



**Gold Standard**<sup>®</sup>  
for the Global Goals

**TEMPLATE**

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

---

PUBLICATION DATE **14.04.2023**

VERSION **2.2**

RELATED SUPPORT

- [Programme of Activity requirements](#)
  - [TEMPLATE GUIDE Key Project Information & PoA Design Document v.2.2.1](#)
- 

This document contains the following Sections

Key Project Information

SECTION A- General description of PoA

SECTION B - Management System and Inclusion Criteria

SECTION C – Demonstration of additionality

SECTION D – Duration of PoA

SECTION E - Outcome of Stakeholder Consultations

Appendix 1 – Contact information of coordinating/managing entity and responsible person(s)/ entity(ies)

Appendix 2 - Design Changes

## KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>GS ID of Programme</b>	GS1247
<b>Title of Programme:</b>	Improved Kitchen Regimes Multi-Country PoA
<b>Type of PoA</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non – Forestry and/or Non -AGR PoA <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry and/or AGR PoA
<b>VPAs scale included in the PoA</b> <i>Note that same PoA can included VPAs of different scales. Please select all applicable.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Microscale <input type="checkbox"/> Small scale <input type="checkbox"/> Large scale
<b>Start Date of POA</b>	01/05/2013
<b>Date of Design Certification</b>	CP1 15/01/2013
<b>Start date of crediting cycle of PoA</b>	01/05/2025
<b>Version number of the PoA-DD</b>	17.3
<b>Completion date of the PoA-DD</b>	06/08/2025
<b>Coordinating/managing entity</b>	CO2balance UK Ltd.
<b>Project Participants and any communities involved</b>	Various partner organisations in target countries to be mentioned at the VPA level
<b>Host Country (ies)</b>	The People’s Republic of Burkina Faso The State of Eritrea The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia The Republic of The Gambia The Republic of Guatemala The Republic of Malawi The Republic of Mozambique The Republic of Sierra Leone The Togolese Republic The Republic of Uganda The Republic of Zambia The Republic of Zimbabwe

<b>Activity Requirements applied</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Community Services Activities</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Renewable Energy Activities</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Land Use and Forestry Activities/Risks &amp; Capacities</a> <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<b>Other Requirements applied</b>	VERs Programme of Activity Requirements and Procedures v3.0 Gender Equality Requirements & Guidelines v2.0
<b>Methodology (ies) applied and version number</b>	GS Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC) v4.0 GS Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves v3.0 GS Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply v1.0
<b>Product Requirements applied</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">GHG Emissions Reductions &amp; Sequestration</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Renewable Energy Label</a> <input type="checkbox"/> N/A

REAL CASE VPAS (ALL REAL CASE VPAS INCLUDED IN THE POA)

GS ID	Title
GS11046	GS1247 VPA 266 Burkina Faso Safe Water
GS6235	GS1247 VPA 134 Zoba Maekel Community Boreholes
GS6041	GS1247 VPA 129 Zoba Anseba Community Safe Water
GS3262	GS1247 VPA 28 Improved Kitchen Regimes: improved Stove in Zoba Anseba, Eritrea
GS5038	GS1247 VPA 65 Zoba Debub Community Boreholes

GS10735	GS1247 VPA 256 Northern Ethiopia Community Safe Water
GS5325	GS1247 VPA 89 Southern Ethiopia Efficient Cook Stoves
GS5322	GS1247 VPA 86 Southern Ethiopia Community Boreholes
GS7580	GS1247 VPA 224 The Gambia Safe Water
GS12174	GS1247 VPA 313 Guatemala Improved Cookstoves Project
GS11212	GS1247 VPA 311 Guatemala Improved Cookstoves Project
GS3560	GS1247 VPA 36 Improved Kitchen Regimes - Dowa Boreholes, Malawi
GS5329	GS1247 VPA 91 Improved Kitchen Regimes Multi-Country PoA - Dowa and Kasungu Boreholes, Malawi
GS10799	GS1247 VPA 259 Improved Kitchen Regimes Multi-Country PoA - Dowa Boreholes, Malawi
GS7135	GS1247 VPA 162 Improved Kitchen Regimes Manica Province Safe Water (Mozambique)
GS7475	GS1247 VPA 203 Sierra Leone Safe Water
GS11079	GS1247 VPA 306 Togo Safe Water
GS10725	GS1247 VPA 246 Kaliro Safe Water
GS3443	GS1247 VPA 33 Kaliro Safe Water Project (GS3443)
GS6349	GS1247 VPA 139 Lango Safe Water
GS7671	GS1247 VPA 219 Central and Western Uganda Safe Water Project
GS1359	GS1247 VPA 2 Improved Kitchen Regimes: Kole District Borehole Project, Uganda (GS1359)
GS7456	GS1247 VPA190 Zambia Eastern Province Safe Water
GS6518	GS1247 VPA 142 Manicaland Safe Water

## SECTION A. General description of PoA

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

The purpose of this PoA is to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the burning of non-renewable biomass for cooking and water treatment. The PoA will distribute

improved cookstoves and/or safe water supply and treatment technologies to households/communities. Voluntary Project Activities (VPAs) registered under the PoA will be financed by the generation and marketing of Voluntary Emission Reductions (VERs). The PoA will use the Gold Standard methodology Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption Version 4.0, GS Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply v1.0 and GS Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves v3.0 (refer to section B.2).

Biomass, principally firewood and charcoal, holds huge importance in developing countries, accounting for a significant proportion of energy consumption. Biomass is often the predominant source of energy for cooking and water boiling, especially in rural areas. Cooking and water boiling are generally carried out on thermally inefficient traditional devices and produce large amounts of smoke and indoor air pollution.

The distribution of efficient cook stoves and/or safe water supply and treatment technologies in this PoA will significantly reduce fuel consumption, resulting in an improved living environment for recipients, and reduced pressure on local forests. By reducing fuel consumption, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from combustion of non-renewable biomass will be correspondingly reduced.

The PoA is a voluntary action by CO<sub>2</sub>balance.

National carbon frameworks will be adhered to within each country. The project developer will follow national accounting procedures and ensure that VERs are not double counted. Please refer to section A.2 for the list of countries included in the programme of activities: regulations and procedures will be country-specific and detailed at project/VPA level.

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

The PoA is provisionally planned to incorporate activities within the following countries:

- The People's Republic of Burkina Faso
- The State of Eritrea

- The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- The Republic of The Gambia
- The Togolese Republic
- The Republic of Guatemala
- The Republic of Malawi
- The Republic of Mozambique
- The Republic of Sierra Leone
- The Republic of Zambia
- The Republic of Uganda
- The Republic of Zimbabwe

All VPAs included in the PoA shall be implemented within the geographical boundary of the PoA.

The PoA boundaries may expand to other countries. In this case, the Design Change requirements are followed, as per Gold Standard Requirements.

During the PoA crediting period 2 renewal, the real case VPA-DD for *GS1359 VPA 2 Improved Kitchen Regimes: Kole District Borehole Project, Uganda* shall be submitted for review. Real Case VPA-DDs will be submitted for each project during renewal of their specific crediting periods.

### **A.3. Technologies/measures**

The VPAs will employ and/or implement one of two distinct technology types: improved cookstoves (ICS); and technologies which supply safe water:

#### **Improved Cookstoves**

Improved cookstove (ICS) VPAs provide energy efficient cookstoves, fuels or other technologies to households, business, institutions or other users in the countries included in the PoA, which are currently using non-renewable biomass, fossil fuels, or other greenhouse gas emitting fuels as an energy source. The project technologies will replace inefficient baseline cooking technology, such as three stone fires. The models and details of the improved cookstoves will be set out in the VPA-DDs where this is the relevant technology. The stove design will vary by VPA as different locations, climates,

traditions and improvements in technology demand. This technology is eligible under GS4GG Community Services Activity Requirements s3.1.1(b): End-Use Energy Efficiency, and the project type, 'efficient cooking', is mentioned in the section.

An example of an ICS technology which may be included under the PoA is reported below (figures 1 and 2). This is a Chispa Jumbo and Plancha, utilised in Guatemala Improved Cookstove Project. The stove uses wood and all parts are durable, but easily replaceable should breakdowns occur. Other improved cooking technology models may also be distributed within the PoA, over the course of its crediting period. These will be described at VPA level, where required.



