

**Validation report for
GS4GG Programme of Activities
(Gold Standard for the Global Goals)**

BASIC INFORMATION

Title and GS reference number of the program of activities (PoA)	GS11638: SPOUTS Water Purifier Programme in Africa
Version number of the validation report	2.1
Completion date of the validation report	22/02/2023
Version number of the PoA-DD to which this report applies	2.4 Dated 10/02/2023
Coordinating/managing entity (CME)	AGS Carbon Advisory
Project Participants and any communities involved	SPOUTS International (SPOUTS)
Host Party	Republic of Uganda Republic of Rwanda
Applied methodologies and standardized baselines	Emission reduction from safe drinking water supply- version 1.0
Mandatory sectoral scopes linked to the applied methodologies	3: Energy Demand
SDG Outcomes	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being SDG 5: Gender Equality SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy Target SDG 8: Decent Work & Economic Growth SDG 13: Climate Action (mandatory)
Name of the VVB	Earthood Services Private Limited

Name, position and signature of the approver of the validation report



Kaviraj Singh
Managing Director

SECTION A. Executive summary

The purpose of the PoA is to provide safe water technologies to vulnerable communities that lack access to safe drinking water and meet the technology and measure requirements of the applied methodology "Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply", version 1.0 /7/ in Republic of Uganda and Republic of Rwanda. The programme also aims to enhance the social, environmental, and economic impact of each VPA through various complementary activities and increase the participation of women.

In the absence of the proposed programme of activities households and institutions would be either boiling water using non-renewable biomass and/or consume unsafe water due to various barriers factors (suppressed demand), which will lead to increased exposure to water borne diseases and high consumption of fossil fuels.

The PoA (GS11638) is applying for design certification under GS4GG programme and the Coordinating/managing entity of the PoA is AGS Carbon Advisory and the Project participant is SPOUTS International (SPOUTS). The duration of the PoA is 20 years.

Scope of Validation

The scope of the services provided by the Earthood Services Private Limited for the PoA is to perform validation of the PoA. The scope of validation is to assess the claims and assumptions made in the programme of activity design document (PoA-DD)/1/ against the GS4GG criteria, UNFCCC criteria, including but not limited to the Gold Standard Principles & Requirements/6/, Gold Standard Programme of Activities Requirements/2/, Gold Standard Community Services Activity Requirements/9/, CDM PS for PoAs/3/, CDM VVS/5/, applied GS impact quantification methodology and other relevant rules and requirements established for Gold Standard.

Validation Process and Methodology

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

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

Conclusion

The review of the PoA-DD/1/, supporting documentation and subsequent follow up actions has provided ESPL with sufficient evidence to determine the fulfilment of stated criteria. Earthood is of the opinion that the PoA "SPOUTS Water Purifier Programme in Africa" meets all the GS requirements, host country criteria and has correctly applied the GS approved methodology

“Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply”, version 1.0 /7/. Therefore, the PoA is recommended to GS for registration following the submission of the validation report.

SECTION B. Validation team, technical reviewer and approver

B.1. Validation team member

No	Role	Type of resource	Last name	First name	Affiliation (e.g. name of central or other office of VVB or outsourced entity)	Involvement in			
						Desk/ document review	On-site Audit	Interviews	Validation findings
1.	Team Leader (GS Approved Auditor)	IR	Guleria	Shifali	Central office	Y	Y	Y	Y
2.	Methodology Expert	IR	Guleria	Shifali	Central office	Y	Y	Y	Y
4.	Technical Area Expert (TA 3.1)	IR	Guleria	Shifali	Central office	Y	Y	Y	Y
5.	Local Expert (Rwanda)	IR	Uwimana	Olivier	Central office	Y	Y	Y	Y
6.	Local Expert (Uganda)	IR	Khaukha	Julius	Central office	Y	Y	Y	Y
7.	Trainee Validator	IR	Panicker	Vishnu S	Central office	Y	Y	Y	Y
8.	Trainee Validator	IR	Chawla	Muskan	Central office	Y	N	N	Y

B.2. Technical reviewer and approver of the validation report

No.	Role	Type of resource	Last name	First name	Affiliation (e.g.name of central or other office of VVB or outsourced entity)
1.	Technical reviewer	IR	Mahala	Deepika	Central office
2.	Expert to TR (TA 3.1)	IR	Mahala	Deepika	Central office
3.	Approver	IR	Singh	Kaviraj	Central office

SECTION C. Means of validation
C.1. Desk/document review

The validation of the PoA was performed through the document review including review of PoA-DD/1/ version 2.3, dated 24/01/2023. The validation of the information provided in the PoA-DD was performed by using the various sources of information provided by the project participant. Additionally, cross checks were performed for information provided in the PoA-DD /1/ using information from sources other than the validation sources, the validation team’s sectoral or local expertise and, if necessary, independent background investigations.

