. However, if any assessment is required to frame gender risks associated with the project, the project participant ensures its full commitment to do so.</p>		
<p>Principle 3: Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions</p>	<p>The Project shall avoid community exposure to increased health risks and shall not adversely affect the health of the workers and the community.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Dissemination activity under the project doesn't involve any activity that triggers safety requirements. On the contrary the project is expected to alleviate existing health risks due to indoor pollution.</p>	<p>Not required</p>	<p>The project avoids community exposure to increased health risks and do not adversely affect the health of the workers and the community. The project does not expose women and girls to further risks or hazards. Women are consulted regarding the project and their comments are taking into account. This was checked and confirmed through the discussions with CME/stakeholder's during remote site visit. All employees undergo training and Safety measure for Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions and UN Agreement on Human Rights<sup>5</sup>.</p>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/AsiaRegion/Pages/INIndex.aspx>

<p>Principle 4: Cultural Heritage, Indigenous Peoples, Displacement and Resettlement</p>	<p>4.1 Sites of Cultural and Historical Heritage: Does the Project Area include sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g., knowledge, innovations, or practices)?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The project units will be simple and small in dimension. The project will not result in any change in cooking habits because of substitution of fuel. Therefore, the result of this project won't damage or remove cultural heritage, since the project is implemented in the households of families.</p>	<p>Not required</p>	<p>This was checked and confirmed through the discussions with CME/stakeholder's during remote site visit.</p>
	<p>4.2 Forced Eviction and Displacement: Does the Project require or cause the physical or economic relocation of peoples (temporary or permanent, full or partial)?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The project is a household based clean cookstove project, thus the project does not involve physical or economic relocation of peoples</p>	<p>Not required</p>	<p>This was checked and confirmed through the discussions with CME/stakeholder's during remote site visit.</p>
	<p>4.3 Land Tenure and Other Rights Does the Project require any change to land tenure arrangements and/or other rights?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The project is a household based clean cookstove project, thus the project does not require change to land tenure arrangements and/or other rights.</p>	<p>Not required</p>	<p>This was checked and confirmed through the discussions with CME/stakeholder's during remote site visit.</p>
	<p>4.4 Indigenous Peoples Are indigenous peoples present in or within the area of influence of the Project and/or is the</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The project is a household based clean cookstove project, thus the project does not</p>	<p>Not required</p>	<p>This was checked and confirmed through the discussions with CME/stakeholder's during remote site visit.</p>

	Project located on land/territory claimed by indigenous peoples?		involve any land ownership. The project will make stoves available for all people living in the project region.		
Principle 5: Corruption	Does the Project engage in, contribute to or reinforce corruption of any kind?	No	The project is not expected to involve any corrupt practices or reinforce the same.	Not required	India has ratified UN convention against Corruption in 2011 <sup>6</sup> . The Project does not engage in, contribute to or reinforce corruption of any kind. This was checked and confirmed through the discussions with CME/stakeholder's during remote site visit.
<b>Economic Safeguarding Principles</b>					
Principle 6: Economic Impacts	6.1 Labour Rights  1. The Project Developer shall ensure that there is no forced Labour and that all employment is in compliance with national Labour and occupational health and safety laws.	No	India has ratified 6 out of the 8 core ILO conventions including relating to abolition of forced Labour, equal remuneration and no discrimination between men and women in employment and occupation. Factories Act 1948 & Inter-State Migrant Workers Act 1979 ensure the basic rights of workers are met. The project developer and its partner comply with the national Labour regulations	Not Required	India has ratified ILO "C138 – Minimum Age Conventions" and "C182 – Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention" <sup>7</sup> .  Any deployment of child Labour onsite which is prohibited under relevant provision of Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation), Act 1986. This was checked and confirmed through the discussions with CME/stakeholder's during remote site visit.
	2. Workers shall be able to establish and join Labour organizations.				

<sup>6</sup> [https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg\\_no=XVIII-14&chapter=18&clang=\\_en#EndDec](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XVIII-14&chapter=18&clang=_en#EndDec)

<sup>7</sup> [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:11200:0::NO:11200:P11200\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:102691](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:11200:0::NO:11200:P11200_COUNTRY_ID:102691)

			and guidelines. All the health and safety related laws are abided by in the production and distribution process. Hence, this safeguarding principle is not triggered.		
	3. Working agreements with all individual workers shall be documented and implemented. These shall at minimum comprise: (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.	No	The working conditions of the employees and workers are in compliance with national guidelines of the host country (India). Hence, this safeguarding principle will not be triggered.	Not required	This was checked and confirmed through the discussions with CME/stakeholder's during remote site visit.
	4. Child Labour, as defined by the ILO Minimum Age Convention is not allowed. The Project Developer shall use adequate and verifiable mechanisms for age verification in recruitment procedures. Exceptions are	No	Though India has ratified ILO's Convention No.138 (Minimum Age) and No.182 (Worst forms of Child Labour Convention). India is strongly	Not required	No Child Labour is involved in the project. This was checked and confirmed through the discussions with CME/stakeholder's during remote site visit.

