



VALIDATION REPORT

For the GS4GG Programme of Activity (PoA)

For

*"INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR SAFE WATER
ACCESS AND EFFICIENT COOKSTOVES"*
(GS REF. No. 7591)

IN

*THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA, THE REPUBLIC OF
MOZAMBIQUE, THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA, THE
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, AND THE REPUBLIC OF
ZAMBIA*

REPORT NO.

GS.20.VAL.004

Date of this issue: 05/10/2020	KBS Ref. No.: GS.20.VAL.004
Organizational Unit:	Client:
Climate Change Division, KBS	CO2balance UK Ltd.
Programme Design Document	
First PoA-DD:	Final PoA-DD:
Version: 01	Version: 02
Date: 17/01/2020	Date: 05/08/2020
Summary of validation:	
"CO2balance UK Ltd." has commissioned KBS to perform the validation of the proposed Gold Standard for the Global Goals programme:	
Programme Title:	International Programme for Safe Water Access and Efficient Cookstoves
Methodology Applied:	Gold Standard Methodology: "Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption". Version 3.1
Sectoral Scopes:	1.1, 3.1
Validity of methodology/ies (for RfR):	Methodology dated 25/08/2017
<p>The scope of the validation is defined as an independent and objective review of the Programme of Activity (PoA) design document, the project's baseline study and monitoring plan and other relevant documents. The information in these documents is reviewed against the latest version of GS4GG rules, CDM Validation and Verification Standard, Project Cycle Procedure and Project Standard.</p> <p>The purpose and goal of this project is to reduce emissions from burning of non-renewable biomass for cooking and water treatment. The use of non-renewable biomass such as wood and charcoal for cooking and water boiling, leads to the emission of greenhouses gases, deforestation and poor indoor climate. The programme will distribute efficient cook stoves and/or safe water supply and treatment technologies in this PoA, to significantly reduce the non-renewable biomass consumption.</p> <p>The report is based on the assessment of the programme design document /2/ undertaken through stakeholder consultations, application of standard auditing techniques including but not limited to desk review, follow up actions (e.g., electronic (telephone or e-mail) interviews) and also the review of the applicable approved methodological and relevant tools, guidance, CDM decisions and GS4GG requirements /4/.</p> <p>The review of the PoA design documentation and the subsequent follow-up interviews (conducted remotely via Zoom and WhatsApp) have provided KBS with sufficient evidence to determine the PoA's fulfilment of all the stated criteria. In our opinion, the project meets all applicable UNFCCC requirements for the carbon validation along with Gold Standard requirements.</p> <p>– <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Will be recommended to the Gold Standard for the Global Goals with a request for registration – <input type="checkbox"/> Is not recommended for registration</p>	
Validation Status:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Findings not closed	
Project type: Small scale	<input type="checkbox"/> Draft validation report
Subject: GS4GG PoA Validation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Final validation report
Validation Team:	Document Distribution
Team Leader and Technical Expert (TA 1.1, 3.1): Rohit Badaya Validator: Shikha Sharma Local Expert country wise are as follows: 1. Kenya: Chetan Swaroop Sharma & Rohit Badaya 2. Vietnam: Nguyen Trang & Rohit Badaya 3. Mozambique: Vicente Gimo Júnior	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Distribution without permission from the Client

4. Uganda: Rohit Badaya 5. Zambia: Rohit Badaya		
Technical Review Team:	Manager T&C	
Technical Reviewer (TA 1.1 & 3.1): Sanjay Kandari Date: 19/09/2020	Name: Dr. Madhuri Nanda Date: 29/09/2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Limited Distribution
Authorized by:		
Name: Kaushal Goyal, Managing Director Date: 05/10/2020		<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted Distribution
Rev Number:	Date:	
00	18/08/2020	
01	19/09/2020	
02	29/09/2020	

Abbreviations

BE	Baseline Emissions
CAR	Corrective Action Request
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CL	Clarification request
COP	Conference of Parties
DNA	Designated National Authority
DNHA	Do Not Harm Assessment
DR	Document Review
EB	Executive Board
EF	Emission Factor
ERs	Emission Reductions
FAR	Forward Action Request
GHG	Greenhouse gas(es)
GS	Gold Standard
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
KP	Kyoto Protocol
LSC	Local Stakeholder Consultation
LE	Leakage Emissions
MOP	Meeting of Parties
MoC	Modalities of Communication
MoV	Means of Verification
MP	Monitoring Plan
PoA	Programme of Activity
PE	Project Emissions
PP	Project Participant
QA/QC	Quality Assurance/Quality Control
RfR	Request for Registration
SD	Sustainable Development
SFR	Sustainability Feedback Round
T&C	Technical & Certification
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VER	Verified Emission Reductions
VVB	Validation & Verification Body
VVS	Validation & Verification Standard

Table of Content

1. Validation Opinion	6
2. Introduction	7
2.1 Objective	7
2.2 Scope	7
3. Methodology	8
3.1 Review of GS PoA-DD and Additional Documentation	8
3.2 Site Visit	8
3.3 Major Milestones in validation	10
3.4 Use of the Validation Protocol	10
3.5 Findings	11
3.6 Internal Quality Control	11
4. Validation Findings	12
4.1 Approval	12
4.2 Authorization	12
4.3 Sustainable Development	12
4.4 Modalities of Communication	12
4.5 Programme Design Document	12
4.6 Project Description	12
4.7 Baseline and monitoring methodology and Standardized baseline	19
4.8 Additionality	28
4.9 Application of Monitoring Methodology and Monitoring Plan	30
4.10 Environmental Impacts	31
5. Local Stakeholder Consultation and Stakeholder Feedback Round (SFR)	31
6. Safeguarding principles	31
7. SDG Outcome Assessment	32
8. References	33
Annexes:	
Annex 1: Detailed Findings	37
Annex 2: Certificate of Competence	42

1. Validation Opinion

KBS Certification Services Pvt. Ltd. has been contracted by CO2balance UK Ltd. to perform the validation of the Programme of Activity:

PoA title: International Programme for Safe Water Access and Efficient Cookstoves

GS Reference Number: GS7591

Host Parties: The Republic of Kenya, The Republic of Mozambique, The Republic of Uganda, The Socialist Republic of Vietnam and The Republic of Zambia

The validation was performed in accordance with the Gold Standard requirements/4/, latest version of Validation and Verification Standard and related Standards/Guidance and host country criteria /5/, as well as criteria given to provide for consistent project operations, monitoring and reporting.

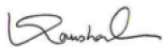
The proposed GS programme of activity (PoA) will result in reductions of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that are real, measurable and give long-term benefits to the mitigation of climate change. In our opinion, the project meets all relevant GS4GG rules/requirements, CDM criteria and all relevant host country criteria.

The project correctly applies Gold Standard methodology: "Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption". Version 3.1 /6/. It is demonstrated that the project description in the PoA/VPA-DDs is not a likely baseline scenario. The emission reductions attributable to the PoA/VPA-DDs are hence additional to any that would occur in the absence of the PoA/VPA.

The emission reduction forecast will be done at VPA level and it is deemed likely that the stated amount is achievable given the underlying assumptions do not change.

The project will hence be recommended by KBS for request for registration with the Gold Standard.

Authorized Signatory



Name: Kaushal Goyal

Place: Faridabad

Date: 05/10/2020

2. Introduction

2.1 Objective

CO₂balance UK Ltd. has commissioned KBS to perform the validation of the Programme of Activity: “International Programme for Safe Water Access and Efficient Cookstoves” GS ID 7591 with regard to the relevant requirements for Gold Standard for Global Goals - Programme of Activity version 1.2 requirements.

The purpose of validation is to ensure a thorough, independent assessment of proposed Gold Standard Programme of Activity submitted for registration as a proposed project activity against the applicable GS requirements /4/.

In particular, the programme's baseline, the monitoring plan (MP) and the programme's compliance with relevant methodology /6/ and host country criteria /5/ are validated in order to confirm that the programme design /2/ as documented is sound and reasonable and meets the stated requirements and identified criteria. The validation is seen as necessary to provide assurance to stakeholders of the quality of the programme and its intended generation of verified emission reduction (VER).

2.2 Scope

The scope of the validation is defined as an independent and objective review of the programme design document, the project's baseline study and monitoring plan and other relevant documents. The information in these documents is reviewed against Gold Standard requirements /4/, UNFCCC rules and associated interpretations. KBS has employed a rule-based approach in the validation, focusing on the identification of significant risks for programme's implementation and the generation of VERs.

3. Methodology

3.1 Review of GS PoA-DD and Additional Documentation

The validation is performed primarily as a document review of the available Programme of Activity Design Document (PoA-DD) version 01 dated 17/01/2020 (first version) /Version 02 dated 05/08/2020 (final version). The assessment is performed by the validation team using a validation protocol. The cross checks between information provided in the PoA-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.

3.2 Site Visit

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, taking into account the rules of relevant national and local authorities (local to the VVB offices as well as to locality of the site visits), World Health Organization (WHO) recommendations, policies of the VVB and other relevant travel restrictions and guidance (for example, a requirement to self-isolate upon return from specific countries), the VVB has skipped the on-site visit. However as per the COVID-19 Interim Measures by GS4GG, the VVB may use alternative measures for auditing like remote audits.