C.2. On-site inspection

Duration of on-site inspection: 21/09/2022 to 25/09/2022				
No	Activity performed on-site	Site location	Date	Team member
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - During on-site visit the following Activities are performed during audit. -Opening Meeting: Introduction, scope and objective of work, roles and responsibilities of audit team. - Parameter fixed Ex-ante and Baseline emissions, Project emissions and Leakage calculation - Project boundary and emission sources included in the project boundary. - Choice and applicability of baseline methodology(ies) - Project Activity (Technology, Location and Implementation) - Monitoring plan (feasibility of monitoring arrangements described in PDD, QA/QC procedures, responsibility of implementation of monitoring plan, data recording & storage procedures) - Operational lifetime of the project activity, Start date of the project activity, Crediting period - Local Stakeholder Consultation process, comments received. 	Western region of The Republic of Uganda & Western region of The Republic of Rwanda	21/09/2022 to 25/09/2022	Shifali Guleria, Vishnu S Panicker Oliver Uwimana (Rwanda) Julius Khaukha (Uganda)

C.2.1. Interviews with CME and local stakeholders

No	Interviewee			Date	Subject	Team member
	Last name	First name	Affiliation			

1.	Yin	Daniel	CEO SPOUTS -	21/09/2022-25/09/2022	Program design, Baseline scenario, ex-ante and monitored parameters	Shifali Guleria, Vishnu Panicker
2.	Ineza	Charity	Business Representative SPOUTS	21/09/2022-25/09/2022	Monitoring plan, baseline scenario, technical description, Additionality, Project boundary, Ex-ante and Ex-post parameter	Shifali Guleria, Vishnu Panicker
3.	Ampaire	Ronald	Global Carbon Specialist-SPOUTS	21/09/2022-25/09/2022	VPA Implementation, Baseline Survey	Shifali Guleria, Vishnu Panicker
4.	Nimoh	Michael	Global Growth Director & Rwanda Country Lead-SPOUTS	21/09/2022-25/09/2022	Distribution Database, Local Stakeholder Consultation	Shifali Guleria, Vishnu Panicker
5.	Kabatesi	Eva	Intern, Sales & Marketing-SPOUTS	21/09/2022-25/09/2022	VPA DD, Ex-ante ER Calculations	Shifali Guleria, Vishnu Panicker

C.3. Sampling approach

The VVB has not followed any sampling approach for the Validation of the PoA. The Sampling was conducted at the VPA level to check the baseline survey. At the PoA level only the CME representative were interviewed during the site visit to verify the project details, implementation status, baseline scenario, additionality.

C.4. Clarification requests (CLs), corrective action requests (CARs) and forward action requests (FARs) raised

Areas of validation findings	No. of CL	No. of CAR	No. of FAR
Compliance of the PoA-DD with the PoA Design Document	-	CAR #06	-
Identification of project type	-	-	-
General description of PoA	CL #01 CL #02	-	-
General Eligibility of the PoA under Gold Standard	-	-	-
- Assessment of the eligibility of the PoA under Gold Standard	CL #03	-	-
- Project boundary, sources and GHGs	-	-	-

- Baseline scenario	-	-	-
- Target/Indicator for the SDGs	-	-	-
- Management System	-	-	-
- Application of methodology	CL #04	-	-
- Deviation from methodology and/or methodological tool	-	-	-
- Clarification on applicability of methodology, tool and/or standardized baseline	-	-	-
- Demonstration of additionality	-	CAR #06	-
- Eligibility criteria for VPA inclusion	-	CAR #05	-
Start date, crediting period type and duration	-	-	-
Safeguarding Principles Assessment	-	-	-
Summary of stakeholder consultation	-	-	FAR #01
Sustainable development co-benefits	-	-	-
Grievance Mechanism	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-
Total	04	02	01

*FAR from GS4GG preliminary review

SECTION D. Validation findings

D.1. Compliance of the PoA-DD with the PoA Design Document

Means of validation	The Gold Standard for Global Goals prescribes a template for PoA-DD. Therefore, CME has used the Gold standard for global goals PoA-DD form version 2.1/10/ which has been issued by Gold Standards on 31/05/2022. In addition, all the GS4GG requirements are included in accordance with the Principles and Requirements version 1.2 /6/.
Findings	CAR#06 was raised and resolved.
Conclusion	The final PoA-DD /1/ is found to be in compliance with the applicable latest PoA-DD form/10/ and instructions contained therein.

D.2. Identification of project type

Means of validation	This PoA involves distributing safe water technologies to the communities in Republic of Uganda and Republic of Rwanda. The PoA is a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) activity under 3.1.1.(d) of the Gold Standard GS4GG Activity Requirements "Community Services Activity Requirements"/9/ and the PoA-DD employs the GS methodology "Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply", version 1.0 /7/.
Findings	No findings were raised
Conclusion	The validation team confirms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process undertaken to describe the procedure and completeness of the project is described above. • The type of PoA is confirmed from the information provided in PoA-DD i.e., the PoA will reduce the GHG emission from boiling unsafe drinking water using non-renewable biomass and/or provide access

	<p>to safe water to households who consume unsafe water due to various barriers (suppressed demand).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The validation team confirms that the proposed GS PoA is distributing safe water technologies to reduce GHG emissions which was also confirmed through the on-site interviews with the CME as detailed under section C.2.1. of this report thus, meeting the applicability criteria of the applied methodology.
--	--