Figure 1 Chispa Jumbo



Figure 2 Chispa Plancha

For VPAs using Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC) methodology, if during a VPA roll out a stove with similar design and performance characteristics is introduced it can be included under the same project scenario. Improved cook stoves can be considered similar if they are based on the same fundamental combustion technology and their respective thermal efficiencies do not differ by more than +/-5%. Project technologies with significantly different performance characteristics are treated as independent project scenarios and hence

monitored and credited separately (Manufacturing and Design Specifications will be included with the relevant VPA).

ICS VPAs may contribute to the following SDGs (specific SDG contributions will be determined on a VPA level):

- **SDG 1:** End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- **SDG 3:** Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- **SDG 5:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- **SDG 7:** Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
- **SDG 8:** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- **SDG 13:** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts[b]
- **SDG 15:** Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

## Safe Water

The safe water technologies include the distribution, rehabilitation, drilling or construction of centralised and domestic water points including but not limited to boreholes, hand pumps, deep wells, protected springs, water filters and gravity flow systems, and water treatment technologies such as water filters, chlorination and solar powered desalination plants. The details of the specific technology will be provided in the VPA-DDs.

The safe water technologies will provide safe water to households and communities who collect unsafe water from unprotected sources and typically boil it with firewood as a treatment method. The safe water provided by the project technologies will remove the need to treat unsafe water by boiling. This technology is eligible under GS4GG Community Services Activity Requirements Version 1.2 Section 3.1.1(b): End use energy efficiency and 3.1.1(d): Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH). The energy requirements in the baseline scenario will be reduced by the project as households will no longer have to boil unsafe water as a treatment method. The technology chosen may vary by VPA as different locations, climates, traditions and improvements in technology demand.

The technology likely to be chosen is a zero-emission pumped borehole, with the pump similar to that shown in Figure 3 below. The project activity will involve the installation and/or repair of broken water points; or the distribution of water filters, and their maintenance over the lifetime of the project.



**Figure 3: AfriDev Hand Pump**

The pump pictured above draws water from depths of 3-45m and has a discharge rate of 16.5 litres per minute in 40 strokes. Full details of the exact technology will be included with the specific VPA-DD. The user numbers per technology will be limited by the volume of water that each water point is able to provide.

Water filter and other treatment technology projects will provide safe water treatment technologies to households in the host country currently boiling water as a purification method, or, using the concept of suppressed demand, members of the community that are not able to boil water due to the unavailability or expense of firewood. Other treatment technologies include, but are not limited to, chlorination.

These technologies are likely to treat water at the point of use. The technology chosen may vary by VPA as different locations, climates, traditions, and improvements in technology demand. The technology likely to be chosen is a household level water filter, similar to that shown in Figure 4 below.



**Figure 4: Household Ceramic Filter**

The ceramic filter shown above is made up of a clay filtering element, treated with colloidal silver which acts as a disinfectant. The filter removes odour, colour and turbidity, as well as killing bacteria and parasites from water that has come from an unsafe source. The filter is designed to meet the needs of a family of 5-6 people, with a filtering rate of 1-2.5 litres per hour.

The filter is certified and tested annually, and specifications and testing results for the exact technology will be included with the specific VPA-DD.

Safe water VPAs may contribute to the following SDGs: (specific SDG contributions will be determined on a VPA level)

- **SDG 1:** End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- **SDG 3:** Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- **SDG 4:** Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- **SDG 5:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- **SDG 6:** Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- **SDG 7:** Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
- **SDG 8:** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

- **SDG 13:** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts[b]
- **SDG 15:** Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

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

SDGs assessment is conducted at VPA level and information is provided in the VPA-DDs.

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

CO2balance UK Ltd.

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

The Programme is currently intended to be funded by private funding from Project Implementer or its partners.

There is currently no public funding for the Programme. However, Project Implementer and its partners may apply for public funding for projects under the Programme. Details of any relevant public funding sources will be included on a VPA basis.

No ODA funding shall be used within the PoA, as confirmed by signed ODA Declarations to be made at the VPA level.

## SECTION B. MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND INCLUSION CRITERIA

### B.1. Management System

#### *a. Roles and responsibilities of the entities involved in the PoA*

1. Coordinating and Managing Entity (CME) – CO2balance UK Ltd.
  - Overall operational and management responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of the PoA and it's VPAs.
  - Maintain the project database management system and record management system.
  - Responsible for Gold Standard certification process, including preparation of project documentation and addressing validation and verification audit findings.
  - Ensures that the PoA is updated and aligned as per Gold Standard requirements and regulation updates.
  
2. VPA Implementer – Project specific
  - Coordinate VPA-level project activities in accordance with the applied methodology, following guidance from CME.
  - Identify suitable project areas and/or households for inclusion in the project. This involves working with relevant stakeholders to determine appropriate locations for project implementation.
  - Engage with community leaders, NGOs and other local organisations to facilitate awareness and adoption of the project technology. The VPA implementer will lead sensitisation efforts to ensure households/recipients understand the benefits of the technology, cultural considerations are addressed, and users are trained in optimal equipment use. Sensitisation campaigns will be conducted as follows:
    - i. Improved Cookstove Projects – Provide end-user training in accordance with the applicable Impact Quantification Methodology requirements.
    - ii. Safe Water Technology Projects – Conduct hygiene awareness campaigns in alignment with the relevant Impact Quantification Methodology requirements.

- Monitor the ongoing performance of VPA technologies. This responsibility may be fulfilled by the Project Implementer directly or in collaboration with partner organisations to ensure effectiveness.

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

New VPA implementors are trained by the CME on various aspects specific to the applied methodology. These include, but are not limited to, the technical requirements, monitoring and sampling plans and management systems.

***c. Procedure for technical review of inclusion of VPAs***

The CME will lead on VPA inclusion under the PoA, ensuring that each of the eligibility criteria listed in Section B.3 are complied with. Each new project will outline how it complies with the inclusion criteria in Section B.3 within project specific VPA-DDs submitted at Validation Review.

Procedure for technical review of VPA inclusion is conducted by VVB and GS following the applicable requirements, guidelines and methodologies.

***d. Procedure to Avoid Double Counting***

The CME will maintain a database of the VPAs under this PoA and will confirm that VPAs are not registered anywhere else, each VPA will:

- State the location of the projects and provide a range of GPS coordinates and maps to define the project boundaries.
- Include unique IDs for each technology.

Information on double-counting procedures applied by the PoA is also included in Sections B.2 and B.3.

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

The CME will operate a database for monitoring and management of data of each VPA under the PoA. The database will be VPA specific and in line with the applied methodology, this will include:

- Date of sale/installation/distribution/rehabilitation
- Geographic area of sale/installation/distribution/rehabilitation
- Model/type of project technology sold/installed/distributed/rehabilitated
- Quantity of project technology sold/installed/distributed/rehabilitated
- Name and telephone number (if available), and address (and/or GPS coordinates for projects applying TPDDTEC v4.0):
  - For all bulk purchasers i.e. retailers and industrial users
  - All end users except in cases where this is justified as not feasible (such as cases of distributed sales of small items, including portable cook stoves and water filters, sold in market stalls or shops where the retailer cannot reasonably be expected to collect customers names and addresses during busy times. In such cases the number of names/telephone numbers/addresses collected will be as many as commensurate with representative sampling.
- Mode of use: domestic, commercial, other:
  - At a minimum as many as commensurate with representative sampling
  - This data will be collected and form the Project Database
- GPS coordinates for each individual CWT and CWS location (where applicable).

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

The CME will submit VPAs for review to Gold Standard throughout the accreditation cycle; this will ensure that the VPAs and consequently the PoA, are performing as per standard requirements.

**B.2. Application of methodologies**

The PoA will apply GS Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC) v4.0, GS Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves v3.0 and GS Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water

Supply (ERSDWS) v1.0. However, under the PoA’s first and second Crediting Periods TPDDTEC v.1 and v3.1 were applicable. Existing VPAs under the PoA will continue to apply the methodology used in previous project Crediting Periods until that VPA’s Crediting Period is renewed, at which point the latest version of the relevant methodology will be applied.

<b>Technology</b>	<b>Methodology</b>
Improved Cookstoves	GS Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves v3.0 (or latest version)
	GS Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC) v4.0 (or latest version)
Water Filters	GS Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply v1.0 (or latest version)
Safe Water Sources	GS Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply v1.0 (or latest version)

The PoA will apply the following methodological tools and guidelines where applicable (specific tools used are outlined at VPA level). However, under the PoA’s previous Crediting Periods, older tool versions were applicable (TOOL 30: Calculation of the fraction of nonrenewable biomass v.3.0, Sampling and surveys for CDM project activities and programmes of activities v.4.0 and v.8.0). Existing VPAs under the PoA will continue to apply the tools listed in VPA-DDs when they completed Design Certification until that VPA’s Crediting Period is renewed, at which point they will apply updated tool versions.