As per para 4.1.1 (b) of COVID 19 Interim Measures/4/, 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, audit team has conducted remote audit interview corresponding to the PoA as follows:

- A complete desk review of the submitted PoA-DD /1//2/ (initial and final versions), as well as all applicable country legal requirement/5/ and supportive evidences have been checked by the validation team.
- Validation team has performed Zoom and WhatsApp interviews with representatives of CME and stakeholders in order to check the implementation, current situation, management system of the PoA, programme technology, location, training provided, start date etc.
- Interview questions were filled as per Validation team interview checklist and also videos conferencing was done to check implementation of the PoA, programme technology, baseline of PoA etc.
- Cross-check evaluation, for information received from interviews, under the scope of all information and references provided in the PoA-DD and supporting documents.

Details of interviewees, topics covered and additional information presented below:

Location:	Kenya, Mozambique, Vietnam	
Dates: 28/05/2020- 29/05/2020, 15/06/2020-18/06/2020, 07/07/2020	Western Kenya: (28/05/2020- 29/05/2020- Zoom interviews) Mozambique: (15/06/2020-18/06/2020- WhatsApp interviews) Vietnam: (07/07/2020- Telephonic interviews)	
Key points discussed:	Name of person interviewed	Designation, Organization
Project implementation and execution, project design and start date, LSC, organizational structure, the impact of the project activity on the local community was discussed. Some of the question asked during the local stakeholder interviews and answers received: 1. Is there any child labour - No	Emma Donnachie	Regional Manager (Zambia and Mozambique VPAs), CO2balance
	James Walker	Regional Manager (Uganda and Vietnam VPAs), CO2balance
	Ilona	Regional Manager (Kenya), CO2balance
	Anh Nguyen	Vietnam VPA implementer representative

<p>2. The non-renewable biomass or fossil fuels saved under the project activity are used by non-project users who previously used lower emitting energy sources. - No</p> <p>3. Any Human Rights abuses - No</p> <p>4. Any form of forced or compulsory labour - No</p> <p>5. Any child labour - No</p> <p>6. Discrimination based on gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or any other basis – No</p> <p>7. Unsafe or unhealthy work Environments - No</p>	Nollege	Mozambique VPA implementer representative
	Moses Maina, Christine Atira	Kenya VPA implementer representative
	Henry Owuor Okello	Seme Kisumu, Sub-county water engineer (Government official)
	Cesário Ngozo	Mayor of Gondola Municipality, Mozambique
	Carlos Cuamba	<i>Director of SDPI – Chimoio</i> Officials from community groups/NGO/ Governments involved in the identification and rehabilitation of boreholes

List of households interviewed (Kenya VPA)

Household Representative	Borehole ID
Rhoda Ouma, Borehole manager	KUB 004 Minyiem B water point
Michael Orawo Ondege, Borehole manager	KUB 006 Ochok water point
Rose Awino, Water user	Ochok water point
Wilkister Ochola, Borehole manager	KUB 019 Kanyasonga water point
Irene Akinyi Alweny, Water user	KUB 019
Amos Oyago, Borehole manager	KUB 018
Rodah Akeyo Ongowo, Water user	Ami water point
Lilian Omondi Otieno, Water user	KUB 009 Owaro water point
Esther Odero Juma, Borehole manager	KUB 029 Kudho water point
Mary Adero Auma, Water user	KUB 026 Obwombi water point
Monica Omondi Ngwero, Water user	KUB 026 Kahanyo A water point
Mary Juma Magonya, Borehole manager	Kahanyo A water point
Eveline Okola Owiny, Borehole manager	KUB 024 Kajwang water point
Beatrice Atieno Mondo, Borehole manager /user	KUB 021 Korieng water point
Lonah Alando Omwanda, Baseline interviewee	-
Maurine Jumba, Baseline interviewee	-

List of households interviewed (Mozambique VPA)

Household Representative	Borehole ID
Ernesto Andre	B5 Makodamo, CHI01354 – Chimoio
Francisco Pedro	Macorre, SUS01543 – Sussundenga Sede
Tinashe Shepard	Unidade, SUS01395 - Sussundenga Sede
Charles Gutai Oliver Tomo. Community Leader	Sus01395

Agostinho Carlos Combucane	SUS01643
Isabel Gimo	Chicueu Berumbe, Borehole ID: SUS01453.
Estevão Inácio,	Unidade Muoha 2, SUS01655 – Muoha
Mussapa sede	SUS01559
Nhamacamba	SUS01426
Simão Marcos	SUS01427

List of households interviewed (Vietnam VPA)

Household Representative	Stove ID
Dinh Van Son	COB-A0-749
Ma Van Huan	COB-A0-415
Nguyen Van Chien	COB-A0-076
Nguyen The Ninh	COB-A0-724
Phan Van Trinh	COB-A0-398
Luc Kim Dung	COB-A0-601
Nguyen Ngoc Tien	COB-A0-309
Vi Van Hot	COB-A0-986
Duong Huu Nghia	COB-A0-039
Hoang Tien	COB-A0-038
Nguyen Duc Tuan	COB-A0-675

3.3 Major Milestones in validation

Validation Contract	20/04/2020
Remote Audit	28/05/2020 - 29/05/2020, 15/06/2020 - 18/06/2020, 07/07/2020
Draft Validation Report	18/08/2020
Final Validation Report	29/09/2020

3.4 Use of the Validation Protocol

The validation protocol used for the assessment is designed in accordance with the latest version of Validation and Verification Standard. It serves the following purposes:

- Reference to available information relating to programmes or technologies similar to the proposed programme of activity under validation;
- Review, based on the approved methodology being applied, of the appropriateness of formulae and accuracy of calculations.
- Organises, details and clarifies the requirements the project is expected to meet; and
- Documents concerning the validation of a particular requirement and the result of the validation (reporting).

The validation protocol consists of several tables. The different columns in these tables are described below.

Checklist Question	Ref ID	Means of Verification (MoV)	Validation Assessment	Draft and/or Final Conclusion
The various requirements are linked to checklist questions the programme should meet.	Lists any references and sources used in the validation process. Full details are provided in the table at the bottom of the checklist.	Explains how conformance with the checklist question is investigated. Examples of means of verification are document review (DR) or interview (I). N/A means not applicable.	The section is used to elaborate and discuss the checklist question and/or the conformance to the question. It is further used to explain the conclusions reached.	This is either acceptable based on evidence provided (Y), or a Corrective Action Request (CAR) due to non-compliance with the checklist question (See below). Clarification Request (CL) is used when the validation team has identified a need for further clarification.

3.5 Findings

As an outcome of the validation process, the validation team can raise different types of findings

A Clarification Request (CL) is raised if information is insufficient or not clear enough to determine whether the applicable GS requirements have been met

Where a non-conformance arises the validator shall raise a **Corrective Action Request (CAR)**. A CAR is issued, where:

- The project participants have made mistakes that will influence the ability of the programme of activity to achieve real, measurable additional emission reductions;
- The GS requirements have not been met;
- There is a risk that emission reductions cannot be monitored or calculated.

A Forward Action Request (FAR) is raised during validation to highlight issues related to project implementation that require review during the first verification of the programme of activity . FARs shall not relate to the GS requirements for registration.

Corrective Action Requests and Clarification Requests are raised in the draft validation protocol and detailed in a separate finding document (Annex 2). In this document, the project participant or CME is given the opportunity to “resolve” the outstanding CARs and respond to CLs and FARs.

3.6 Internal Quality Control

Following the completion of the assessment process and a recommendation by the assessment team, the validation opinion prepared by Team Leader is independently reviewed by an internal Technical Reviewer. TR reviews if all the KBS procedures have been followed and all conclusions are justified in accordance with applicable standards, procedures, guidance and GS requirements. The TR either is qualified for the technical area within the sectoral scope(s) applicable to programme of activity or is supported by qualified independent technical expert at this stage.

The Technical Reviewer will either accept or reject the recommendation made by the assessment team. The findings can be raised at this stage and PP must resolve them within agreed timeline.

The opinion recommended by Technical Reviewer will be confirmed by Manager Technical & Certification and finally authorized by the Managing Director on behalf of KBS as final validation opinion. The Technical Reviewer and Manager T&C maybe be same person.

4. Validation Findings

4.1 Approval

Discussion:

The PoA “International Programme for Safe Water Access and Efficient Cookstoves” GS ID 7591, is a voluntary programme of activity by the Coordinating & Management Entity (CME) “CO2balance UK Ltd.”. The programme is implemented in the host countries of “The Republic of Kenya, The Republic of Mozambique, The Republic of Uganda, The Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and The Republic of Zambia”. Due to the voluntary nature of the programme, there is no need for a Letter of Approval (LoA) from the host countries.

Findings:

No finding raised.

Opinion:

The name of the CME is consistent within the documents and supporting documents provided.

4.2 Authorization

Discussion:

The project being a voluntary project does not require any authorization from the host countries involved.