D.3. General description of PoA

<p>Means of validation</p>	<p>The purpose of the PoA is to distribute safe water technologies in households and communities who would otherwise be either boiling water using non-renewable biomass and/or consume unsafe water due to various barriers (suppressed demand), which will lead to increased exposure to water borne diseases and high consumption of fossil fuels. The PoA is expected to reduce the GHG emissions caused by boiling of unsafe water using non-renewable biomass and reduce exposure to various water borne diseases.</p> <p>The PoA meets the eligibility criteria of the Gold Standard for distribution of safe water technologies under the PoA in Republic of Uganda and Republic of Rwanda to the various households. The CME for the PoA is AGS Carbon Advisory and the Project Participants are SPOUTS International (SPOUTS).The carbon credits generated by the project activity will be owned by the SPOUTS international, the declaration/22/ stating the same has been submitted to the assessment team, the details have been verified and it is found to be appropriate.</p> <p>The summary of the proposed PoA and the technology involved are described in the PoA-DD /1/ with sufficient details and clarity. The accuracy of the PoA description was determined based on the on-site survey as part of validation audit, review of supporting documents (as mentioned in Appendix 3), and interaction with the project personnel. Some of the key technologies that are envisaged to be included under the section A.3. of the PoA-DD and same has been assessed in the section D.3.2 of this validation report.</p> <p>The specification of the distributed safe water technologies under each VPA shall be cross-checked from the manufacturer’s specifications of the particular technology at the VPA level. The sustainable development goals and their outcome are transparently discussed under section A.4 of the PoA-DD/1/. The assessment team has checked and reviewed the PoA-DD/1/ with supportive evidence and found the details to be correct and the same has been assessed in detail under section D.9. The validation team confirmed that there is no ODA involved at the PoA level /15/.</p> <p>The proposed GS PoA will introduce Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) technology activity which was found to be in-line with the requirements of the applied methodology “Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply”, version 1.0 /7/.</p>
-----------------------------------	--

	<p>VVB has interviewed the CME representative at the PoA level to understand about the monitoring system and implementation structure of the PoA.</p> <p>The design consultation was conducted between 10/02/2022 to 17/03/2022. The design consultation report has passed the design consultation review and was submitted by CME as evidence /17/ and is also mentioned in Section E.1 of the PoA DD/1/.</p> <p>Framework and Voluntary action: The PoA aims at disseminating safe water technologies to household. The CME for the project will be AGS Carbon Advisory and the project participant for the project activity is SPOUTS International. The CME will be responsible for emission reduction verification and preparation of project documents. The local implementation of the VPA however can be handled by the Project Developer directly or other VPA implementation partner(s).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of VPAs will be managed by CME • Distribution of safe water technologies will be done by Project Developer with the support of VPA implementation partner(s) • CME will conduct orientation sessions for Project Developers and VPA Implementation Partners (if applicable) for distribution of safe water technologies and will ensure that end-user information is captured at the point of distribution • In order to avoid any kind of double counting, the SPOUTS international will maintain a database of end-users with unique IDs of the user and project technology. <p>The framework was confirmed through the interview of CME representative.</p> <p><u>Voluntary Action:</u></p> <p>The PoA is a voluntary action. This PoA does not seek national or regional incentives and there are no mandatory laws that require investment in distribution of safe water technologies in Rwanda and Uganda.</p>
Findings	CL#01 and CL#02 was raised and resolved successfully.
Conclusion	<p>The validation team confirms:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The process undertaken to validate the accuracy and completeness of the project is described above (under MoV). b. The project description contained in the PoA-DD/1/ of the proposed GS PoA is accurate and complete. c. The on-site audit was conducted by the validation team as described in this report. d. The validation team confirms that the proposed GS-PoA meets the eligibility criteria for Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply, version1.0 /7/. <p>Moreover, the validation team confirms that the description of the proposed GS PoA, as contained in the PoA-DD/1/ sufficiently covers all</p>

	relevant elements, is accurate, complete and it provides the reader with a clear understanding of the nature of the proposed GS-PoA.
--	--

D.3.1. Project boundary

Means of validation	The project boundary basically defines the physical and geographical boundary of the project facility, and it is well defined in the PoA-DD/1/ (section A2). The project boundary covers the western region of Republic of Uganda and the western region of Republic of Rwanda. The project boundary is clearly defined in the PoA-DD/1/ is in-line to the methodology/7/.
Findings	No findings were raised
Conclusion	The project boundary is mentioned in the PoA-DD/1/ and is validated by the validation team. Also, according to the validation team the sources and gases that are accounted are found to be appropriate according to the PoA. As per the Onsite audit, the project boundary is found to be in-line as mentioned in the PoA-DD/1/

D.3.2. Technology

Means of validation	<p>CME has applied "Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply", version 1.0 /7/ which is approved under GS4GG programme. The purpose of the PoA is to introduce safe water technologies in households and institutions that lack access to safe drinking water within the host countries western region of The Republic of Uganda & western region of The Republic of Rwanda. These households would otherwise boil unsafe drinking water using non-renewable biomass and/or depend on the consumption of unsafe water due to various barrier factors (suppressed demand). The technologies included in the VPAs under the PoA based on the following criteria:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">Treatment Type</td> <td>Water Purification system- residential <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purifaaya Regular - Viva Purifaaya - Purifaaya XL </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Range of Application</td> <td>Household water treatment technologies (HWT)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Energy Demand</td> <td>Zero-emission or low-emission technology</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Technical Life</td> <td>Appropriate technical life of project technology will be 8 Years.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Further considerations</td> <td>Innovative and environmentally friendly solutions User-friendly application Appropriate maintenance and replacement system</td> </tr> </table> <p>Therefore, the PoA meet the technology and measure requirements of the applied methodology "Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply", version 1.0 /7/.</p> <p>Baseline Scenario: In line with the applied methodology, the baseline scenario is "Pre-project practices of boiling water or drinking unsafe water (suppressed demand)."</p>	Treatment Type	Water Purification system- residential <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purifaaya Regular - Viva Purifaaya - Purifaaya XL 	Range of Application	Household water treatment technologies (HWT)	Energy Demand	Zero-emission or low-emission technology	Technical Life	Appropriate technical life of project technology will be 8 Years.	Further considerations	Innovative and environmentally friendly solutions User-friendly application Appropriate maintenance and replacement system
Treatment Type	Water Purification system- residential <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purifaaya Regular - Viva Purifaaya - Purifaaya XL 										
Range of Application	Household water treatment technologies (HWT)										
Energy Demand	Zero-emission or low-emission technology										
Technical Life	Appropriate technical life of project technology will be 8 Years.										
Further considerations	Innovative and environmentally friendly solutions User-friendly application Appropriate maintenance and replacement system										