<b>Methodology</b>	<b>Tools and Guidelines</b>
GS Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC) v4.0	CDM TOOL 30: Calculation of the fraction of non-renewable biomass V.4.0
	Sampling and surveys for CDM project activities and programmes of activities V.9.0
	GS Cookstove Usage Rate Guidelines V.2.0

GS Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply v1.0	CDM TOOL 30: Calculation of the fraction of non-renewable biomass V.4.0
	CDM TOOL 1: Tool for the demonstration and assessment of additionality V.7.0
	Sampling and surveys for CDM project activities and programmes of activities V.9.0
GS Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves v3.0	CDM TOOL 30: Calculation of the fraction of non-renewable biomass V.4.0
	CDM TOOL 1: Tool for the demonstration and assessment of additionality V.7.0
	Sampling and surveys for CDM project activities and programmes of activities V.9.0

Additional detail will be provided in the VPA-DDs and methodological tools and guidelines are subject to change during the PoA's CP.

These methodologies are applicable to programmes or activities introducing technologies that reduce or displace greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the thermal energy consumption of households. Examples of these technologies include the introduction of improved biomass or fossil fuel cook stoves and safe water supply and treatment technologies that displace water boiling by introducing new zero emission technologies.

The following conditions in Section 2.0 'Scope, Applicability, and Entry into Force' of GS Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply v1.0 are met:

Methodology Requirement	Project
2.1.1 This methodology is applicable to project activities that introduce a new, or rehabilitate an existing, zero-emission or low-emission technology to supply safe drinking water.	The technologies can vary across the PoA boundary as it is multi-country.  Eligible technologies are set out in section A.3 and detailed in the VPA-DDs.

<p>2.1.2 Technologies include household water treatment technologies (HWT), Institutional water treatment technologies (IWT), Community level water treatment technologies (CWT) and community water supply technologies (CWS). The methodology provides two sets of calculation methods and monitoring requirements, one set that applies to the HWT and IWT types of technologies, and another set that applies to the CWT and CWS types of technologies.</p>	<p>The PoA will include different types of projects (HWT, IWT, CWS, CWT) and technologies.</p> <p>Calculations will be determined at VPA level and outlined in VPA-DDs at Design Certification of the projects.</p> <p>Calculations will be aligned with the methodology and technology applied by the project (VPA).</p>
<p>2.1.3 Under this Methodology, a project’s objectives are to reduce or avoid greenhouse gas emissions from boiling unsafe drinking water in the baseline, and to supply drinking water that is safe for consumption when it enters the project households or institutional premises. When the drinking water is treated in the household or institution (HWT or IWT), then the water supplied from the treatment technology should be safe. When the water is supplied or retrieved from a CWT or CWS directly to the premises of the household or institution, then the water entering the end-user premises should be safe.</p>	<p>The Projects under this PoA align with these objectives, and water quality testing in line with the methodology will ensure this. Testing procedures will depend on the project technology and are outlined at VPA level.</p> <p>By providing safe water, projects reduce the fuel required to boil water for purification, reducing GHG emissions.</p>
<p>2.2.1.a. Eligible household water treatment technologies (HWT), institutional water treatment technologies (IWT), and community level water treatment technologies (CWT) include bleach/chlorine, water filter (ceramic,</p>	<p>Eligible technologies are set out in section A.3 and detailed in the VPA-DDs.</p> <p>Any water treatment technologies to be included within the PoA will be either</p>

<p>sand, composite, membrane, etc.), UV disinfection, etc.</p>	<p>HWT, IWT or CWT, therefore are eligible under the applied methodology.</p> <p>The technology specifications will be detailed at VPA level and outlined in VPA-DDs at Design Certification of the project as per parameter SDWS 2 and 7.</p>
<p>2.2.1. b. Eligible community water supply technologies (CWS) include new installation of new borehole hand-pumps, borehole hand-pumps rehabilitation, solar powered drinking water pumps, etc. Water pumps powered by fossil-fuel engines are not eligible, with the exception of backup fossil-fuel engines that are used for no more than 10% of operating hours (parameter SWDS 33).</p>	<p>Eligible technologies are set out in section A.3 and detailed in the VPA-DDs.</p> <p>Any community water supply technology to be included within the PoA will be in line with the methodology requirements.</p> <p>The technology specifications will be detailed at VPA level and outlined in VPA-DDs at Design Certification of the project as per parameter SDWS 2 and 7.</p>
<p>2.2.1.c. All projects involving CWT and CWS technologies must also include ongoing maintenance and repair of the project technology.</p>	<p>All Projects include ongoing maintenance and repair programmes to ensure that safe water is provided throughout the Project.</p>
<p>2.2.1.d. Where the project involves the rehabilitation of an existing technology, the project developer shall provide evidence that the existing technology is non-operational and that there is no planned maintenance or repair for at least 3 months after the date it became non-operational (parameter SWDS 2).</p>	<p>Such Projects will provide evidence of this, most likely in the form of an official letter.</p>

<p>2.2.1.e. This methodology allows for project activities to include safe water treatment and/or supply technologies implemented for end-users in households, and/or commercial premises such as shops or institutional premises including half or full day/boarding schools, prisons, army camps &amp; refugee camps.</p>	<p>Relevant Projects will state this in the VPA-DD and apply the relevant calculations.</p>
<p>2.2.1.f. In cases where the safe water is retrieved at the CWT or CWS location, the water in its improved form shall be available within a distance of 1 km or less from the end-users, as demonstrated by satellite imaging or GPS coordinates of each CWT or CWS location. Alternatively, as a proxy, a total collection time of 30 minutes or less for a round trip, including queuing, using the travel modes of walking or pedaling may be demonstrated (parameter SDWS 1).</p>	<p>CWT and CWS Projects will record the GPS coordinates of the Project Technology and record the distances of the beneficiaries from the Technology.</p>
<p>2.2.1.g. Project technology performance level (HWT and IWT): It shall be demonstrated based on report of laboratory testing or official notification that the project technology or equipment achieves either (i) the performance target classification 3-star or 2-star level, meaning "Comprehensive Protection," as per the WHO International Scheme to Evaluate Household Water Treatment Technologies (World Health Organization, 2011) or (ii) compliance with the national standard or guideline for household drinking water treatment technology; if</p>	<p>HWT and IWT Projects will follow the WQT requirements set out in the Methodology.</p>

<p>no national guideline or standard is available, then the project technology shall comply with the WHO International Scheme requirements as per (i) (parameter SDWS 2).</p>	
<p>2.2.1.h. Project technology performance level (CWT and CWS): For each individual CWT or CWS, it shall be demonstrated at the start of each crediting period with water quality testing reports that the water directly supplied by the project water technology/source achieves both: i. microbial quality in line with either (i) national standards or guidelines for microbial quality of drinking water, or in the absence of such requirements, (ii) the guideline values for verification of microbial quality from the Guidelines for drinking-water quality (Table 7.10, WHO, 2017); and ii. compliance with (i) national standards or guidelines on priority chemical contamination and physical and aesthetic aspects, or in the absence of such requirements, (ii) international standards or guidelines on priority chemical contamination<sup>11</sup> and physical and aesthetic aspects. (parameter SWDS 3).</p>	<p>CWT and CWS Projects will follow the WQT requirements set out in the Methodology</p>
<p>2.2.1.i. The project must conduct annual water hygiene education campaigns for the end-users. (parameter SDWS 20).</p>	<p>The details of the water hygiene education campaigns for the end-users will be set out in the VPA-DD and reported for each MP.</p>
<p>2.2.1.j. A project applying this methodology may make SDG claims if relevant monitoring parameter(s) is</p>	<p>SDG claims are set out in the VPA-DDs.</p>