4.3 Sustainable Development

As this is a Voluntary Programme of activity, it was not necessary to obtain approval of Sustainable Development from the DNA of host parties. However, the programme has environmental, social and economic benefits by providing access to safe water, reducing fuel consumption and indoor air pollution.

4.4 Modalities of Communication

Not applicable

4.5 Programme Design Document

Discussion:

The validation team hereby confirms that the PoA-DD complies with the latest forms of the guidance documents for completion of PoA-DD.

4.6 Project Description

Discussion:

The PoA is provisionally planned to incorporate activities within the geographical boundary of five host countries “The Republic of Kenya, The Republic of Mozambique, The Republic of Uganda, The Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and The Republic of Zambia”. The boundary of the PoA has been confirmed during the remote audit (interview & video inspection). It has also been confirmed that the CME, in order to establish the boundary, have taken into consideration all applicable national and/or sectoral policies and regulations /5/ within the chosen boundary.

The PoA involves the implementation of one of the two distinct technology types:

1. Improved cookstoves (ICS); and
2. Safe water technologies

The purpose of the technologies implemented through the PoA, is to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the burning of non-renewable biomass for cooking and water treatment. The PoA will facilitate the distribution of ICS and installation and/or repair of broken water points; or the distribution of water filters, and their maintenance over the lifetime of the project. The distribution of ICS includes the replacement of inefficient baseline cooking technology (such as iron bar stoves and three stone fires), whereas safe water technologies

includes the distribution, rehabilitation, drilling or construction of centralized and domestic water points including but not limited to boreholes, hand pumps, deep wells, protected springs, water filters and gravity flow systems. The PoA consists of Voluntary Project Activities (VPAs) under which the technology chosen will be based on different locations, climates, traditions and improvements in technology demand. The technology likely to be chosen for a particular VPA is a zero emission pumped borehole. WASH training will be conducted for all safe water technology projects under the PoA.

Unique identity has been given to the technology implemented under each VPA as checked from the sample project database /9/ submitted to the validation team and also recorded their GPS co-ordinates. In case of improved cook stoves, sample stove customer info card /11/, stove id tracking procedure /10/ has been provided, which ensures that there is no double counting and each distributed unit can be tracked.

The technology implemented in the PoA has been confirmed during the remote audit (interview & video inspection) of the already implemented VPAs in the Western Kenya, Mozambique, and Vietnam. It was also confirmed that the WASH trainings have been conducted for VPAs implementing safe water technologies in Western Kenya and Mozambique, which can be verified from the records /14/.

The eligibility of technology under GS4GG Principles & Requirements version 1.2 and Community Services Activity Requirements version 1.2 /4/ is as follows:

Eligibility Criteria	Means of Verification	Validation Team Assessment
Eligibility Criteria as per section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements version 1.2		
<p>3.1.1 (a) Types of Project</p> <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 cook stoves or the distribution/installation/rehabilitation of safe water sources.</p> <p>Project types are eligible under Community Services Activity Requirements s.3.1.1 (b) and s3.1.1 (d).</p>	<p>As confirmed during the remote audit (interview & video inspection) of the already implemented VPAs in the Western Kenya, Mozambique, and Vietnam, the VPAs involve distribution of improved cook stoves or the distribution/installation/rehabilitation of safe water sources.</p> <p>Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements version 1.2.</p>
<p>3.1.1 (b) Location of Project</p> <p>Projects may be located in any part of the world.</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.3.</p>	<p>The host country and location of each VPA will be confirmed at VPA level.</p> <p>Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements version 1.2.</p>
<p>3.1.1 (c) Project Area, Project Boundary and Scale</p> <p>The Project Area and Project Boundary shall be defined. Projects may be developed at any scale although certain rules, requirements and</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 small-scale VPA included under this PoA will not be included by any other carbon standard and will not exceed the energy output of 60Gwh</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 60Gwh per year</p>

<p>limitations may apply under specific Activity Requirements, Impact Quantification Methodologies and Products Requirements. In order to avoid double counting the Project shall not be included in any other voluntary or compliance standards programme unless approved by Gold Standard (for example through dual certification). Also, if the Project Area overlaps with that of another Gold Standard or other voluntary or compliance standard programme of a similar nature, the project shall demonstrate that there is no double counting of impacts at design and performance certification (for example use of similar technology or practices through which the potential arises for double counting or misestimation of impacts amongst projects).</p>	<p>per year as per CDM small-scale requirements.</p>	<p>as per CDM small-scale requirements.</p> <p>Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements version 1.2.</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>Each VPA will be in compliance with these regulations.</p>	<p>The compliance of each VPA with host country requirements will be checked at VPA level.</p> <p>Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements version 1.2.</p>
<p>3.1.1 (e) Contact Details</p> <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</p>	<p>The details of the Project Developer will be included in each VPA-DD.</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>Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements version 1.2.</p>

<p>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>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 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 s.3.1.4</p>	<p>The legal ownership of each VPA will be confirmed at VPA level. Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements version 1.2.</p>
<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,</p>	<p>This will be demonstrated where applicable in the relevant VPA-DDs.</p>	<p>This will be confirmed at VPA level. Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements version 1.2.</p>

<p>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>3.1.1 (h) 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 & 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>	<p>ODA declaration of the PoA and already implemented VPAs have been checked. The validation team has also confirmed during the remote audit interviews with the representatives of CME that there is no diversion of ODA for each VPA.</p> <p>Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements version 1.2.</p>
<p>Eligible Project Types as per section 2 of Community Services Activity Requirements version 1.2</p>		
<p>2.1.2 All CSA Projects shall lead to climate change mitigation and/or adaptation by providing or improving access to services/resources at the household or community or institution level. Eligible services include electricity and energy, water and sanitation, waste management, housing, etc.</p>	<p>By providing a safe water source in rural communities, the safe water projects will improve access to safe water services/resources at community level.</p> <p>By distributing improved cook stoves the cook stove 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 confirmed during the remote audit (interview & video inspection) of the already implemented VPAs in the Western Kenya, Mozambique, and Vietnam, the VPAs involve distribution of improved cook stoves or the distribution/installation/rehabilitation of safe water sources.</p> <p>Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 2 of Community Services Activity Requirements version 1.2.</p>

	As such, the projects are Eligible Project Types in line with the requirements.	
2.1.3 In relation to the above, all Projects shall, therefore, conform to the Principles & Requirements (and associated documents).	The project conforms with GS4GG Principles and Requirements.	As demonstrated above, the PoA conforms with GS4GG Principles & Requirements version 1.2. Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 2 of Community Services Activity Requirements version 1.2.
General Eligibility Criteria as per section 2 of Community Services Activity Requirements version 1.2		
3.1.1 Types of project – Pre-identified CSA project types are noted below. Project Developers may submit new project types to Gold Standard for approval following the Principles & 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.	By providing safe water, the safe water project activities reduce the energy requirements compared to the baseline scenario by removing the need for households to boil water for purification. 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.	As confirmed during the remote audit (interview & video inspection) of the already implemented VPAs in the Western Kenya, Mozambique, and Vietnam, the VPAs involve distribution of improved cookstoves or the distribution/installation/rehabilitation of safe water sources. The validation team confirms that the VPAs included in the PoA are End-use energy efficiency projects and reduce energy requirements as compared to baseline scenario. Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 3 of Community Services Activity Requirements version 1.2.
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. 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;	The project area and boundary are defined in line with the applicable Methodology, outlined in Section A.3. The project is a Small-scale project issuing emission reductions which will be capped at the maximum savings equivalent of 60GWh per year.	The boundary (as mentioned in Section A.3) and the scale of the PoA has been confirmed during the remote audit (interview & video inspection) and found to be in line with the applicable methodology/6/. Along with that the emission of each VPA will be capped at the maximum savings equivalent of 60GWh per year. It has also been confirmed that the CME, in order to establish the boundary, have taken into

<p>Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Others.</p>		<p>consideration all applicable national and/or sectoral policies and regulations within the chosen boundary.</p> <p>Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 3 of Community Services Activity Requirements version 1.2.</p>
<p>3.1.3 Where Gold Standard methodologies allow for a Suppressed Demand baseline scenario, this shall be limited to Small and Microscale Projects. Where a Suppressed Demand baseline is applied, it is not possible to 'stack' Gold Standard Impact Statements or Products as the definition of baseline may be contradictory.</p>	<p>The VPA is a small-scale project, therefore it is eligible for suppressed demand in the baseline scenario.</p>	<p>As confirmed during the remote audit discussion, each VPA under the POA is a small scale project, the emissions of which will be capped at 60GWh per year.</p> <p>Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 3 of Community Services Activity Requirements version 1.2.</p>
<p>3.1.4 Legal ownership: 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 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 the local stakeholder consultations for regular cycle projects.</p>	<p>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>	<p>As discussed during the remote audit, local partner organisations and staff involved in the implementation of activities in some VPAs will be identified and indicated as participants at the individual VPA level.</p> <p>However, the CME "CO2balance UK Ltd." is the sole entity responsible for the communication with the Gold Standard.</p> <p>Hence, the PoA meets the eligibility criteria of section 3 of Community Services Activity Requirements version 1.2.</p>

Voluntary Project Activities (VPAs) registered under the PoA will be financed by the generation and marketing of Voluntary Emission Reductions (VERs), which has been confirmed during the remote audit interview of CME representatives. Local partner organisations and staff involved in the implementation of activities in some VPAs will be identified and indicated as participants at the individual VPA level. However, the CME “CO2balance UK Ltd.” is the sole entity responsible for the communication with the Gold Standard.