	<p>Communities in Republic of Rwanda and Republic of Uganda still continue to face difficulty with access to safe drinking water.</p> <p>During the On-site audit interview with the end-users, it was confirmed that there is lack of access to safe drinking water and the communities in The Republic of Uganda and The Republic of Rwanda are using traditional cookstove to boil water or are consuming unsafe drinking water.</p> <p>The assessment team has reviewed the PoA-DD in line with the applied methodology/7/. Baseline scenario will be established before each VPA-inclusion for the host regions.</p>
Findings	CL #01 was raised and resolves successfully.
Conclusion	<p>The validation team based on the description provided above with regard to the assessment of the requirements confirms that:</p> <p>(a) All the assumptions and data used by the project participants are listed in the PDD/1/ and or annexures, including their references and sources.</p> <p>(b) All documentation used is relevant for establishing the baseline scenario and correctly quoted and interpreted in the PoA-DD/1/.</p> <p>(c) Assumptions and data used in the identification of the baseline scenario are justified appropriately, supported by evidence, and can be deemed reasonable.</p> <p>(d) Relevant national and/or sectoral policies and circumstances are considered and listed in the PoA-DD/1/.</p> <p>(e) The approved baseline methodology has been correctly applied to identify the most plausible baseline scenario and the identified baseline scenario reasonably represents what would occur in the absence of the proposed PoA.</p> <p>The validation team confirms that it has taken other steps and other sources of information used to cross-check the information contained in the PoA-DD/1/, wherever applicable, as listed above.</p>

D.4. General Eligibility of the PoA under Gold Standard

D.4.1. Assessment of the eligibility of the PoA under Gold Standard

Means validation of	Section 3.1.1 of the GS4GG Principles and Requirements/6/ includes the general criterion that applies to all the projects seeking Gold Standard Certification. The demonstration of the PoA meeting the eligibility criteria has been represented below:	
	Applicability Criteria as per Principles and Requirements	Justification from CME
	1. Types of Projects	Means of Validation
	As per Eligibility Principles and Requirements section, the Project type is automatically eligible	The aim of the PoA is to introduce safe water technologies in households

		<p>for Gold Standard Certification as there are Gold Standard (GS) approved Activity Requirement- <i>Community Services Activity (CSA)</i> and GS approved methodology "Emission reduction from safe drinking water supply" for the project technology.</p> <p>The PoA started the distribution of water purifiers in western Uganda from 30/03/2022 onwards.</p>	<p>and institutions that lack access to safe drinking water within the host countries and this is in line with para 3.1.1 (d) of Community Service Activity Requirements (Version 1.2)/9/. The PoA is thus considered automatically eligible for gold standard certification as this comes under approved activity requirement (Community service activity requirements) which is in accordance with GS4GG Principles and Requirements paragraph 4.1.3. /6/.</p>
	<p>2. Location of Project</p>	<p>All VPAs included in the PoA will be implemented within the geographic borders of African countries -Uganda and Rwanda. The boundary may be expanded to other African countries in the PoA following the due requirements of Gold Standard for design change approval.</p>	<p>According to para 3.1.1 (b) of Principles and Requirements, version 1.2/6/, The project can be located in any part of the world. The PoA is located in the western region of The Republic of Uganda and the western region of The Republic of Rwanda as confirmed by the VVB during on-site audit on 21/09/2022 to 25/09/2022.This is in accordance with GS4GG Principles and Requirements paragraph 3.1.1 (b)/6/.</p>
	<p>3. Project Area, Project Boundary and Scale</p>	<p>The boundary for the PoA in terms of a geographical area is defined as the political boundary of western Uganda and Rwanda. All voluntary programme activities (VPAs) associated with this PoA are implemented within the geographical boundary of the PoA.</p> <p>To avoid inclusion of any CEP (Clean Energy Product) which is a part of another registered carbon</p>	<p>The project area will be the households that will benefit from the safe water technologies that is supplied under the PoA and the geographical boundary of the PoA will be the western region of The Republic of Uganda and the western region of The Republic of Rwanda.</p> <p>VPA to be included in the PoA will be implemented within western part of The Republic Uganda and Western region of The Republic of Rwanda.</p>

		<p>project/ programme, all CEPs under this programme shall have a unique ID number / Tag / batch number, either inscribed on the CEP or retained by the buyer, to uniquely identify the CEP avoiding any double counting and trace its user, later during monitoring and verification.</p> <p>For instance, for initial VPAs following process shall be followed to generate the UID- "The Unique Identifier is generated using a 3rd Party system - TEC-IT Barcode Studio 16.2 and takes the below format: RTU2022 ##### & RTR2022 #####, where RT - Regular Technology (Product Type), U & R - Uganda & Rwanda (Country of Project), 2022 - Year of Distribution (Changes), ##### - Unique Product Number (Different for every Product).</p> <p>The generated numbers (Serial Codes) are printed and attached to the product and are verifiable on each beneficiary's visit using a Barcode Scanner. On product distribution, the code is matched with the Beneficiaries details which can be accessed once you select the UID in the System."</p>	<p>In-order to avoid the double counting CME will take the following measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The proposed PoA will not be registered in any other carbon standard as confirmed from the declaration with the CME/15/. To ensure that the proposed project activities are not included in a project or programme registered under another carbon standard, the CME will consult the other carbon registries/15/. b) Each safe water technology to be distributed will be marked with a unique ID. c) CME will maintain an End user database with household information that will be benefited from the implementation of the PoA. <p>Thus, as the PoA meets this requirement and the criterion is found to be met.</p>
	<p>4. Host Country Requirements</p>	<p>This shall be defined at the VPA level.</p>	<p>Each VPA will comply with the legal, environmental, and ecological and social regulations of the host</p>