<p>included in the monitoring plan to demonstrate and confirm the project’s contributions to SDGs. See parameter SDWS 19.</p>	
<p>2.3.1 Project shall document the national, regional and local regulatory framework for provision of safe drinking water in the project boundary (parameter SDWS 4). The project shall not undermine or conflict with any national, sub-national and local regulations or guidance for safe drinking water supply, operation and maintenance, including any tariff requirements.</p>	<p>Adherence to the relevant regulatory frameworks are set out in the VPA-DDs.</p>
<p>2.3.2 If the expected technical life of project technology (parameter SDWS 7) is shorter than the crediting period, describe measures to ensure that end users are provided replacement systems of comparable quality at the end of the expected technical life (for example, replace with comparable or better technology, retrofit with performance guarantee, etc.). This applies both for new technology and rehabilitated.</p>	<p>Technical life of the Project Technologies are set out in the VPA-DDs. The project will ensure that the units are replaced with systems of comparable quality or retrofitted at the end of their technical life in order to continue claiming emission reductions. If no replacement or retrofitting is provided, emission reduction claims are limited to the expected technical life of the project technology.</p>
<p>2.3.3 All CWT and CWS projects must include ongoing maintenance and repair of the project technology. The PDD must describe the maintenance and repair plan, including the system for logging/documenting of technology operation and maintenance events including periods of downtime. The log of operation and maintenance shall be required during the monitoring period to</p>	<p>All Projects include ongoing maintenance and repair programmes to ensure that safe water is provided throughout the Project. Such work is recorded and reported at Verification.</p>

demonstrate project technology operation.	
---	--

The following conditions in Section 2 ‘Scope, Applicability, and entry into force’ of GS Simplified Cookstove Methodology v3.0 are met:

Methodology Requirement	Project
2.1.1 This methodology applies to the activities that introduce technologies that reduce or displace greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the thermal energy consumption of household cooking.	Eligible technologies are set out in section A.3 and detailed in the VPA-DDs.  Eligible technologies and type of use (households and/or residential, institutional, industrial, or commercial facilities) are set out in section A.3 and detailed in the VPA-DDs at Design Certification of the project.
2.1.2 Project may involve progressive distribution of technology where implementation of the technology may occur in a gradual manner and adoption can increase over the project’s crediting period	The projects under this PoA that carry out this practice will clearly document this process in their VPA-DDs and Monitoring Reports.
2.2.1 This methodology is applicable, is applicable to the project activity that reduces or displaces no more than 10,000 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq per crediting year (i.e., 365 days)	The projects under this PoA are all microscale projects. Each micro-scale VPA will not exceed the 10,000 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq per year cap.
2.2.2 The project activity that involves baseline stove change or retrofitting of existing baseline stove shall meet the following conditions; a. The primary baseline fuel used for household cooking is wood or charcoal	Projects applying the Simplified Cookstove Methodology will assess: a. baseline fuel use being replaced; and b. baseline stove use being replaced by means of a baseline survey carried out in the Project Area and

<p>(i.e., 'primary' means in case of fuel mix situation more than 90% thermal</p> <p>b. The baseline stove shall be a conventional cooking device without a grate or a chimney i.e., with no improved combustion air supply or flue gas ventilation for example three-stone stove, coal pot; and</p> <p>c. The project stove or retrofitted baseline stove must have a rated efficiency of at least 20% for wood-fired stoves and 22.5% for charcoal-fired stoves.</p>	<p>c. Project stove efficiency by means of a WBT carried out on the project stove</p> <p>Information and evidence will be provided in each VPA-DD to demonstrate compliance with the conditions</p>
<p>2.2.3 The project developer must design incentive mechanism(s), which should be effective as early as possible, for the elimination of inefficient baseline stoves that are replaced by the project stove and describe the incentive mechanism(s) in the PDD/VPA-DD at the time of validation.</p>	<p>The mechanism introduced to encourage the cessation of use of baseline technology is educating local people on the extensive health and environmental benefits of abandoning inefficient baseline technology entirely.</p> <p>Other mechanisms such as guarantees on project technology may also be implemented</p> <p>Projects will provide evidence of this and will describe these mechanisms within the PDD/VPA-DD at the time of validation.</p>
<p>2.2.4   To avoid double-counting or double claiming, the project developer must:</p> <p>a. explain the proposed method for distribution of the project stove in the PDD/VPA-DD; and,</p>	<p>a. Relevant Projects will state this in the VPA-DD. The individual households where the project technologies will be installed, and/or distributed, are within the target area, which have been clearly demarcated using administrative</p>

<p>b. clearly communicate its ownership rights and intention of claiming the emission reductions by contract or clear written assertions in the transaction paperwork to all project participants; project technology manufacturers; and retailers of the project technology or the fuel suppliers (SMEC 2); and,</p> <p>c. inform and notify the end-users that they cannot claim emission reductions from the project (SMEC 12), and</p> <p>d. exclude from the project activity, stoves included in any other voluntary market or CDM project activity/PoA and strive not to displace the cooking devices of another CDM or voluntary project/PoA (SMEC 3).</p>	<p>boundaries. The technologies counted are given a unique identification number which is stored in the project database. This ensures that the technologies are not counted in other project activities.</p> <p>b. and c. A full explanation will be given to all household stove recipients, or end users, that Project Implementer distributed the technology on the basis that the emissions reductions will be transferred to the CME/PD. Means of communication will be set out in relevant VPA-DD. The ownership of the carbon rights is claimed through the signing of a Carbon Transfer Form. An explanation of this transfer of ownership is detailed on the CTF.</p> <p>d. Carbon Transfer Forms will only be signed alongside stoves which are distributed as part of the project. Each VPA included under this PoA will not be included by any other carbon standard/registry</p>
<p>2.2.5 Adequate evidence is supplied to demonstrate that indoor air pollution (IAP) levels are not worsened compared to the baseline, and greenhouse gases emitted by the project fuel/stove combination. (SMEC 4)</p>	<p>Adherence to this requirement will be outlined at VPA level for each project.</p>
<p>2.3.1 The project shall not undermine or conflict with any national, sub-national or local regulations or guidance for</p>	<p>Projects will follow the requirements set out in the Methodology and align with any national, sub-national or local</p>

<p>thermal energy supply or fuel supply or use for household cooking. (SMEC 5).</p>	<p>regulations or guidance for thermal energy supply or fuel supply or use.</p>
<p>2.3.2 If the expected technical life of project technology (SMEC 6) is shorter than the crediting period, the project developer shall describe measures to ensure that end-users are provided replacement technology of comparable quality at the end of the technical life, by either replacing with comparable or better technology or retrofitting essential parts with a performance guarantee. If neither of the prior conditions can be demonstrated, no emission reductions can be claimed for the technology after its technical life has ended.</p>	<p>In such instances, measures will be described in the VPA-DD on how the project technology lifetime will be extended whilst ensuring performance is not reduced.</p> <p>The project will ensure that the units are replaced with systems of comparable quality or retrofitted at the end of their technical life in order to continue claiming emission reductions. If no replacement or retrofitting is provided, emission reduction claims are limited to the expected technical life of the project technology.</p>

The following conditions in Section 2.0 'Source and Applicability' of TPDDTECV4.0 are met:

<p><b>Methodology Requirements</b></p>	<p><b>Project</b></p>
<p>2.1.1 This methodology is applicable to project activities that introduce technologies and/or practices that reduce or displace greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the thermal energy consumption of households and/or residential, institutional, industrial, or commercial facilities.</p>	<p>Eligible technologies are set out in section A.3 and detailed in the VPA-DDs.</p> <p>Eligible technologies and type of use (households and/or residential, institutional, industrial, or commercial facilities) are set out in section A.3 and detailed in the VPA-DDs at Design Certification of the project.</p>
<p>2.1.2 Where there is no installation of improved devices and project claims emission reductions from improved</p>	<p>The VPAs will apply the relevant calculation methods.</p>

<p>practices only, project shall provide a detailed discussion of the chosen monitoring approach to demonstrate that quantified emission reductions result exclusively from the practices introduced by the project activity.</p>	<p>Calculations will be determined at VPA level and outlined in VPA-DDs at Design Certification of the project.</p> <p>Calculations will be aligned with the methodology and technology applied by the project (VPA).</p>
<p>2.1.3 Project may involve progressive distribution of technology where implementation of the technology may occur in a gradual manner and adoption can increase over the project’s crediting period.</p>	<p>The projects under this PoA that carry out this practice will clearly document this process in their VPA-DDs and Monitoring Reports.</p>
<p>2.2.1.a. Project shall choose a technology design that has predictable performance in that it is proven to be efficient and durable under field conditions; for cookstoves, the rated thermal efficiency shall be at least 20%</p>	<p>Eligible technologies are set out in section A.3 and detailed in the VPA-DDs. The technology specifications will be detailed at VPA level and outlined in VPA-DDs at Design Certification of the project.</p>
<p>2.2.1.b. The technology shall have continuous useful energy output of less than 150kW per unit, where “continuous useful energy output” is defined (see Parameter ICS 2).</p>	<p>Calculations will be included with each VPA-DD to demonstrate that the applicable technology has a continuous useful energy output of less than 150kW per unit.</p>
<p>2.2.1.c. The project activity is implemented by a project developer and can include additional project participants listed in Appendix 2 of the PDD template. The individual households and institutions may be represented collectively by community organizations, etc., but do not individually act as project participants.</p>	<p>Relevant projects may represent these additional project participants as a list in Appendix 2.</p>