The GS PoA “International Programme for Safe Water Access and Efficient Cookstoves” is eligible under the Gold Standard methodology “Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption version 3.1”. There is no public funding involved for implementation which will result in a diversion of Official development Assistance. The same has been checked from the signed declaration/7/.

The start date of the project activity has been considered as 02/10/2019 i.e. date of first submission of the PoA to Gold Standard. Validation team has checked the email evidence /18/ and confirmed that 02/10/2019 is the date of first submission of the PoA to Gold Standard. CL-03 has been raised in this regard and successfully closed.

CME has chosen a renewable crediting period of 5 years which is renewable twice + 5 years, i.e. total 20 years. The crediting period start date of the PoA has been considered as 02/10/2019 which is found acceptable.

It can be concluded that the project activity will contribute to GHG emission reduction along with direct environmental, social and economic benefits to the users and supporting staff.

Findings:

CL-01, CL-03, CL-05 and CAR-01 were raised and successfully closed. Refer to Annex-1 for further details.

Opinion:

The assessment team confirms that PoA-DD contains a transparent and accurate description and provides reader a clear understanding of the program of activity.

4.7 Baseline and monitoring methodology and Standardized baseline

4.7.1 General requirement

Discussion:

The small-scale PoA falls within the “End-use energy efficiency” category and utilizes the Gold Standard methodology ‘Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption V.03.1’ dated 25/08/2017” /6/.

Findings:

No findings raised

Opinion:

The applied baseline and monitoring methodology is valid and applicable to the PoA.

4.7.2 *Applicability of selected methodology to the project activity*

Discussion:

The VPAs under the PoA will either distribute cookstoves to the households or support the technologies which supply safe water, thereby removing fuel consumption and the need to boil water. The PoA will ensure that households consume less firewood and as a result there will be a reduction in carbon dioxide.

The applied methodology is applicable to programmes or activities introducing technologies and/or practices that reduce or displace greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the thermal energy consumption of households and non-domestic premises.” The project activity comes under criteria of the applied methodology i.e. “introduction of improved biomass or fossil fuel cookstoves” and “safe water supply and treatment technologies that displace the boiling of water”. Therefore, the methodology is applicable for the programme of activity.

The PoA has been assessed against all the applicability conditions justified under section B.3.1 of the PoA-DD/02/ against the criterion specified in the applied methodology.

Applicability Criteria	Compliance with Applicability Criteria
<p>The project boundary needs to be clearly identified, and the technologies counted in the project are not included in any other voluntary market or CDM project activity (i.e. no double counting takes place). In some cases there maybe another similar activity within the same target area. Project proponents must therefore have a survey mechanism in place together with appropriate mitigation measures so as to prevent any possibility of double counting.</p>	<p>The boundary (as mentioned in Section A.3) has been confirmed during the remote audit (interview & video inspection) and has taken into consideration all applicable national and/or sectoral policies and regulations.</p> <p>The technologies implemented under each VPA are given a unique identification number, as confirmed from the project database /9/ and verified during the remote audit interview with households. Therefore, validation team confirms that the technologies counted in the project are not included in any other voluntary market or CDM project activity (i.e. no double counting takes place).</p> <p>Hence, the PoA is in compliance with the applied methodology /6/.</p>
<p>The technologies each have continuous useful energy outputs of less than 150kW per unit (defined as the total useful energy delivered from start to end of operation of a unit divided by time of operation). For technologies or practices that do not deliver thermal energy in the project scenario but only displace thermal energy supplied in the baseline scenario, the 150kW threshold applies to the displaced baseline technology.</p>	<p>For technologies and practices that displace thermal energy supplied in the baseline scenario, the continuous useful energy output of 150kW per unit threshold applies to the displaced baseline technology.</p> <p>As discussed during the remote audit, for both types of technology i.e stoves and safe water technologies, 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>Hence, the PoA is in compliance with the applied methodology /6/.</p>

<p>Using the baseline technology as a backup or auxiliary technology in parallel with the improved technology introduced by the project activity is permitted as long as a mechanism is put into place to encourage the removal of the old technology (e.g. discounted price for the improved technology) and the definitive discontinuity of its use. The project documentation must provide a clear description of the approach chosen and the monitoring plan must allow for a good understanding of the extent to which the baseline technology is still in use after the introduction of the improved technology. For example, whether the existing baseline technology is not surrendered at the time of the introduction of the improved technology, or whether a new baseline technology is acquired and put to use by targeted end users during the project crediting period –see section 3.0. The success of the mechanism put into place must therefore be monitored, and the approach must be adjusted if proven unsuccessful⁵. If an old technology remains in use in parallel with the improved technology, the corresponding emissions must be accounted for as part of the project emissions.</p>	<p>As discussed during the remote audit, the distribution of cookstoves will reduce the fuel consumption and the mechanism to encourage discontinuity of baseline technology will be through educating local people on the extensive health and environmental benefits.</p> <p>Similarly, for water technology VPAs, the provision of safe water in the project scenario will remove the need to boil water and the encouragement for not using the baseline technology will be provided by WASH training given to the community, demonstrating the benefits of clean water.</p> <p>Hence, the PoA is in compliance with the applied methodology /6/.</p>
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<p>The project proponent must clearly communicate to all project participants the entity that is claiming ownership rights of and selling the emission reductions resulting from the project activity. For technology producers and the retailers of the improved technology or the renewable fuel in use, this must be communicated by contract or clear written assertions in the transaction paperwork. If the claimants are not the project technology end users, the end users will need to be informed and notified that they cannot claim for emission reductions from the project.</p>	<p>CME has clearly communicated to the stakeholders that the CME will claim ownership rights through Carbon right transfer form /11/. The users are fully aware of carbon ownership rights will be transferred to the project implementer (CME) as indicated in carbon right transfer form /11/.</p> <p>For VPAs involving safe water technologies, carbon right form is signed by the village administrator member on behalf and as a representative of the whole community and commits to explaining to all individuals that their use of the borehole is an agreement to transfer any rights to the carbon emissions reductions over to CO2balance UK Ltd..</p> <p>In case of VPAs involving Improved Cook Stoves, the purchasers of the project stove are informed of the carbon transfer at the point of sale and receive a warranty card which confirms the transfer of carbon rights. The carbon right form is signed by the vendee during stove purchase and acts agreement to transfer any rights to the carbon emissions reductions over to CO2balance UK Ltd..</p> <p>The process of the signing of the carbon right transfer form has been confirmed during the remote audit interviews with the stakeholders and found appropriate.</p> <p>Validation team has checked the sample form "Carbon transfer Form" /11/ which is also a Repair confirmation form (for safe water technologies) signed by Borehole technician and Warranty Card (for ICS) signed by the vendee.</p> <p>Hence, the PoA is in compliance with the applied methodology /6/.</p>
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<p>Project activities making use of a new biomass feedstock in the project situation (e.g. shift from non-renewable to green charcoal, plant oil or renewable biomass briquettes) must comply with relevant Gold Standard specific requirements for biomass related project activities, as defined in the latest version of the Gold Standard rules. If the biomass feedstock is sourced from a dedicated plantation, the criteria must apply to both plantations established for the project activity AND existing plantations that were established in the context of other activities but will supply biomass feedstock.</p> <p>Furthermore, the following conditions apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 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. The project fuel/stove combination may include instances in which the project stove is a baseline stove. b. Records of renewable fuel sales may not be used as sole parameters for emission reduction calculation, but may be used as data informing the equations in section II of this methodology. These records need to be correlated to data on distribution and results of field tests and surveys confirming (a) actual use of the renewable fuel and usage patterns (such as average fraction of non-renewable fuels used in mixed combustion or seasonal variation of fuel types), (b) GHG emission, (c) evidence of CO levels not deteriorating (d) any further factors effecting emission reductions significantly. 	<p>The PoA does not make use of new biomass feed stock. Hence, this para is not applicable.</p> <p>As confirmed during the remote interviews, fuel used in both the project and baseline scenario is the same. Therefore, no additional harmful gases are released in the PoA. In fact, the purpose of the technologies implemented through the PoA, is to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the burning of non-renewable biomass for cooking and water treatment.</p> <p>As confirmed during the remote audit, emission reduction calculation is based on fuel wood usage measurements for both cook stoves and water technologies. Therefore, validation team confirms that fuel sales will not be monitored or used in any equations.</p> <p>Hence, the PoA is in compliance with the applied methodology /6/.</p>
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Findings:

No findings were raised.

Opinion:

The assessment team concludes that on the basis of observations made during remote audit (interviews and video inspection) and document review of the documents, the PoA meets the requirement of the applied methodology /6/.