	children for work on their families" property as long as: (a) Their compulsory schooling (minimum of 6 schooling years) is not hindered, AND (b) The tasks they perform do not harm their physical and mental development, AND (c) The opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder shall be sought and demonstrated as being included in the Project design.		pursuing a National Child Labour Project, by expanding the application of national Policy on Child Labour, formulated in 1987 The project does not employ and is not complicit in any form of child Labour in any way. ICS are built & maintained with the help of trained staffs and not child Labour.		
	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	No	The project participants will provide appropriate equipment for assembly of the stoves as well as safety material (gloves, first aid kit). The project partners will provide and document training of workers employed in the project.	Not required	In order to enhance education of local staff and for professional purposes, Greenway is providing training about environmental stakes, climate change, and operational issues or potential improvement for all the employees. This was checked and confirmed through the discussions with CME/stakeholder's during remote site visit.
	6.2 Negative Economic Consequences:  The Projects shall consider economic impacts and demonstrate a consideration of potential risks to the local economy and how these have been taken into account in	No	No risks are foreseen for the local economy through the realization of the project, since stoves are not distributed for free but need be purchased by the users.	Not required	This was checked and confirmed through the discussions with CME/stakeholder's during remote site visit.

	Project design, implementation, operation and after the Project. Particular focus shall be given to vulnerable and marginalized social groups in targeted communities and that benefits are socially inclusive and sustainable				
<b>Environmental &amp; Ecological Safeguarding Principles</b>					
Principle 7. Climate and Energy	7.1 Emissions Will the Project increase greenhouse gas emissions over the Baseline Scenario?	No	The project does not lead to an increase in greenhouse gas emissions above the baseline emissions. The efficient cook stoves will reduce the release of CO2 emissions compared to the traditional three stone fires.	Not required	No, the PoA will not increase greenhouse gas emissions over the Baseline Scenario. The project will lead to reduction of GHG"s emissions.
	7.2 Energy Supply 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?	No	The project does not use energy from the local grid or power supply that is also being used by other users; hence it does not affect the availability and reliability of energy supply to other users.	Not required	The project use fuel resource (wood), hence the Project will not use energy from a local grid or power supply
Principle 8. Water	8.1 Impact on Natural Water Patterns/Flows  a. Will the Project affect the natural or pre-existing pattern of watercourses, ground-water and/or the watershed(s)	No	There will be no direct impact on the water body through the project.	Not required	The Project will not cause additional erosion directly or indirectly and/or water body instability or disrupt the natural pattern of erosion.

	<p>such as high seasonal flow variability, flooding potential, lack of aquatic connectivity or water scarcity?</p> <p>b. Could the Project directly or indirectly cause additional erosion and/or water body instability or disrupt the natural pattern of erosion? If 'Yes' or 'Potentially' proceed to question</p>				
	8.2 Erosion and/or Water Body Instability	No	There will be no direct impact on the water body through the project.	Not required	The project will not have any impact on the water resources in the region.
Principle 9. Environment, Ecology and Land Use	9.1 Landscape Modification and Soil	No	The project's environmental impact is positive, no negative impacts are expected.	Not required	The project involves use of improved cook stoves which does not involve any landscape modification or leads to vulnerable natural disasters. It also does not involve any manufacture, trade, release, and/ or use of hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals and/or materials. It leads to less pollution (air pollution due to firing of firewood) compared to baseline scenario as the project technology itself is saving in less firewood consumption compared to baseline scenario. Hence, the principle is safeguarded by the project activity.
	9.2 Vulnerability to Natural Disaster		The project's environmental impact is positive, no negative impacts are expected.		
	9.3 Genetic Resources		Moreover, the stove distribution activities do not include planting or other agricultural activities, producing chemicals or use of GMOs.		
	9.4 Release of Pollutants		The project is a household based clean cookstove project, thus the project does not result in the release		

			of pollutants to the environment.		
	9.5 Hazardous and Non-hazardous Waste		The project is a household based clean cookstove project, thus the project does not involve the manufacture, trade, release, and/ or use of hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals and/or materials.		
	9.6 Pesticides & Fertilizer's		The project is a household based clean cookstove project, thus the project does not involve the application of pesticides and/or fertilizers.		
	9.7 Harvesting of Forests		The project is a household based clean cookstove project, thus the project does not involve the harvesting of forests.		
	9.8 Food		The project is a household based clean cookstove project, thus the project does not modify the quantity or nutritional quality of food available such as through crop regime		

			alteration or export or economic incentives.		
	9.9 Animal Husbandry		The project is a household based clean cookstove project, thus the project does not involve animal husbandry.		
	9.10 High Conservation Value Areas and Critical Habitats		The project is a household based clean cookstove project, thus the project does not physically affect or alter largely intact or High Conservation Value (HCV) ecosystems, critical habitats, landscapes, key biodiversity areas or sites identified.		
	9.11 Endangered Species		The project is a household based clean cookstove project, thus the project does not impact areas where endangered species may be present through transboundary affects or endangered species directly.		