<p>2.2.1.d. The project developer must design incentive mechanism(s), which should be effective as fast as possible, for the elimination of inefficient baseline stoves that are replaced by the project cooking devices and describe the incentive mechanism(s) in the PDD/VPA-DD at the time of validation.</p>	<p>Projects will provide evidence of this and will describe these mechanisms within the PDD/VPA-DD at the time of validation.</p>
<p>2.2.1.e. To avoid double counting or double claiming, the project developer must:</p> <p>i. clearly communicate its ownership rights and intention of claiming the emission reductions resulting from the project activity to the following parties by contract or clear written assertions in the transaction paperwork: all other project participants; project technology manufacturers; and retailers of the project technology or the renewable fuel in use.</p>	<p>The ownership of the carbon rights is claimed through the signing of a Carbon Transfer Form. An explanation of this transfer of ownership is detailed on the CTF.</p>
<p>ii. inform and notify the end users that they cannot claim emission reductions from the project.</p>	<p>The ownership of the carbon rights is claimed through the signing of a Carbon Transfer Form. An explanation of this transfer of ownership is detailed on the CTF.</p>
<p>iii. exclude from the project activity, cooking devices included in any other voluntary market or CDM project activity/PoA, and strive not to displace the cooking devices of another CDM or voluntary project/PoA.</p>	<p>Carbon Transfer Forms will only be signed alongside stoves which are distributed as part of the project. Each VPA included under this PoA will not be included by any other carbon standard/registry.</p>
<p>2.2.1.f. Project activities making use of solid fossil fuel in the project scenario or other improved fossil fuel cookstoves</p>	<p>Relevant Projects will state this in the VPA-DD and apply the relevant calculations.</p>

<p>meeting certain conditions described in the footnote to Table 1 (e.g. switch from three-stone fire biomass stoves to LPG stoves) may only claim emission reductions for energy efficiency improvement aspect and shall assume the same baseline and project fuel for emission reduction calculations.</p>	
<p>2.2.1.g. Project activities making use of a new solid biomass feedstock in the project situation (e.g. switch to green charcoal or renewable biomass briquettes) must comply with relevant specific requirements for biomass related project activities, as defined in the latest version of the Community Services Activity Requirements. The specific requirements apply to both plantations established for the project activity and/or existing plantations that will supply biomass feedstock.</p>	<p>Relevant projects will state this in the VPA-DD and will comply with relevant requirements for biomass related project activities.</p>
<p>2.2.1.h. Adequate evidence is supplied to demonstrate that indoor air pollution (IAP) levels are not worsened compared to the baseline, and greenhouse gases emitted by the project fuel/stove combination are estimated with adequate precision<sup>2</sup>. Furthermore, for projects where cooking will move from outdoor to indoor or where the project technology reduces ventilation (for example, changing from a stove with chimney to improved stove with no chimney), indoor air pollution (IAP) levels shall not worsen in the project</p>	<p>Adherence to this requirement will be outlined at VPA level for each project.</p>

<p>compared to the baseline, including PM 2.5 and carbon monoxide (CO) emissions. This may be demonstrated before project Design Certification or during project operation using the certification resulting from of a manufacturer’s test, report of field testing of the technology’s PM 2.5 and carbon monoxide (CO) emissions, report of lab testing of the technology, or results of modelling of the technology’s operation under field conditions. If none of these are available, reference from published literature or report by independent agencies may be used as evidence, provided it is not more than 5 years old.</p>	
<p>2.3.1 The project shall not undermine or conflict with any national, sub-national or local regulations or guidance for thermal energy supply or fuel supply or use. The project shall document the national, regional and local regulatory framework for provision of thermal energy services of the type the project provides in the project boundary (parameter ICS 7).</p>	<p>Projects will follow the requirements set out in the Methodology and align with any national, sub-national or local regulations or guidance for thermal energy supply or fuel supply or use.</p>
<p>2.3.2 If the expected technical life of project technology (parameter ICS 3) is shorter than the crediting period, the project developer shall describe measures to ensure that end users are provided replacement technology of comparable quality at the end of the technical life, by either replacing with</p>	<p>In such instances, measures will be described in the VPA-DD on how the project technology lifetime will be extended whilst ensuring performance is not reduced.</p>

<p>comparable or better technology, or retrofitting essential parts with performance guarantee. If neither of the prior conditions can be demonstrated, no emission reductions can be claimed for the technology after its technical life has ended.</p>	
--	--

The following conditions in TOOL 1: Tool for the demonstration and assessment of additionality V.7.0 are met:

<b>Methodology Requirements</b>	<b>Project</b>
<p>2.2.9 The use of the “Tool for the demonstration and assessment of additionality” is not mandatory for project participants when proposing new methodologies. Project participants may propose alternative methods to demonstrate additionality for consideration by the Executive Board. They may also submit revisions to approved methodologies using the additionality tool.</p>	<p>This tool will only be applied for projects using approved methodologies listed under this PoA.</p>
<p>2.2.10 Once the additionally tool is included in an approved methodology, its application by project participants using this methodology is mandatory.</p>	<p>. Adherence to the tool will be outlined at Design Certification.</p>

The following conditions in TOOL 30: Calculation of the fraction of non-renewable biomass V.4.0 are met:

<b>Methodology Requirements</b>	<b>Project</b>
<p>This tool may be used by:  (a) DNAs to submit region- or country-specific default fNRB values, following</p>	<p>This tool may be applied at VPA level for project specific fNRB values.</p>

<p>the procedures for development, revision, clarification and update of standardized baselines (SB procedures); or</p> <p>(b) project participants to calculate project- or PoA-specific fNRB values.</p>	<p>If applied, projects will submit the relevant calculations at VPA level at Design Certification.</p>
--	---

**Sampling Plan applied for monitoring:**

This PoA will contain numerous VPAs covering different technologies and having different monitoring periods.

Homogenous VPAs, defined as those that share a common baseline and project technology, may apply cross sampling of technologies across during the monitoring period; or may apply VPA sampling if deemed more suitable.

During each verification period, a sample group of technology users within each VPA (or homogenous VPA group) will be identified to be monitored. This sample group will alter during every verification period, according to the random selection process carried out in line with the confidence/precision and sample size requirements in the Methodology. Monitoring will be conducted in line with requirements outlined in the applied Methodology.

The Monitoring Plan will be described in detail in each VPA-DD, which will also include a Sampling Plan for each survey.

**B.2.1. Multiple technologies/measures**

The PoA will apply GS Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC) v4.0, GS Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves v3.0, and GS Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply (ERSDWS) v1.0. However, under the PoA’s first and second Crediting

Periods TPDDTEC v.1 and v3.1 were applicable. Existing VPAs under the PoA will continue to apply the methodology used in Crediting Period 1 and 2 of the project until that VPA’s Crediting Period is renewed, at which point the latest version of the relevant methodology will be applied.

Technology	Methodology
Improved Cookstoves	GS Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves v3.0 (or latest version)
	GS Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC) v4.0 (or latest version)
Water Filters	GS Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply v1.0 (or latest version)
Safe Water Sources	GS Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply v1.0 (or latest version)

The projects included in this PoA are implementing one single methodology (e.g. improved cookstoves or safe water supply). In the event of projects combining different types of methodology/measures, project baselines will be updated in line with annex 1 of “Programme of Activity Requirements and Procedures v3.0” and the cross-effects, if applicable, will be assessed at VPA level.