4.7.3 Project boundary

Discussion:

As per the applied methodology /6/, Project proponents must provide clear definitions of project boundary, target area, and fuel production and collection area:

- a. The project boundary is the physical, geographical sites of the project technologies. This boundary could also host the baseline and project fuel collection and production (e.g. charcoal, plant oil) and solid waste and effluents disposal or treatment facilities associated with fuel processing.
- b. The target area is the region(s) or town(s) where the considered baseline scenario(s) are deemed to be uniform across political borders. This area could be within a single country, or across multiple adjacent countries. The target area provides an outer limit to the project boundary in which the project has a target population.
- c. In cases where woody biomass (including charcoal) is the baseline fuel or where the project activity introduces the use of a new biomass feedstock into the project situation, the fuel production and collection area is the area within which this woody or new biomass is produced, collected and supplied.

The PoA is provisionally planned to incorporate activities within the geographical boundary of five host countries “The Republic of Kenya, The Republic of Mozambique, The Republic of Uganda, The Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and The Republic of Zambia”. The physical/geographical boundary is located within the host countries which are listed as a Non-Annex I Party to the UNFCCC and is therefore considered to be eligible. The project boundary co-ordinates are as given below:

Project Area Coordinates		
The Republic of Kenya	14.841412°	39.670669°
The Republic of Mozambique	14.674048°	38.262243°
The Republic of Uganda	14.912112°	38.222587°
The Socialist Republic of Vietnam	15.186781°	38.392505°
The Republic of Zambia	15.270219°	39.083873°

The information was validated during the remote audit (interview & video inspection) by the validation team and same has been demonstrated in section A.3 of the PoA-DD. It has also been confirmed that the CME, in order to establish the boundary, have taken into consideration all applicable national and/or sectoral policies and regulations /5/ within the chosen boundary.

Findings:

No findings were raised.

Opinion:

The project boundary confirmed during remote audit (interview & video inspection), along with the documentary evidence was found in conformance with the applied baseline methodology /6/. All sources of GHG emissions required by the methodology have been included in the project boundary and are justified in reference to the PoA. There are no project emissions/leakage emissions of any sort which are not addressed by the applied methodology occurring because of the PoA.

4.7.4 Baseline identification

Discussion:

The applied methodology /6/ requires the CME to follow the following guidance:

A baseline scenario is defined by the typical baseline fuel consumption patterns in a population that is targeted for adopting the new project technology. Hence, this “target population” is a representative baseline for the project activity.

CME has not defined the baseline scenario at POA level, as it will be identified at VPA level because of implementation of VPAs in different host countries.

However, baseline surveys /12/, Baseline water boiling test /13/ for the baseline establishment have been conducted by the CME, the results which have been checked by the validation team and found appropriate.

a) Baseline survey

In-line with Gold Standard requirements, the Baseline Survey provides critical information on demographics, household characteristics, kitchen habits, fuel use, water and fuel needed to purify water, suppressed demand and leakage. According to the relevant Gold Standard methodology the following information was captured in the surveys:

- Address or location
- Telephone number (when possible)
- Number of people served by baseline technology
- Typical baseline technology usage patterns and tasks (commercial, institutional, domestic etc.)
- Types of baseline technology used and estimated frequency
- Types of fuels used and estimated quantities
- Seasonal variations in baseline technology and fuel use
- Sources of fuels and prices paid or effort made

The surveys revealed that all the respondents used traditional firewood cook stoves and took their water from unsafe sources prior to the project. All respondents answered that they took steps to make the water safer; the principal method of water purification was boiling using firewood on a traditional three-stone fire.

Respondents gave reasons that they did not boil all the water that they collected; questions raised confirmed that reasons for not boiling were linked to poverty-related issues and are therefore considered as suppressed demand.

b) Baseline Water Boiling Test in case of Safe water technologies

The Baseline Water Boiling Test (BWBT) is conducted to calculate the quantity of fuel required to purify by boiling one litre of water for 10 minutes using technologies and fuels representative of the baseline scenario, The BWBT should be conducted using the 90/30 rule for selection of samples, accounting for variability in the types of prevalent baseline technologies.

The main objective of the fieldwork is to establish a conservative estimate of the baseline fuel required to boil 1 litre of water within the target area.

The baseline WBT results /13/ provided to the validation team were checked and the same was also confirmed by interviewing the users of the boreholes and other stakeholders during the remote audit.

c) Baseline Kitchen Performance Test in case of Improved cookstoves

As per the GS methodology, PoA also include deployment of improved cook stove for the reduction of non-renewable biomass use, and the baseline fuel and project fuel are the same.

The KPT was conducted by the trained staff/surveyors of CME along with VPA implementers. The procedure of the test and baseline KPT results /17/ provided to the validation team were checked and the same was also confirmed by interviewing the users of the ICS and other stakeholders during the remote audit.

Findings:

No findings were raised.

Opinion:

The assessment of the baseline will be conducted at VPA level.

4.7.5 Contribution to sustainable development goals

Discussion:

CME claims that specific contributions will be determined at VPA level.

However, as mentioned in the PoA-DD, the project contributes to the following sustainable development goals based on the technology used:

- 1) The ICS VPAs will contribute to the following SDGs:
 - SDG 3 – Good Health and Well being
 - SDG 5 – Gender Equality
 - SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy
 - SDG 8 – Decent work and Economic growth
 - SDG 13 – Climate Action
 - SDG 15 – Life on Land

- 2) The safe water VPAs will contribute to the following SDGs:
 - SDG 3 – Good Health and Well being
 - SDG 4 – Quality Education
 - SDG 5 – Gender Equality
 - SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation
 - SDG 13 – Climate Action
 - SDG 15 – Life on Land

SDGs	Description
3. Good Health and Well being (for both ICS and Safe water technology)	Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
4. Quality Education (for Safe water technology only)	Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

5. Gender Equality (for both ICS and Safe water technology)	Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6. Clean Water and Sanitation (for Safe water technology only)	Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
7. Affordable and Clean Energy (for ICS only)	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
8. Decent work and Economic growth (for ICS only)	Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
13. Climate Action (for both ICS and Safe water technology)	Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
15. Life on Land (for both ICS and Safe water technology)	Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Findings: No findings raised.

Opinion:

- a) The validation team confirms the proposed PoA will result in contributions to the SDGs 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 13 & 15.
- b) Since the project contributes to more than two SDGs the validation team is in the opinion that the project is eligible under Gold standard as per GS4GG.

4.8 Additionality

Discussion:

The CME has demonstrated the additionality of PoA as per para 4.1.1 of the GS4GG Programme of Activity Requirements (Version 1.2), which states that *“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.”*.

During the remote audit interviews with the CME representatives, it was confirmed that the in depth demonstration of additiionality would be demonstrated at VPA level. However, the POA level additionality is explained in the PoA-DD as per the paragraph 4.1.2 of the GS4GG Programme of Activity Requirements (Version 1.2), which states that *“The CME shall demonstrate additionality of proposed PoA by establishing that in the absence of Gold Standard Certification related finance (i) the proposed CPA/VPA would not be implemented,*

As confirmed during the remote audit interviews with the CME representatives, without the revenue generation by the VPAs, the PoA would not be viable. High cost of standalone GS fees, alone, would hinder the implementation of a number of VPAs. Therefore all the VPAs will apply the GS4GG Principles & Requirements /4/ and involve the technologies defined in section A.4 of the PoA-DD i.e Improved cookstoves (ICS) and Safe water technologies. The validation team confirms that the VPAs under the PoA will follow GS4GG Community Services Activity Requirements Version 1.2 and thus, will comply with the same regulations allowing them to fall under the PoA umbrella, reducing the cost of implementation of each.

or (ii) the mandatory policy/regulation would systematically not be enforced and that non-compliance with those requirements is widespread in the country/region,

As confirmed during the remote interviews, mandatory policy/regulation at host country level would be taken into consideration and therefore would be assessed at VPA level. The validation team ensures that the compliance of the VPAs with the host country regulations would be scrutinized at the VPA level to deem the VPA additional.

or (iii) that the PoA will lead to a greater level of enforcement of the existing mandatory policy/regulation or to a greater level of adoption of an existing voluntary scheme.”

As confirmed during the remote interviews as well as with the supportive documents /7//8//9/, PoA leads to distribution or rehabilitation of key energy efficiency technologies, that improves the quality of life of the end users in the host countries. The technologies to be implemented in the VPAs under the PoA, take into consideration, all the relevant national and/or sectoral policies and regulations of the host countries. VPAs under the PoA, will also aid countries in meeting their Nationally Determined Contributions and national targets with regards to the adoption of energy efficiency technologies.

As per the Community Services Activity (CSA) Requirements Version 1.2, paragraph 4.1.9 *“Projects that meet any of the following criteria are considered as deemed additional and therefore are not required to prove Financial Additionality at the time of Design Certification: (a) Positive list (Annex B of this document) (b) Projects located in LDC, SIDS, LLDC (c) Microscale projects”*

As confirmed during the remote interviews, the project boundary of the PoA involves host countries, such as Mozambique and Uganda that come under LDCs and will automatically be deemed additional, in compliance with paragraph 4.1.9 (b) of Community Services Activity Requirements Version 1.2. VPAs under the PoA promote household-level improved cookstoves, which comes under the positive list (as per paragraph 4.1.9 (a) of CSA requirements) and will be deemed additional as long as ex-ante calculations of each individual stove generates ERs of less than 600 tCO_{2e} per year.