GS-PoA-VAL-FORM

			countries, The Republic of Uganda, and The Republic of Rwanda. The host country norms for each of the country will be defined at the VPA level.
	5. Contact details	Contact details of the organization: SPOUTS International, Implementer and Project participant of the PoA is given in the Appendix 1. The organizations registration documents and other legal documents may be provided to SustainCERT or VVB on request.	The contact details have been added in the report and the organizational details have been submitted to the VVB by the CME. The details have been verified. Thus, this criterion is found to be applicable.
	6. Legal Ownership	An end user agreement shall be signed between end user and Spouts where the end user foregoes its rights to carbon credits or any claims arising from use of the Spouts water purifier for the life of the product. SPOUTS will own the carbon credits that are generated by the project and it will use this revenue to pay back the project costs that are incurred. End users will benefit by receiving best-in-class technology at no cost, or at a subsidized, below-market sales price. In this way, end users benefit from the carbon revenue in advance of its accrual and at no risk to themselves. A sample end user Agreement has been shared with the VVB	It has been Verified that SPOUTS will own the carbon credits generated during the on-site audit/23/ and the declaration submitted/22/. The full and uncontested legal ownership to the offsets generated by each VPA under the PoA will be included in each VPA DD and it will be ensured that transfer of carbon credit ownership is through appropriate means in each VPA. Therefore, it will be also confirmed at each VPA level if the required eligibility criteria are met or not.
	7. Other rights	Not applicable	This criterion is not applicable as there is no legal requirement for the project to be implemented.

8. Official Development Assistance (ODA) Declaration	No ODA is involved in the PoA. ODA declaration is provided.	The ODA declaration has been provided to the VVB/15/. There is no ODA involved in the PoA.
--	---	--

Section 3 and section 4 of the Community Services Activity Requirements/9/ includes the general criterion that applies to all the projects seeking Gold Standard Impact Statement and Product Certification. The demonstration of the PoA meeting the eligibility criteria has been represented below:

Eligibility Criteria Category	Required condition	CME's justification	VVB's justification
1. Eligible Project Types	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.	The CSA project shall lead to climate change mitigation by providing access to services at household level. The VPA would reduce energy requirements (in cases where water boiling is done on traditional devices) as compared to baseline scenario without affecting the level and quality of services of product. The project activity would replace inefficient traditional devices using non-renewable biomass/charcoal for boiling unsafe water in the baseline scenario with purification treatment options providing safe and hygienic	The PoA involves distribution of safe water technologies in households that lack access to safe drinking water along with introducing Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) campaigns, thereby improving awareness of the communities. Thus, PoA in-line to para 2.1.2 of community service requirements/9/ was found to be meeting the required eligibility criterion.

			potable water to the households.	
	2. Type of project	Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH): WASH activities contributing to climate change mitigation and/or adaptation benefits.	The PoA involves distribution of WPS.	The PoA is a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) activity. Thus, as the implementation of this PoA provides access to safe drinking water to the communities in The Republic of Rwanda and The Republic of Uganda by distributed Water purification system. The required condition as stated under para 3.1.1 (d) of community services activity requirement was found to be met.
	3. Project Area, Boundary, and scale	Project Area and Boundary shall be defined in line with the applicable Impact Quantification Methodologies and Product Requirements.	<p>The project area is point location of CEP beneficiaries in the host country of the VPA. The project boundary will be limited to the geographical boundary of the host country of individual VPAs.</p> <p>For the purpose of this methodology the small-scale project applies Type III definition i.e, GHG emission reduction for small scale project shall not</p>	The project area and boundary is defined as the geographical boundaries of the western region of The Republic of Uganda and western region of The Republic of Rwanda where the safe drinking water technologies will be distributed in the Households and commercial and Further, the geocoordinates of the households will be confirmed at VPA level. Each VPA is a small-scale activity as it will

			<p>exceed more than 60,000 ton CO2e in any year of the crediting period.</p>	<p>result in GHG emission reductions not exceeding the limit of 60,000-ton CO2e per year and therefore was found to have met the criteria set by para 9.1.2 (c) of - GHG Emissions Reduction & Sequestration Product Requirements/16/ and also a declaration has been submitted by the PD stating that VPA's will remain under the limit/19/.</p> <p>The required condition as stated under para 3.1.2. of community services activity requirement was also found to be met.</p>
	<p>4. Suppressed Demand Scenario</p>	<p>Certain Impact Quantification methodologies allow projects to account Suppressed Demand scenario when establishing a baseline. In such cases, the application of Suppressed Demand baseline is limited to Small Scale and Microscale Projects. Where a Suppressed Demand baseline is applied, it is not</p>	<p>The programme/VPAs may include a Suppressed Demand scenario where the households consume untreated unsafe water in the baseline scenario. Therefore, in such cases, the application of Suppressed Demand baseline shall be limited to Small Scale only.</p>	<p>The PoA aims at distribution of safe drinking devices in The Republic of Uganda and Republic of Rwanda. The baseline constitutes of the households which would be either boiling water using non-renewable biomass and/or would consume unsafe water due to various factors (suppressed demand). The baseline has been established in</p>