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

ELIGIBILITY CRITERION	DESCRIPTION/ REQUIRED CONDITION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION/SUPPORTING EVIDENCE FOR INCLUSION

1	Types of Project	<p>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>Projects will involve the distribution of improved cookstoves or the distribution/installation/rehabilitation of safe water sources or treatment technologies.</p> <p>Project types are eligible under Community Services Activity Requirements v1.2 Sections 3.1.1(b) and 3.1.1(d).</p>
2	Location of Project	<p>The host country and location of each VPA will be specified in each VPA-DD, in line with the locations outlined in Section A.2.</p>	<p>The host country and location of each VPA will be specified in each VPA-DD, in line with the locations outlined in Section A.2.</p>

3	Project Area, Project Boundary and Scale	<p>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.</p> <p>In order to avoid double counting the Project shall not be included in any other voluntary or compliance standards programme unless approved by Gold Standard (for example through dual certification). Also, if the Project Area overlaps with that of another Gold Standard or other voluntary or compliance standard programme of a similar nature, the project shall demonstrate that there is no double counting of impacts at design and performance certification (for example use of similar technology or practices through which the potential arises for double counting or misestimation of impacts amongst projects).</p>	<p>Each VPA will state the location of the Project and provide a range of GPS coordinates and maps to define the Project boundary.</p> <p>Each micro-scale VPA included under this PoA will not be included by any other carbon standard and will not exceed the 10,000 VERs per year cap.</p>
4	Host Country Requirements	<p>Projects shall be in compliance with applicable Host Country's legal, environmental, ecological and social regulations.</p>	<p>Each VPA will be in compliance with these regulations.</p>

5	Contact Details	<p>As part of the Project Documentation the Project Developer shall provide (i) name and (ii) contact details of all Project Participants; AND in case of an organisation (iii) the legal registration details and (iv) documentation by the governing jurisdiction that proves that the entity is in good standing (defined as being a 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>The details of the Project Developer will be included in each VPA-DD.</p>
6	Legal Ownership	<p>Full and uncontested legal ownership of any Products that are generated under Gold Standard Certification, (for example carbon credits) shall be demonstrated. Where such ownership is transferred from project beneficiaries this must be demonstrated transparently and with full, prior and informed consent (FPIC). Note that for certain Project types there is a requirement for full and uncontested legal land title/tenure to be demonstrated. These are contained within specific Activity or Product Requirements. All projects shall immediately report to Gold Standard any land title/tenure disputes arising.</p>	<p>Means of demonstration of legal ownership of Products generated under the Programme will be specified in each VPA-DD. Demonstration of legal ownership will be in line with Community Services Activity Requirements v1.2 Section 3.1.4.</p>

7	Other Rights	<p>As well as legal title and ownership, the Project Developer shall also demonstrate where required uncontested legal rights and/or permissions concerning changes in use of other resources required to service the Project (for example, access rights, water rights etc.). Any known disputes or contested rights must be declared immediately to Gold Standard by the Project Developer and resolved prior to further Project implementation in affected areas.</p>	<p>This will be demonstrated where applicable in the relevant VPA-DDs.</p>
---	--------------	--	--

8	<p>Official Development Assistance (ODA) Declaration</p>	<p>All Project Developers applying for project activities located in a country named by the OECD Development Assistance Committee’s ODA recipient list and seeking Gold Standard Certification for carbon credits shall declare the Official Development Assistance (ODA) support. The Project Developer shall follow the GHG Emissions Reduction &amp; Sequestration Product Requirements and submit the declaration at the time of Design Certification.</p>	<p>A declaration confirming that there is no diversion of ODA for each VPA will be attached with the PoA-DD and individual VPA-DDs.</p>
---	--	--	---

Criteria requested at CP1 Renewal

9	Factor of Non-Renewable Biomass	Reference from where fNRB shall be calculated for VPAs shall be included in the eligibility criteria to avoid confusion at the time of VPA inclusion and for consistency	fNRB calculations and values will be determined at VPA level in compliance with the applicable methodology requirements, using either a valid default value, referenced methodology tool, or method from the latest version of methodology available at the time of VPA inclusion.
10	Test for Wb,y parameter	The test for fixed parameter Wb,y is based on the water boiling test.	<p>Applicable for safe water projects VPAs still applying TPDDTEC v.1 and v3.1: VPAs may apply the default Wb,y value of 0.4 kg/litre.</p> <p>If a VPA conducts field tests then the test for the Wb,y fixed parameter will be conducted following the WBT Protocol.</p>
11	Water Project Treatment Capacity	The treatment capacity limits of project technology/source are required to be monitored to ensure that the water consumption level applied for emission reductions must not be greater than the treatment capacity of the project technology/sources.	Each VPA will ensure that consumption levels are not greater than the treatment capacity of the project technology/source.

12 Cookstove Project Theoretical Savings	The theoretical wood savings from a cook stove project shall be estimated based on following-	Cookstove projects will provide theoretical estimates based on the calculation.
	$P_y = B_{b,y} * (1 - h_b / h_{p,y})$ <p> <math>P_y</math> - quantity of firewood consumed in project  <math>B_{b,y}</math> - quantity of firewood consumed in baseline  <math>h_b</math> - efficiency of baseline technology  <math>h_{p,y}</math> - efficiency of project technology         </p>	
13 Double Counting	Conditions to confirm that VPAs are neither registered as CDM project activities, included in another registered PoAs, nor the project activities that have been deregistered.	PP will confirm that VPAs are not registered anywhere else, with the submission of unique IDs for each technology, and GPS coordinates of the project boundary.
14 Technical Specification	Specification of the technology/measure, such as the level and type of service, as well as performance specification based on, inter alia, testing/certification.	VPA-DDs will include technical specifications of the Project Technology.
16 Start Dates	Conditions to check the start dates of VPAs through documentary evidence.	The start date of projects will be confirmed by carbon transfer forms, repair confirmation forms, or other suitable methods depending on the project type and circumstances.

17	Applicability	Conditions to ensure compliance with the applicability of the applied methodologies, the applied standardized baselines and the other applied methodological regulatory documents.	This will be set out in each VPA-DD.
18	Additionality	Conditions to ensure that VPAs meet the requirements for demonstration of additionality.	This will be set out in each VPA-DD, in line with Section B of the PoA-DD.
19	LSC and EIA	Conditions related to undertaking local stakeholder consultation and environmental impact analysis.	This will be set out in each VPA-DD and will be carried out in line with the GS Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements.
20	Target Group	Target group (e.g. domestic/commercial/industrial, rural/urban, grid-connected/offgrid), and where applicable, distribution mechanisms (e.g. direct installation).	This will be set out in each VPA-DD.
21	Sampling	Sampling approaches are set out in each VPA and will follow the TPDDTEC v3.1 methodology.	Sampling approaches will be in compliance with the applicable methodology requirements and outlined at VPA-level in VPA-DDs.
22	Crediting Period	All VPAs submitted for inclusion after the first crediting cycle of such PoA and completion of transition to GS4GG shall follow the GS4GG Certification Cycle (i.e. 5 years renewals).	The crediting period will be stated in each VPA-DD.

23	Prior Consideration	<p>Demonstration of prior consideration of revenues from Gold Standard certification are required in the following circumstances:</p> <p>(a) Regular projects are exempt from any kind of prior consideration of revenues from Gold Standard certification checks</p> <p>(b) Retroactive projects shall submit the required documents for preliminary review (time of first submission) within one year of the project start date.</p> <p>(c) The prior consideration rule is also applicable to a Project that undergoes a design change. A project with a Certified Design requesting to include a new technology/measures shall submit the request for approval of design change to Gold Standard within one year of the start date of the proposed technology/measures (design change component).</p>	<p>Evidence of start date for technology implementation will be provided at a VPA level in line with prior consideration requirements.</p> <p>The start date of projects will be confirmed by carbon transfer forms, repair confirmation forms, or other suitable methods depending on the project type and circumstances.</p> <p>Credits generated more than one year before time of first submission (for registration or design change) will not be eligible for Gold Standard certification.</p>
----	---------------------	---	--

<b>Community Services Activity Requirements</b>	
<b>Requirements relevant to this project.</b>	<b>Demonstration of meeting Requirements</b>
<b>2. Eligibility Project Types</b>	
<p>2.1.2) All CSA projects shall lead to climate change mitigation and/or adaption by providing or improving access to services/resources at household or community level or institutional level. Eligible services include electricity and energy, water and sanitation, waste management, housing, ect.</p>	<p>By providing a safe water source in rural communities, the PoA and its projects improve access to safe water services/resources at community level.</p> <p>By distributing improved cookstoves, the cookstove projects will ensure that households consume less firewood during the process of domestic cooking. As a result, there shall be a reduction of carbon dioxide emissions from the combustion process at household level. This mitigates climate change by increasing access to improved cooking technologies amongst rural communities.</p> <p>As such, the PoA and its projects are Eligible Project Type in line with the requirements.</p>
<p>2.1.3) Projects shall conform to the Principles and Requirements.</p>	<p>The PoA and its projects conform with the Principles and Requirements detailed in the document.</p> <p>The PoA is eligible under section 4, Principle 1, section (a) of the Principles and Requirements as it follows an approved Activity Requirements and/or Impact Quantification Methodologies associated with it.</p> <p>Concerning point 4.1.7, the projects included in this PoA do not support geoengineering or entail energy production from fossil fuels or nuclear.</p>
<b>3 General Eligibility Criteria</b>	