Validation team confirms that for any activities that don't qualify with the above criteria will be subject to a full additionality assessment using the CDM “Tool for the demonstration of additionality” and this will be conducted at VPA level in the VPA-DD. In the case of any retroactive projects being included under the PoA, additionality will be demonstrated using the latest UNFCCC-approved or a Gold Standard-approved additionality tool. Therefore, the VPAs under the PoA are deemed additional and are not required to prove Financial Additionality at the time of Design Certification.

Findings:

CL-02 was raised and successfully closed. Refer to Annex-1 for further details.

Opinion:

Based on the local and sectoral expertise, the assessment team confirms that the PoA is additional and in compliance with the GS4GG Principle & Requirements, Programme of Activity Requirements and Community Services Activity Requirements /4/. However, an in-depth additionality analysis would be conducted at VPA level.

4.9 Application of Monitoring Methodology and Monitoring Plan

Discussion:

As confirmed during the remote interview, the Project implementer will have overall operational and management responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of the VPAs under the proposed PoA. The responsibilities of project implementer involve manufacturing and distribution of ICS and safe water treatment technologies, VPA Project Area/Household Identification and Sensitisation, data Collection and monitoring.

Project Implementer will be involved with relevant stakeholders to help identify project areas and/or households suitable for stove sales and distribution and/or safe water supply and treatment technology.

Project implementer will also work closely with the partners, Community Based Organisations (CBOs) and/or NGOs responsible for borehole installation and maintenance in applicable areas in relation to safe water provision technologies. A sensitisation procedure will also be carried out to ensure that households/recipients understand the benefits of the technology, to address the cultural issue, and train the users for the optimal use of the equipment. Sensitisation campaigns for each VPA include End-User training (for ICS) in line with Annex 10 of the Methodology /6/ and Hygiene campaign (for safe water technologies) in line with Annex 3 Section A.3.3.F of the Methodology/6/.

For the sale, distribution, rehabilitation or installation of each stove and/or safe water supply or treatment technology in the VPA a representative or partner of Project Implementer will be responsible for collecting monitoring data in line with section 3.A of the Methodology /6/. The monitoring data collected for project database will include the date of sale/installation/distribution/rehabilitation, geographic area, model/type of project technology, Quantity of project technology, name and telephone number, and address of users.

Ongoing monitoring of the performance of the stoves and/or safe water supply or treatment technology in each VPA is the responsibility of Project Implementer and/or partner organisations and a sampled group of project technologies will be assessed in line with the Methodology monitoring requirements.

After an intensive document review of the PoA-DD and remote assessment by interviews with CME representatives about the monitoring procedures and structure, the validation team confirms that verification of SDG outcomes would be feasible. Also, quality assurance and quality control procedures identified in the PoA-DD will lead to accuracy and lesser uncertainty.

Sampling Plan:

The PoA includes various VPAs covering either of the two technologies (i.e ICS or Safe water technologies) specified in section A.4 of the PoA-DD/2/. During the remote interviews, it was confirmed that the homogenous VPAs, 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.

A sample group of technology users within each VPA (or homogenous VPA group) will also be identified to be monitored, during each verification period. This sample group will be altered during every verification period, according to the simple random selection process carried out in line with the confidence/precision and sample size requirements in the Methodology /6/. Monitoring will be carried out in line with Section 3 of the Methodology/6/.

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

Findings:

No findings were raised.

Opinion:

The assessment team confirms that the monitoring plan:

- a) Is in compliance with the requirements stated in the applied approved monitoring methodology/6/
- b) Is feasible and can be implemented in the case of the PoA
- c) Can be implemented by the CME.

4.10 Environmental Impacts

Discussion:

The purpose of the technologies implemented through the PoA, is to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the burning of non-renewable biomass for cooking and water treatment. Therefore, the PoA has no adverse environmental impact.

Findings:

No findings were raised.

Opinion:

The assessment team confirms that the project activity complies with the local environmental regulations of the host countries.

5. Local Stakeholder Consultation and Stakeholder Feedback Round (SFR)

Discussion:

Local stakeholder consultation and SFR has not been conducted at PoA level, and will be conducted for individual VPAs.

Findings:

No findings were raised.

Opinion:

The project activity is a regular cycle project. During the remote audit, interviews with the beneficiaries and local government officials were undertaken and it can be confirmed that the project proponent takes into account the feedback of stakeholders through various ways.

6. Safeguarding principles

Discussion:

Safeguarding principle assessment has not been conducted at PoA level, and will be conducted for individual VPAs.

Findings:

No findings were raised.

Opinion:

The assessment team confirms that the estimation of Safeguarding principle assessment would be conducted at VPA level.

7. SDG Outcome Assessment

Discussion:

Estimation of SDG outcomes has not been conducted at PoA level, and will be conducted for individual VPAs.

Findings:

No findings were raised.

Opinion:

The assessment team confirms that the estimation of SDG outcomes would be conducted at VPA level.

8. References

S. No.	Name of document
/1/	Initial PoA-DD Version 01 dated 17/01/2020
/2/	Final PoA-DD Version 02 dated 05/08/2020
/3/	VPA-DD's submitted along with the PoA-DD /3.1/ VPA 1 Initial VPA-DD Version 01 dated 30/04/2020 /3.2/ VPA 3 Initial VPA-DD Version 01 dated 30/04/2020 /3.3/ VPA 5 Initial VPA-DD Version 03 dated 01/05/2020 /3.4/ VPA 7 Initial VPA-DD Version 01 dated 30/04/2020 /3.5/ VPA 17 Initial VPA-DD Version 01 dated 27/04/2020 /3.6/ VPA 32 Initial VPA-DD Version 01 dated 29/04/2020
/4/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GS4GG Principles & Requirements, Version 1.2 dated October 2019 https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/100-principles-and-requirements/ GS4GG-Stakeholder Consultation Requirements Guidelines, v1.2' GS4GG 'Community Services Activity-Requirements', v1.2 COVID 19 Interim measures
/5/	<p>Host country criteria (Rules & regulations)</p> <p>Kenya:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Kenya's Energy Act, 2019 – available at: http://kenyalaw.org:8181/exist/kenyalex/actview.xql?actid=No.%201%20of%202019 Kenya's Environmental Management and Co-ordination Act, 1999 – available at: http://kenyalaw.org:8181/exist/kenyalex/actview.xql?actid=No.%208%20of%201999 <p>Mozambique:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> WQT Regulations for Mozambique 180_400 (Diploma Ministerial n.2 18012004) http://www.mafalala.uem.mz/images/pdf_files/Qualidade.pdf Environmental Law (Lei n° 20/97: Lei do Ambiente) https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/act-no-2097-approving-the-environment-act-lex-faac015370/ National Action Plan on Women Peace and Security (2018-2022) https://www.peacewomen.org/sites/default/files/Mozambique%20NAP%20(2018-2022).pdf Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/pt/376611553167167397/pdf/Environmental-and-Social-ManagementFramework-ESMF-P161777.pdf <p>Uganda:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Republic of Uganda (1995) Articles XIV, XXI and XXVII, https://ulii.org/ug/legislation/consolidated-act/0 The National Water Policy (1999) http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/uga158331.pdf The National Gender Policy (2007) http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/uga163564.pdf <p>Zambia:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Drinking Water Quality-Specifications (http://www.puntofocal.gov.ar/notific_otros_miembros/zmb48_t.pdf) National Gender Policy (http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/zam152916.pdf) Water Resources Management Act 2011 (http://www.parliament.gov.zm/node/6544)

	<p>4. Environmental Management Act 2011 (http://www.parliament.gov.zm/node/7348)</p> <p>Vietnam:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vietnam Environment Protection Law 2014 (https://vietnamlawenglish.blogspot.com/2014/06/vietnam-environmental-protection-law.html) 2. National Strategy of Gender Equality 2011-20. (http://ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=en&p_isn=91607&p_country=VNM&p_count=532)
/6/	<p>Gold Standard Methodology: “Technologies and Practices to displace decentralized thermal energy consumption” methodology”. Version 03.1</p> <p>https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/407-ee-ics-technologies-and-practices-to-displace-decentralized-thermal-energy-tpdtec-consumption/</p>
/7/	<p>Declaration confirming that there is no diversion of ODA</p> <p>Kenya:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. VPA 1(Western Kenya) “GS7557 ODA-Declaration” dated 13/01/2020. 2. VPA 3(Cestern Kenya) “501-ER-T-ODA-Declaration_Central” dated 13/01/2020. <p>Mozambique: VPA 17 “501-ER-T-ODA-Decalaration_GS7636-7651“ dated 09/01/2020</p> <p>Uganda: VPA 7 “ODA-Declaration_GS7592 – 7601“ dated 02/03/2020</p> <p>Zambia: VPA 32 “GS7687-91 ODA-Declaration Zambia“ dated 20/01/2020</p> <p>Vietnam: VPA 5 Declaration dated 25/11/2019</p>
/8/	<p>Technical specification manual</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. https://www.engineeringforchange.org/solutions/product/afridev-hand-pump/#:~:text=Maximum%20Stroke%3A%20225%20mm,served%20per%20unit%3A%20~%20300%20people 2. https://www.rural-water-supply.net/en/implementation/public-domain-handpumps/afridev 3. https://www.rural-water-supply.net/en/implementation/handpump-overview/139-india-mark-ii 4. U3 modified Handpump specification https://www.rural-water-supply.net/en/resources/details/343
/9/	<p>Project database (Borehole, Cookstove)</p> <p>Kenya: 1. VPA 1 “Western Borehole database” providing the details of 36 Rehabilitated Boreholes.</p> <p>2. VPA 3 “Central Borehole database” providing the details of 70 Rehabilitated Boreholes.</p> <p>Mozambique: VPA 17: “BH_Database” providing the details of 274 Rehabilitated Boreholes.</p> <p>Uganda: VPA 7: “Northern Uganda BH Database 280720” providing the details of 97 Rehabilitated Boreholes.</p> <p>Zambia: VPA 32: “BH Database_28072020” providing the details of 68 Rehabilitated Boreholes.</p> <p>Vietnam: VPA 5: “NVICS_distribution 270720” Providing details of (1451) distributed ICS.</p>
/10/	<p>Stove id tracking procedure</p>