		<p>possible to 'stack' Gold Standard Certified Impact Statements or Products as the definition of the baseline may be contradictory.</p>		<p>accordance with the applied methodology/07/ Accordingly, the VPAs will be limited to Small-scale.</p>
	<p>5. Legal Ownership</p>	<p>a)Projects involving the distribution of a large number of devices for services such as heating, cooking, lighting, electricity generation, water treatment technology such as water filter, etc. shall provide a clear description of the ownership of the Products that are generated under Gold Standard Certification all along the investment chain. In line with the FPIC requirement, the proofs that end-users are aware of and willing to give up their rights on Products shall be provided.</p> <p>b)The transfer of Product ownership shall be discussed during local stakeholder consultations for projects</p>	<p>The water filters distributed under the VPAs shall be owned by the end user. SPOUTS will encourage the uptake of SWS by making it as simple as possible for end users to benefit from finance and incentives available via carbon markets. SPOUTS will ensure that the end users are aware of the fact that SPOUTS is claiming ownership rights of and selling the emission reductions resulting from the project activity. It will be communicated to end users at the time of installation/ distribution and during local stakeholder consultations for projects.</p> <p>The carbon title for the product will be signed off by end user to SPOUTS waiving</p>	<p>The PoA aims at distribution of safe drinking devices in The Republic of Uganda and Republic of Rwanda. It has been verified using the end user agreement and the declaration submitted by the CME that the ownership of project devices remains with end-users/ beneficiaries, whereas the legal ownership is transferred directly from end-user to SPOUTS through agreement which is signed by beneficiaries forfeiting right to ERs/22/.</p>

			<p>any claim or rights on carbon credits generated under the VPA. The sample of end user SPOUTS Agreement shall be shared with the GS VVB.</p>	
<p>All the conditions listed under principles and requirements /6/ and Community services activity requirements/9/ were found to be met. Thus, the PoA is meeting the eligibility criteria under Gold standard and Community services activity requirements/9/.</p>				
Findings	<p>CL#03 was raised and resolved successfully.</p>			
Conclusion	<p>The VVB has accepted and validated the general eligibility criteria that applies to all PoAs seeking Gold Standard Certification. The eligibility of the PoA is found to be valid in accordance with the section 3.1.1 of GS4GG principles and requirements version 1.2/6/.</p>			

D.4.2. Target/Indicator for the SDGs

Means validation of	Sustainable Development Goals	Most relevant SDG Target	SDG Impact Indicator (Selected in SDG tool)	VVB Assessment
		<p>SDG 13: Climate Action (mandatory)</p>	<p>13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, planning, and strategies'</p>	<p>Emission Reductions</p>

				appropriate for this project.
	SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-Being	3.9 Reduce illnesses and death from hazardous chemicals and pollution	Proportion of population reporting decrease in illness and deaths from water pollution and indoor air pollution. Health quality improvement (quality assessment)	<p>The PoA reduces the exposure of various waterborne diseases by distributing safe water technologies to communities that lack access to safe drinking water.</p> <p>Thus, the SDG indicator 3.9 was found to be appropriate for this PoA.</p>
	SDG 5 – Gender Equality	5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.	Average time saving associated with boiling water and fuel collection	<p>Safe water technologies distributed under this PoA will reduce time in treating unsafe drinking water which is generally done by Women. As a result of reduced firewood collection time, women can devote more time to other productive activities.</p> <p>Thus, SDG indicator 5.4. was found to be appropriately applied for this PoA.</p>
SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation	6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and	Number of households served with safely managed water service	The PoA aims at distributing safe water technologies in households who would otherwise consume unsafe	

		affordable drinking water for all.		<p>water due to various barriers factors (suppressed demand), causing increased exposure to water borne diseases. Therefore, the PoA provides access to safe drinking water.</p> <p>Thus, SDG Indicator 6.1 was found to be appropriately applied for this PoA.</p>
	SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy Target	7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services	No. of WPS operational at any time in the VPA	<p>The PoA aims at distribution of safe drinking devices in The Republic of Uganda and Republic of Rwanda.</p> <p>Thus, the criteria is found to be appropriately applied for this PoA.</p>
	SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth	8.5 full employment and decent work with equal pay	Total no of jobs created (during distribution, monitoring and evaluation)	<p>The PoA implementation will generate employment Opportunities in The Republic of Uganda and The republic of Rwanda. Thereby, increasing the hourly earnings of men and women.</p>

			Thus, SDG Indicator 8.5 was found to be appropriately applied for this PoA.
	The VPAs under the PoA will have to demonstrate contribution to at least three SDGs, with SDG 13 being mandatory and at least two other SDGs mentioned above which is found to be in line with para 4.1.2 of GS4GG principles and requirements version 1.2/6/.		
Findings	No issues were raised.		
Conclusion	The assessment team confirms that the project is eligible for GS4GG as per the requirements of GS4GG/6/ and UN SDG framework/20/.		

D.4.3. Coordinating/ managing entity

Means of validation	The PoA aims at distributing efficient water purification system (WPS) which will provide clean water to the households in The Republic of Uganda and The Republic of Rwanda. The AGS carbon advisory will act as a coordinating/managing entity for the project activity. The same has been verified using the on-site audit/23/ and also using the declaration submitted by the CME for the transfer of the carbon rights/22/, which refers to AGS as CME.
Findings	No findings were raised.
Conclusion	The assessment team confirms that the AGS Carbon advisory will act as the co-ordinating and managing entity for the project activity.