<p><b>3.1.1 Types of Project</b></p> <p>b) End-Use Energy Efficiency: Project activities that reduce energy requirements as compared to baseline scenario without affecting the level and quality of services or products where the end user of the products and services are clearly identified and when the physical intervention is required at the user end.</p>	<p>By providing safe water, the project activity reduces the energy requirements compared to the baseline scenario by ensuring that households consume less firewood through no longer needing to purify their water.</p> <p>By distributing improved cookstoves the cookstove Project activities reduce the energy requirements compared to the baseline scenario by ensuring that households consume less firewood through the use of a more efficient technology.</p>
<p><b>3.1.2 Project Area, boundary and scale</b></p> <p>Project Area and Boundary shall be defined in line with the applicable Impact Quantification Methodologies and Product Requirements.</p> <p>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 project types; Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Others.</p>	<p>The project Area and Boundary are defined in line with the applicable Methodology, outlined in Section A.2.</p> <p>The Projects included in this PoA are Micro-Scale Project as the annual issuance of each VPA is capped at 10,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per year.</p>
<p><b>3.1.3 Suppressed Demand baseline</b></p> <p>Certain Impact Quantification methodologies allow projects to account Suppressed Demand scenario when establishing a baseline. In such cases, the application of Supressed Demand baseline is limited to Small Scale and Microscale Projects. Where a Supressed Demand baseline is applied, it is not possible to 'stack' Gold Standard Certified Impact Statements or Products as the definition of the baseline may be contradictory.</p>	<p>The VPAs under this PoA are Micro-Scale Project and are therefore eligible for suppressed demand in the baseline scenario.</p>

<p><b>3.1.4 Legal ownership</b></p> <p>a) Projects involving the distribution of a large number of devices for services 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 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 for Product ownership shall be discussed during the local stakeholder consultations for projects.</p>	<p>a) CO2balance UK Ltd is the Coordinating/Managing Entity which communicates with the Gold Standard; the project is managed in the Host Country by Project Implementer and/or its partners. Project Implementer have legal ownership of the carbon credits produced as result of the project.</p> <p>b) The discussion of transfer of Product ownership will be discussed in detail during Local Stakeholder Consultations, presenting the details of the project to the local community members, officials and Community Leaders who attend.</p>
---	---

<b>Gender Equality Requirements and Guidelines (as per v2.0)</b>	
<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Demonstration of meeting Requirements</b>

<p><b>2.1 Gender Sensitive Certification</b></p> <p>2.1.1 All projects seeking GS4GG certification shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. take into account overall societal context from a gender perspective into project design,</li> <li>b. comply with Principle 2 – Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment requirements of Safeguarding Principles &amp; Requirements,</li> <li>c. conduct the Stakeholder Consultation following Stakeholder Consultation Engagement Requirements</li> </ul> <p>2.1.2   To comply with the requirements of paragraph 2.1.1   above, the Project developer shall follow STEP 1-3 as outlined below.</p> <p><i>Step 1: Basic Context</i></p> <p>2.1.3   Project design shall consider the overall societal context from a gender perspective by aligning project design to the host country's gender policies, national gender strategy - where available, development goals and adhere to the gender principles as established in the Gender policy.</p> <p><i>Step 2: Safeguarding Principles Assessment</i></p> <p>2.1.4   Project shall demonstrate compliance with Principle 2 – Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment requirements of Safeguarding Principles &amp; Requirements. Country-level safeguarding requirements supersede if they go beyond Gold Standard Requirements.</p> <p>2.1.5   Gold Standard may require Project - depending on project type, scale and context, to include an expert stakeholder opinion with a specific emphasis on gender and</p>	<p>Gender Sensitive certification requirements apply to all projects under the PoA. The assessment is carried out at VPA level. Information relating to the Gender Sensitive Certification is outlined below (applicable to sections 2.1.1 to 2.1.6 in the requirements):</p> <p><i>1. Basic Context</i></p> <p>All projects consider societal context as part of the project's LSC in the project design phase, outlined in the VPA-DD and Stakeholder Consultation Report. Step 1 is followed by reviewing gender policies, national gender strategies and consider SDGs relating to gender that are applicable for the project type. Comments from stakeholders is received during the stakeholder engagement phase, which is summarised in VPA-level SCRs.</p> <p><i>2. Safeguarding Principles Assessment</i></p> <p>All projects comply with gender-related safeguarding principles and requirements, outlined in the VPA-DD and Stakeholder Consultation Report.</p> <p><i>3. Stakeholder Consultation</i></p> <p>All projects conduct an LSC at the initial stage of the project design. This is conducted with a gender sensitive lens, involving a mixture of male and females, and feedback is considered when designing the project. Information is outlined in VPA-DDs and SCRs.</p> <p>Guidance provided under Section 4 of the GS Gender Equality Requirements and Guidelines shall be considered during design and implementation of the project.</p>
--	---

<p>environment issues to support the gender safeguarding assessment.</p> <p><i>Step 3: Stakeholder Consultation</i></p> <p>a. 2.1.6   Project shall conduct the Stakeholder Consultation following Stakeholder Consultation Engagement Requirements. 2.1.7   It is recommended that Project seek inputs of a gender and environmental expert/stakeholder and include their recommendations in project design.</p>	
---	--

<p><b>2.2   Gender Responsive Certification</b></p> <p>2.2.1   The projects seeking Gender-responsive certification shall-</p> <p>a. conduct the gender analysis to examine:</p> <p>i. The different situations of women and men</p> <p>ii. The impacts the Project will have on different gender groups</p> <p>b. design monitoring framework that includes setting project action, gender-responsive targets and performance indicators to monitor gender equality results against the established baseline.</p> <p>c. collect and use sex-disaggregated data and qualitative information to analyse and track gender issues during project life</p> <p>2.2.2   Project developers shall follow STEP 4-5 to meet the requirements stated in paragraph 2.2.1   above.</p> <p><i>Step 4: Gender Analysis and Baseline Determination</i></p> <p>2.2.3   The Project shall conduct Gender Analysis to understand the social, economic and political factors underlying climate change-exacerbated gender inequality and women and men's potential contribution to mitigating and adapting to climate change. Refer to Guideline Step 4: Gender Analysis and Baseline Determination for further guidelines and resources on Gender Analysis.</p> <p>2.2.4   The Project shall take into account stakeholder’s inputs from Steps 1-3, notably the stakeholder consultations and safeguards</p>	<p>Gender Responsive certification requirements are optional and apply to projects/VPAs seeking Certified SDG Impacts under SDG 5 and other relevant SDGs. This is project specific and is outlined at VPA-DD level.</p> <p>Information relating to the Gender Responsive Certification is outlined below (applicable to sections 2.2.1 to 2.2.9 in the requirements):</p> <p><i>1. Gender Analysis and Baseline Determination</i></p> <p>Baseline survey are conducted prior to implementing the gender aspect of the project. Questions will be based on the categories outlined in the GS gender requirements and guidelines document.</p> <p>For example, questions such as ‘do you face gender-based violence whilst collecting water’ or ‘how long does it take to collect water’ could be asked in the baseline survey. Social, economic and political factors are considered when establishing the questions. Baseline surveys and analysis are provided at VPA level.</p> <p><i>2. Establish Project Goals and Measure Change</i></p> <p>As required in the GS gender guidelines and requirements, the project shall select a number of gender-focused SDG targets and respective goals relating to the project. These shall be linked with a gender action and gender responsive indicator. Information shall be presented in the PDD/MR and be confirmed by a VVB gender expert during validation/verification.</p> <p>For example, a project could choose to set a goal of ‘closing gender gaps in women and men’s unpaid time poverty and labour’. A suitable indicator could</p>
--	--