/11/	<p>Carbon transfer form (CTF)</p> <p>Kenya: 1. VPA 1: Western Kenya CTFs dated 05/12/2019, 06/12/2019, and 07/12/2019 2. VPA 3: Central Kenya CTFs dated 20/01/2020, 21/01/2020, 22/01/2020, 23/01/2020, 24/01/2020, 25/01/2020, 27/01/2020, and 28/01/2020.</p> <p>Mozambique: VPA 17: CTFs dated 04.02.2020 and 05.02.2020</p> <p>Uganda: VPA 7: CTFs dated 26.02.2020</p> <p>Zambia: VPA 32: CTFs dated 20/03/2020, 16/04/2020, 18/04/2020, 19/04/2020, 20/04/2020</p> <p>Vietnam: VPA 5: Carbon transfer form(CTF) or Sample Stove Customer info card (Warranty card)</p>
/12/	<p>Baseline Survey</p> <p>Kenya:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. VPA 1 “Western Kenya Baseline survey_Final_04.2020” excel sheet 2. VPA 1 “Western Kenya Baseline Survey Sample Scans” dated 12/06/2019, 13/06/2019, 15/06/2019, 17/06/2019, 18/06/2019, 19/06/2019, 20/06/2019, 24/09/2019, 01/10/2019, 5/10, 10/10/2019. 3. VPA 3 “Central Kenya Baseline survey_Final_04.2020” excel sheet 4. VPA 3 Central Kenya Baseline Survey Sample Scans dated 14/04/2019, 15/04/2019, 18/04/2019, 24/09/2019, 25/09/2019, and 09/10/2019. <p>Mozambique:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. VPA 17: “Baseline Survey Mozambique SS_2020” excel sheet 2. VPA 17: “Mozambique Baseline Survey Sample Scans” dated 23/01/2020. <p>Uganda:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. VPA 7: “Baseline scans” dated 10/10/2019, 11/10/2019, 13/10/2019, 09/03/2020, 10/03/2020, 11/03/2020, 26/03/2020 2. VPA 7: “Combined baseline KAOD-Northern v3” excel sheet <p>Zambia: VPA 32: “Baseline Survey Zambia SS_2020” excel sheet</p> <p>Vietnam: VPA 5: “NVICS_baseline KS” excel sheet</p>
/13/	<p><u>Procedure of Baseline Water Boiling Test (BWBT) :</u> Annex IV_WBT guide</p> <p><u>Baseline Water Boiling Test (BWBT) results:</u></p> <p>Kenya:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. VPA 1: “Western Kenya Baseline WBT Final_03.20” excel sheet 2. VPA 3: “Central Kenya Baseline WBT Final_03.20” excel sheet <p>Mozambique: VPA 17: “Baseline WBT Mozambique_SS_2020” excel sheet</p> <p>Uganda: VPA 7: “BWBT Mukono v2” excel sheet, “Baseline WBT Report Uganda_Strata”, Baseline WBT scans dated August 2012.</p> <p>Zambia: VPA 32: “Baseline WBT Zambia_SS_2020” excel sheet</p>
/14/	<p>WASH related documents</p> <p>Kenya: VPA 1 Western Kenya Borehole WASH agreement 2020 dated 12/05/2020, 13/05/2020, 14/05/2020, 15/05/2020, 16/05/2020, 18/05/2020, and 19/05/2020.</p>

	<p>Mozambique:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> VPA 17: Training dated 24/02/2020 attended by 45 people VPA 17: Training dated 25/02/2020 attended by 24 people <p>Uganda: Has not been conducted (Due to COVID-19 Pandemic)</p> <p>Zambia: 1. VPA 32: Training dated 30/04/2020 attended by 25 people 2. VPA 32 Training dated 22/06/2020 (Chiwala village) attended by 25 people 3. VPA 32 Training dated 22/06/2020 (Mashewa village) attended by 17 people.</p>
/15/	<p>Local Stakeholder Consultation</p> <p>Kenya: 1. VPA 1: SS-SCR document dated 11/11/2019, LSC conducted on 16/09/2019, in English and Swahili at Arom Hotel, along Kisian Bondo Highway next to Kombewa Market, Kisumu County.</p> <p>2. VPA 3: SS-SCR document dated 11/11/2019, LSC conducted on 18/09/2019, in English and Swahili at Five in Hotel at Marimanti Shopping Centre, Tharaka-Nithi County.</p> <p>Mozambique: VPA 17: SS-SCR document dated 05.03.2020, community level meeting 13/11/2019, in English and portugese at Nhamatanda District, Sofala Province.</p> <p>Uganda: VPA 7: SS-SCR document dated 02.03.2020, for meeting dated 13/12/2019 in English & Acholi.</p> <p>Zambia: VPA 32: SS-SCR document dated 06/03/2020 for meeting conducted on 06/11/2019 in English at Chibombo district cental province, Zambia.</p> <p>Vietnam: SS-SCR document dated 21/11/2019 for meeting conducted on 11/09/2019.</p>
/16/	<p>Water Quality Test Reports</p> <p>Kenya: 1. VPA 1: WQT Reports for KUB 013 (dated 05/05/2020), 015(dated 31/03/2020), and 029 (dated 07/05/2020).</p> <p>2. VPA 3: PP is still obtaining WQT results from the lab currently. PP will upload WQTs in time for first Verification ensuring 1st test is done within 6 months of Borehole repair and quarterly thereafter as per GS TPDDTEC v3.1 guidelines.</p> <p>Mozambique: VPA 17: WQT Reports dated 01/05/2020, 14/05/2020, 15/05/2020, and 26/06/2020.</p> <p>Uganda: VPA 7: 50 WQT Reports dated 05/06/2020.</p> <p>Zambia: VPA 32: WQTs are currently ongoing and PP is awaiting results and certificates from the field team. WQTs will be carried out on all boreholes within 6 months of rehabilitation, and results will be verified by the Zambia Bureau of Standards.</p>
/17/	<p>Baseline KPT results</p> <p>Vietnam: VPA 5: "NVISC_baseline KPT" excel sheet.</p>
/18/	<p>"SS POA Design Consultation Review" email to Annyta Luo dated 02/10/2019</p>

Annex 1: Detailed Findings

Summary of findings	CAR	CL	FAR
	01	05	00

Table 1. CL from this validation

CL ID	01	Section no.	4.6	Date:	20/07/2020
Description of CL					
<p>1. It has been mentioned in section A.4 (page-4) that “<i>the ICS VPAs will contribute to the following SDGs</i>”, however it is observed that the SDGs names corresponding to each of the SDGs (as per the UN website) are not correct. Clarify.</p> <p>2. The reference section number of “<i>Eligible project types and Scopes</i>” (<i>community service activity requirements</i>) shall be corrected on page-7 (Section A.4) and Section B.1 of the PoA-DD.</p>					
Project participant response					Date: 05/08/2020
<p>1. PP has updated the SDGs references as per UN website</p> <p>2. PP has updated the references to “<i>Eligible project types and Scopes</i>” (<i>community service activity requirements</i>) in section A.4 and section B.1</p>					
Documentation provided by project participant					
<p>GS7591 IPSWAEC GS4GG_PoA-DD_ver2_CLEAN</p> <p>GS7591 IPSWAEC GS4GG_PoA-DD_ver2_TRACK</p>					
VVB assessment					Date: 05/08/2020
<p>1. The revised PoA-DD has been checked and the validation team confirms that the SDG’s are now consistent.</p> <p>2. The revised PoA-DD has been checked and the validation team confirms that appropriate corrections have been made which are consistent with the community service activity requirements.</p> <p>Hence, CL 01 is closed.</p>					