D.4.4. Management System

Means of validation	<p>The Management plan is explained in section B.1 of the PoA-DD/1/ is correctly applied to the PoA.</p> <p>The roles & responsibility of CME, Project Developers/ other implementation partners are well defined. AGS carbon advisory is the CME of the PoA who is responsible for the overall management, operation, and monitoring of the VPAs under the PoA. The role of CME is further defined by documentation at both PoA & VPA level, training of the Project Developers and VPA Implementation Partners (if applicable) in both host countries the republic of Rwanda and the republic of Uganda, Communications with GS & VVBs, managing and collating the project data as well as overseeing monitoring exercises & calculating ERs & upgrading PoA Management systems whenever required. The CME will be responsible for the inclusion of the VPA into the PoA.</p> <p>Project Owner for the project will be SPOUTS International. The roles involve coordinating with CME, coordinating with VPA Implementation partners for the inclusion of VPAs under the PoA, conducting local stakeholder consultations, collecting & recording the distribution data in accordance with the PoA management systems. Also, to notify the end users about the ownership of the ERs generated by safe water technologies and co-ordinating the ex-post monitoring of distributed safe water technologies as per the monitoring plan/1/. The ex-post monitoring may be</p>
----------------------------	---

	<p>conducted for individual VPAs or across VPAs, which is acceptable as long as the GS4GG requirements for across VPA sampling are met.</p> <p>The role of VPA Implementation Partner(s), Global Carbon specialist involves roles in implementation of the VPAs under the PoA in coordination with the Project owner and CME, conducting required surveys as per the methodology/7/, identifying local stakeholders and implementing stakeholder consultation process, conducting physical spot checks, and monitoring of distributed safe water technologies as per the monitoring plan/1/.</p> <p>They will keep a record that will be finalized at the point of distribution and this electronic database will be regularly updated with information such as Details of end users addresses & name, of PoA/VPA, monitoring parameters, Date of distributions or maintenance records, Unique IDs of each distributed device that are to be maintained under VPA.</p> <p>The PoA also has an elaborate system for avoidance of double counting through the process of allocating a unique serial ID to each project technology. The electronic database will include details about technology type, model distributed under each VPA, Date of distributions or maintenance records, Number of safe water devices distributed/sold to end-user. Along with all unique information of the beneficiaries including name, contact number etc.</p> <p>The PoA will go through the cross-check of various carbon registries to confirm that the PoA and VPAs under the PoA are not included in any other voluntary or compliance standards programme as well as the project area does not overlap with that of another Gold Standard and other voluntary or compliance standard programme of a similar nature/14/. CME will also work to improve the management of the projects as it progresses. Internal audits will be held that will address all shortcomings to the PoA. The CME representatives confirmed that they will provide trainings for their staff and partners (the Project Developer and VPA Implementation Partner). The assessment team confirmed that management of PoA is detailed and sufficient.</p> <p>The validation team confirms that the points identified by the CME and as mentioned in the PoA-DD/1/are in line with the management of PoA effectively. SDGs will be monitored at VPA level mentioned in section A.4 of PoA-DD/1/.</p>
Findings	No findings were raised
Conclusion	<p>The validation team confirms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The clear division of responsibilities will lead to successful delivery of the project. • The PoA-DD/1/ ensure any potential gaps during or after the distributions will be monitored & tracked by VPA implementers. • The CME will be able to implement the Management plan. • The Project Developer and VPA implementer partners (if applicable) will execute the PoA on the Host countries.

D.4.5. Application of methodology

<p>Means of validation</p>	<p>The methodology applied for PoA is Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply, version 1.0/7/.</p>		
	Methodological requirements	Justification by CME	VVB Assessment
	<p>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.</p>	<p>The project involves the introduction of new zero emission technology to supply safe drinking water. The specifications of the water purifiers shall be detailed out in the VPA-DD. Document: Project sheet/manufacturers specification</p>	<p>The PoA aims at distributing efficient water purification system (WPS), a zero-emission technology, which will provide clean water to the households in The Republic of Uganda and The Republic of Rwanda. The assessment team has verified the technical specifications of the water purification system distributed through the manufacture's specification/18/ and WHO Purifaaya Results/24/.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is found to be met.</p>
	<p>As per para 2.2.1a of the methodology, eligible household water treatment technologies (HWT), institutional water treatment technologies (IWT), and community level water treatment technologies (CWT) include bleach/chlorine, water filter (ceramic, sand, composite, membrane, etc.), UV disinfection, etc.</p>	<p>The VPA shall include sale/distribution of ceramic water filters to HWT and/or IWT to reduce or avoid GHG emission from boiling unsafe drinking water in the baseline and lacking access to safe drinking water (suppressed demand) to households and Institutions who are the target end users. Document: Project sheet/manufacturers specification</p>	<p>The PoA involves distribution of ceramic water purifiers which will provide clean water facilities to households in The Republic of Uganda and The Republic of Rwanda. In the baseline, same household would be drinking water by boiling or drinking unsafe water.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is found to be met.</p>
<p>Eligible community water supply technologies (CWS)</p>	<p>Not Applicable as community water supply technology</p>	<p>The PoA involves distribution of water purifiers to</p>	