<p>assessment into the Gender analysis and establishing the project baseline.</p> <p><i>Step 5: Establish Project Goals and Measure Change</i></p> <p>2.2.5   The Project seeking gender responsive certification shall positively contribute to gender related targets laid out under SDG 5, SDG 8 or SDG 10, in addition to SDG 13. Refer to Table 2 for further details on relevant SDGs and SDGs targets.</p> <p>2.2.6   Referring to Table 2, the Project shall</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. select at least one Gender Goal and Gender Action corresponding to SDG Target Category 1 and Category 2, where Category 1 Target aims to promote gender equality, while Category 2 Target focuses on safeguarding against gender-based harm.</li> <li>b. identify at least one Gender Responsive Indicator(s) corresponding to the selected gender actions and gender goals. Table 2 presents a none exhaustive list of gender responsive indicators. The project developers may propose additional Gender Responsive Indicators.</li> </ol> <p>2.2.7   The Project shall identify performance monitoring indicators for chosen Project Gender Action(s) and Gender Responsive Indicator(s) and design a monitoring plan to track changes that the Project can support both in terms of gender equitable processes and in terms of gender responsive performance.</p> <p>2.2.8   As a best practice approach, the Project should consider the resources provided in Guidelines Section Step 5: Establish Goals and Measure Change for</p>	<p>be to 'quantify women and men's shift in time spent on leisure activities'.</p> <p>Guidance provided under Section 4 of the GS Gender Equality Requirements and Guidelines shall be considered during design and implementation of the project.</p>
--	--

<p>developing performance monitoring indicators and monitoring plan.</p> <p>2.2.9   At each verification, the Project shall report an assessment of results and impacts as per the design certified monitoring plan.</p>	
--	--

### DOE Validation and Verification Site Visits

A Validation and Verification Body (VVB)/Designated Operational Entity (DOE) will be appointed to review the Projects and conduct a site visit as part of the Validation and Verification processes. As the VPAs form part of a group of homogenous VPAs, a VVB/DOE site visit at Validation and Verification is only required for the first VPA in each homogenous group. Subsequent homogenous VPAs that are included or verified under the PoA will undergo a Compliance Check to ensure that they meet the criteria provided in the PoA-DD.

Homogenous VPAs are defined as those that share a common baseline and project technology. The criteria for homogeneity are:

- a common baseline
- common project technology(ies)
- shared project area
- common demographics, and
- common beneficiaries.

### SECTION C. DEMONSTRATION OF ADDITIONALITY

Any VPAs included in the PoA shall demonstrate additionality as set out in the GS4GG Principles & Requirements and involve the technologies defined in section A.3. as per the GS4GG Community Services Activity Requirements Version 1.2 – projects that meet the criteria outlined in section 4.1.9 of the document can be deemed automatically additional without needing to prove financial additionality at the time of Design Certification.

For each VPA, it shall be clearly indicated in the VPA-DD how additionality is proved as per GS requirements. Examples of how this shall be achieved for different types of VPAs are given below:

- a) Positive List (annex B of CSA Requirements v1.2)
- b) Projects located in LDC, SIDS, LLDC
- c) Microscale projects

Finance derived from Gold Standard Certification funds, either entirely or in part, the on-going implementation of all projects under this PoA. This may include funding of implementing the project, such repairs of waterpoints or subsidising household technologies, and on-going project implementation, such as maintenance, repairs and sensitisation campaigns. The project activities under the PoA are sustained by the funding derived from Gold Standard Certification.

In the case of any retroactive projects being included under the PoA, additionality will be demonstrated using the most up to date UNFCCC-approved or a Gold Standard-approved additionality tool to demonstrate project additionality.

## SECTION D. DURATION OF PoA

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

Crediting Period 1: 01/05/2012

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

28 years from 01/05/2013

Crediting Period 1: 01/05/2013 to 30/04/2020 (7 years)

In line with GS PoA Requirements s.3.1.2, Crediting Period start date is the Crediting Period start date of earliest VPA in the POA. Earliest VPA under POA 1247 is GS1359 which had a first CP start date of 01/05/2013. Hence, PoA CP1 Start date is 01/05/2013.

Crediting Period 2: 01/05/2020 to 30/04/2025 (5 years)

Crediting Period 3: 01/05/2025 to 30/04/2030 (5 years)

## SECTION E. OUTCOME OF PoA LEVEL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

### **E.1. Summary of stakeholder consultation at PoA Level**

The original PoA Design Consultation took place between 29/5/2012 - 29/06/2012. Relevant stakeholders including Government representatives, relevant national authorities, and NGO communities were identified for project areas intended to be included in the Programme. Invites and overview of the project were sent electronically via email. Stakeholders were given the opportunity to review the project and provide comments if they wished to do so.

An additional stakeholder consultation took place between 08/02/21 – 10/03/21 when feedback was requested on the addition of several new host countries to the PoA, including Togo, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Haiti and Guatemala. As part of this consultation, an updated Key Programme Information document was shared with the relevant stakeholders.

### **E.2. Consideration of stakeholder comments received**

Based on the comments received, the programme design did not require alterations. No potential synergies or conflicts with similar programmes being implemented in overlapping geographical boundaries were identified.

Comments underlined the importance of sustainability and including local context in the project design, and ensuring ongoing feedback mechanisms throughout the project lifetime. Overall, comments were constructive and helpful, re-affirming the approach adopted by the programme.

Design Consultation Reports, with comments and outcomes of the stakeholder consultations were submitted to Gold Standard at the time of Design and Design Change Reviews.

### **E.3. Final Continuous Input / Grievance Mechanism at PoA Level**

The Grievance Mechanism will be detailed at VPA level.

The grievance mechanism will be discussed during the Stakeholder Consultations of the projects included in this PoA.

A clear statement on how stakeholders may provide inputs/grievances will be outlined at project level in the VPA-DD. Grievances will be monitored, any inputs received will be reported in project Monitoring Reports during Verification, as per Gold Standard Principle and Requirements v2.1.

METHOD	INCLUDE ALL DETAILS OF CHOSEN METHOD (S) SO THAT THEY MAY BE UNDERSTOOD AND, WHERE RELEVANT, USED BY READERS.
Continuous Input / Grievance Expression Process Book (mandatory)	Continuous input / Grievance Expression process books will be implemented within each project under this PoA. Specific procedures implemented will be project specific and will be detailed within VPA-DDs.
GS Contact (mandatory)	<a href="mailto:help@goldstandard.org">help@goldstandard.org</a>
Other	

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

CME and/or responsible person/ entity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CME <input type="checkbox"/> Responsible person/ entity for application of the selected methodology(ies) and, where applicable, the selected standardized baseline(s) to the PoA
Organization	CO2balance UK Ltd
Street/P.O. Box	Cook Way
Building	1 Discovery House
City	Taunton
State/Region	Somerset
Postcode	TA2 2BJ
Country	UK
Telephone	+44 (0) 1823 332233
E-mail	Paul.chiplen@co2balance.com
Website	www.co2balance.com
Contact person	Paul Chiplen
Title	Director of Sales and Marketing
Salutation	Mr
Last name	Chiplen
Middle name	

## APPENDIX 2 - DESIGN CHANGES

### **A2.1. Details of proposed or actual design change**

N/A

### **A2.2. Describe the Impacts of design change on the following**

#### ***a. Additionality***

N/A

#### ***b. Applicability of methodology and other methodological regulatory documents with which the project activity has been certified***

N/A

#### ***c. Compliance with the monitoring plan of the applied methodology***

N/A

#### ***d. Level of accuracy and completeness in the monitoring of the project activity compared with the requirements contained in the registered monitoring plan***

N/A

#### ***e. Scale of the project activity***

N/A

#### ***f. Stakeholder consultation***

N/A

#### ***g. Sustainable development criteria***

N/A

#### ***h. Safeguarding assessment***

N/A

#### ***i. Compliance with applicable legislation***

N/A

### **Revision History**

Version	Date	Remarks
2.2	14 April 2023	Integrated the design change memo as annex of the document.  Editorial changes
2.1	31 May 2022	Editorial changes and revisions
2.0	04 May 2022	Key Project Information table revised to cater for the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Scale of PoA</li> <li>- Title and GS ID of all real case VPAs included in the PoA</li> </ul> A new Management System section included Safeguarding Principles Assessment section removed Outcome of PoA Level Stakeholder Consultation section revised in the following manner: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Justification for Stakeholder Consultation at PoA Level Only section removed</li> </ul> A new Consideration of Stakeholder Comments Received section added
1.1	14 October 2020	Hyperlinked section summary to enable quick access to key sections Improved clarity on Key Project Information Inclusion criteria table added Clarification on POA level LSC and Safeguard Principles Assessment Improved Clarity on SDG contribution/SDG Impact term used throughout Clarity on Stakeholder Consultation information required Provision of an <a href="#">accompanying Guide</a> to help the user understand detailed rules and requirements
1.0	10 July 2017	Initial adoption