CL ID	02	Section no.	4.8	Date:	20/07/2020
Description of CL					

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> As per the para 4.1.1 of the GS4GG “Programme of Activity Requirements, version 1.2”, “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 shall clarify as how the above requirements have been met by the PoA. As per the para 4.1.2 of the GS4GG “Programme of Activity Requirements, version 1.2”, “The CME shall demonstrate additionality of proposed PoA by establishing that in the absence of Gold Standard Certification related finance (i) the proposed CPA/VPA would not be implemented, or (ii) the mandatory policy/regulation would systematically not be enforced and that non-compliance with those requirements is widespread in the country/region, or (iii) that the PoA will lead to a greater level of enforcement of the existing mandatory policy/regulation or to a greater level of adoption of an existing voluntary scheme” The CME shall clarify as how the above requirements have been met for demonstrating the additionality of the PoA. 	
Project participant response	Date: 05/08/2020
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> PP has demonstrated additionality at the PoA level in section B.1 of the PoA-DD (updated) and at VPA level in section B.2. Additionality will be demonstrated at the VPA level in the VPA-DDs which will also contribute to the overall additionality of the PoA. PP has updated Section B.1 of the PoA-DD addressing the above requirements. 	
Documentation provided by project participant	
GS7591 IPSWAEC GS4GG_PoA-DD_ver2_CLEAN	
GS7591 IPSWAEC GS4GG_PoA-DD_ver2_TRACK	
VVB assessment	Date: 05/08/2020
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Section B.1 of the revised PoA-DD has been checked and the validation team confirms that the CME has demonstrated at the VPA level in the submitted VPA-DDs in line with the the para 4.1.1 of the GS4GG “Programme of Activity Requirements, version 1.2”. Section B.2 of the revised PoA-DD has been checked and the validation team confirms that all the requirements of the para 4.1.1 of the GS4GG “Programme of Activity Requirements, version 1.2” have been met. <p>Hence, CL 02 is closed.</p>	

CL ID	03	Section no.	4.6	Date: 20/07/2020
Description of CL				
The relevant evidence for the start date of the PoA shall be provided in Section D.1 of the PoA-DD.				
Project participant response				Date: 05/08/2020
As per the POA-DD Template the date given in Section D.1 is the date of first submission of the PoA to Gold Standard. As the Sustain-Cert platform was not set up to conduct the Design Consultation Review, this was done by email on 02/10/2019. The email is submitted as evidence.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
Fwd_ SS POA Design Consultation Review				

VVB assessment	Date: 05/08/2020
<p>The email evidence has been checked and it has been confirmed that 02/10/2019 is the date of first submission of the PoA to Gold Standard.</p> <p>Hence, CL 03 is closed.</p>	

CL ID	04	Section no.	4.11	Date: 20/07/2020
Description of CL				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It has been mentioned in Section F.1 that the “<i>PoA Design Consultation was carried out in line with GS4GG Programme of Activity Requirements</i>”. The relevant evidences/documents for the consultation shall be provided. 2. The CME shall clarify as how the following requirements of paragraph 6.1.3 of the GS4GG “<i>Programme of Activity Requirements, version 1.2</i>” have been met by the PoA. “<i>In the case of multi-country PoA, the CME shall demonstrate that all relevant stakeholders across the different countries have been invited to provide feedback on the design of the PoA</i>”. Clarify. 				
Project participant response				Date: 05/08/2020
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PP has submitted the POA Design Consultation Report which details how GS4GG PoA Requirements were met by the Design Consultation process and includes relevant evidences. 2. PP has submitted the POA Design Consultation Report which details how all relevant stakeholders were invited to provide feedback. 				
Documentation provided by project participant				
GS4GG_PoA_Design-Consultation Report_SS PoA_v3				
VVB assessment				Date: 05/08/2020
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The PoA design consultation report version 3 has been submitted by the CME. 2. Section B of the PoA design consultation report version 3 has been checked by the validation team to confirm that an electronic PoA Design Consultation was conducted to obtain feedback from governments, relevant national authorities, NGO communities and other stakeholders on the design of the programme. The DNA from each country included in the multi-country PoA was invited to the consultation, along with relevant Gold Standard representatives. Local and international NGO communities with relevant backgrounds (for example; environmental, energy related, rural development, gender) were also included, in addition to all relevant Gold Standard supporter NGOs. <p>Invites and reminders were sent electronically via email. Stakeholders were given the opportunity to review the programme design and provide comments if they wished to do so. The PoA Design Consultation was open from 19/08/2019 – 19/09/2019.</p> <p>Hence, CL 04 is closed.</p>				

CL ID	05	Section no.	4.6	Date: 20/07/2020
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Description of CL	
Please refer to the GS4GG “ <i>Programme of Activity Requirements, version 1.2</i> ”. Please provide more details as how the following requirements have been met by the PoA. “ <i>Para 17.1.3: The information given in the PoA DD and VPA DD should demonstrate with confidence that all targeted communities within the PoA boundary are homogeneous with respect to the above four points</i> ”.	
Project participant response	Date: 05/08/2020
In line with Paragraph 17.1.1, Paragraphs 17.1.2 - 17.1.5 lay out the process for requesting an exception under Paragraph 17.1.1 for the requirement to provide a VPA-DD for each country considered at the time of PoA Registration. PP has submitted a VPA-DD for each country considered in the PoA, and therefore the exception process does not apply.	
Documentation provided by project participant	
-	
VVB assessment	Date: 05/08/2020
The validation team confirms that VPA-DD for each country considered in the PoA has been submitted during the time of registration, which complies with the paragraph 17.1.1 of the <i>Programme of Activity Requirements, version 1.2</i> . Hence, CL 05 is closed.	

Table 2. CAR from this validation

CAR ID	01	Section no.	4.6	Date: 20/07/2020
Description of CAR				
Consistency should be maintained in the name of PP (CO2balance UK Ltd.) throughout the VPA-DD.				
Project participant response				Date: 05/08/2020
PP has updated CO2balance UK Ltd throughout the VPA-DD to maintain consistency				
Documentation provided by project participant				
GS7591 IPSWAEC GS4GG_PoA-DD_ver2_CLEAN GS7591 IPSWAEC GS4GG_PoA-DD_ver2_TRACK				
VVB assessment				Date: 05/08/2020
The revised PoA-DD has been checked and validation team confirms the consistency in the name of PP throughout the document. Hence, CAR 01 is closed.				

Table 3. FAR from this validation

FAR ID	Xx	Section no.		Date: DD/MM/YYYY
Description of FAR				
Project participant response				Date: DD/MM/YYYY
Documentation provided by project participant				
VVB assessment				Date: DD/MM/YYYY

Annex 2: Certificate of Competence

Personnel Name:		Rohit Badaya	
Qualified to work as:			
Team Leader	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Technical Expert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Validator/Verifier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Financial Expert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Technical Reviewer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Local Expert (India)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Area(s) of Technical Expertise			
Sectoral Scope	Technical Area		
Energy industries (renewable/non-renewable sources)	TA 1.1: Thermal energy generation from fossil fuels and biomass including thermal electricity from solar		
	TA 1.2: Energy generation from renewable energy sources		
Energy distribution	TA 2.1: Energy distribution		
Energy demand	TA 3.1. Energy Demand		
Waste Handling and Disposal	TA 13.1 Solid waste and wastewater TA 13.2 Manure		
Approved By	Manager Competency & Training		
Approval date:	29/12/2018		

Personnel Name:		Ms. Shikha Sharma	
Qualified to work as:			
Team Leader	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technical Expert	<input type="checkbox"/>
Validator/Verifier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Financial Expert	<input type="checkbox"/>
Technical Reviewer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Expert	<input type="checkbox"/>
Area(s) of Technical Expertise			
Sectoral Scope	Technical Area		
-	-		
Approved by (Manager C & T)	Sanjay Kandari		
Approval date:	26/11/2019		

Personnel Name:		Sanjay Kandari	
Qualified to work as:			
Team Leader	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Technical Expert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Validator/Verifier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Financial Expert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Technical Reviewer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Local Expert (India)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Area(s) of Technical Expertise			
Sectoral Scope	Technical Area		
Energy Industries (renewable/non-renewable sources)	TA 1.1: Thermal energy generation from fossil fuels and biomass including thermal electricity from solar		
Energy industries (renewable/non-renewable sources)	TA 1.2: Energy generation from renewable energy sources		
Energy demand	TA 3.1. Energy Demand		
Waste Handling and Disposal	TA 13.1 Waste Handling and Disposal TA 13.2 Manure		
Approved by (Manager C & T)	Akhilesh Joshi		
Approval date:	11/12/2015		

History of the document

Version	Date	Nature of revision	Reviewed by	Approved by
6.0	20/02/2015	Revised For VVS 7.0	Manager CDM Quality 21/02/2015	Managing Director 24/02/2015
5.0	08/10/2014	Section 4.8.4 and 4.8.5 are revised based on the corrective actions proposed during the performance assessment.	Manager CDM Quality 13/10/2014	Managing Director 14/10/2013
4.0	29/07/2013	Revised for VVS 3.0 and 4.6 section added	Manager CDM Quality 04/08/2012	Managing Director 08/08/2013
3.0	05/09/2012	Revised for VVS track	Manager CDM Quality 07/09/2012	Managing Director 10/09/2012
2.0	31/12/2011	Comprehensively revised	Manager CDM Quality 31/12/2011	Managing Director 31/12/2011