	<p>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</p>	<p>(CWS) is not included under the PoA.</p>	<p>households in The Republic of Uganda and The Republic of Rwanda. No community water supply technology is applicable.</p> <p>Thus, this criterion is not applicable.</p>
	<p>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</p>	<p>Not Applicable. The project involves sale/distribution of new HWT and or IWT.</p>	<p>The PoA involves distribution of new HWT and/ or IWT to the household where in the baseline people were drinking water by boiling or drinking unsafe water.</p> <p>Thus, this criterion is not applicable.</p>
	<p>The 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 & refugee camps.</p>	<p>This VPA includes sale/distribution of HWT and/or IWT to reduce or avoid GHG emission from boiling unsafe drinking water in the baseline and lacking access to safe drinking water (suppressed demand) to households and Institutions who are the target end users. Document: Sales database</p>	<p>The PoA involves distribution of ceramic water purifiers which will provide clean water facilities to households in The Republic of Uganda and The Republic of Rwanda. The assessment team has verified the same using the on-site audit/23/ and sales database.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is found to be met.</p>
	<p>Demonstration of safe water is retrieved at the CWT or CWS</p>	<p>Not Applicable as PoA does not include CWS and CWT technologies</p>	<p>The PoA involves distribution of new HWT and/ or IWT to</p>

	<p>location, the water in its improved form shall be available within a distance of 1 km or less from the end-users by satellite imaging or GPS coordinates of each CWT or CWS location. Alternatively, to demonstrate, 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.</p>		<p>the household in the republic of Rwanda and Republic of Uganda.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is not applicable.</p>
	<p>Demonstration of Project technology performance level of 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 no national guideline or standard is available,</p>	<p>The technology meets the host country norms. The ceramic filters have been approved by Water Institute, Ministry of Water. Performance assessment of the ceramic water filter by National Water Quality Reference Lab to show its effectiveness and efficiency to produce water that meets the recommended standards for human consumption has also been done.</p> <p>The products have also been tested at WHO designated testing laboratory confirming the compliance of treated water with WHO International scheme.</p> <p>Test reports shall be submitted to GS VVB.</p>	<p>The PoA involves distribution of ceramic water purifiers which will provide clean water facilities to households in The Republic of Uganda and The Republic of Rwanda.</p> <p>The assessment team has verified the performance assessment of the ceramic water filter/12/ and the WHO Purifaaya Results/24/. The purifiers are tested and found meeting the national and WHO standards.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is found to be met.</p>

	<p>then the project technology shall comply with the WHO International Scheme requirements as per (i)</p>		
	<p>Demonstration of Project technology performance level of 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:</p> <p>a. 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</p> <p>b. 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 contamination¹¹ and physical and aesthetic aspects.</p>	<p>Not Applicable as this is applicable to CWS and CWT technologies which is not part of the PoA.</p>	<p>The PoA involves distribution of new HWT and/ or IWT to the household in the republic of Rwanda and Republic of Uganda. It does not involve CWS and CWT technology.</p> <p>Thus, this criterion is not applicable.</p>
	<p>To conduct annual water hygiene</p>	<p>Annual water hygiene education campaigns</p>	<p>The PoA involves distribution of ceramic</p>

	<p>education campaigns for the end-users in this project</p>	<p>will be conducted. During monitoring of households and Institution, SPOUTS shall conduct a representative sample survey annually for each VPA and will be reported as "report of annual hygiene campaign results" and summarized in the monitoring report. Any major change will be reported and strategy will be addressed through subsequent health campaign. The comprehensive steps or methods to access hygiene handling of clean water will be provided in Monitoring Report</p>	<p>water purifiers which will provide clean water facilities to households in The Republic of Uganda and The Republic of Rwanda. Annual water hygiene will be conducted for each VPA and reported as part of the monitoring plan.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is found to be met.</p>
	<p>A project applying this methodology may make SDG claims if relevant monitoring parameter(s) is included in the monitoring plan to demonstrate and confirm the project's contributions to SDGs 12.</p>	<p>The project developer /SPOUTS will capture all the SDG indicators which is relevant to this programme through monitoring in both HH and Institutions. The monitoring will be done using a detailed questionnaire which includes all the SDG indicators. For example, capturing water quality</p>	<p>The PoA involves distribution of ceramic water purifiers which will provide clean water facilities to households in The Republic of Uganda and The Republic of Rwanda. The Monitoring of all the SDG will be done at the VPA level.</p> <p>Thus, this criterion is found to be met.</p>
	<p>Project shall document the national, regional and local regulatory framework for provision of safe drinking water in the project boundary. The project shall not undermine or conflict with any national,</p>	<p>The national, regional and local regulatory framework for the safe water has been defined under National Water and Sewerage Corporation which refers to World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines.</p>	<p>The PoA aims at distribution of water filters to supply safe drinking water in the households. The project has appropriately detailed the existing local and national regulatory framework and</p>

	<p>sub-national and local regulations or guidance for safe drinking water supply, operation and maintenance, including any tariff requirements.</p>	<p>The technology distributed under the VPAs would be tested by a nationally accredited lab to confirm its compliance with guidance for safe drinking water supply. Further the VPAs to be implemented under this PoA will be implemented in cooperation with the local Governments.</p>	<p>assessment team has verified the details mentioned in the WHO Purifaaya Results/24/. The technology distributed is found in compliance with national requirements of both countries. It will also be reviewed at the time of each VPA inclusion.</p> <p>Thus, the Criteria is found to be met.</p>
	<p>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>The end users in the VPA shall be provided with replacement parts including new filter, and/or access to a new model technology of comparable quality. These filters will be available at SPOUTS local offices or their retailers. Specifically, the PO field staff typically meets with the users of the improved water filters on a weekly or monthly basis. At group meetings the PO will make regular announcements about the availability of replacement filters, including where to buy them, and discounts available due to the carbon funds. The project implementer would ensure that maintenance of the project appliances is implemented in</p>	<p>The PoA aims at distribution of water filters to supply safe drinking water in the households in the republic of Rwanda and the Republic of Uganda. The replacement of the new parts and new filters have been confirmed from the monitoring plan and interviews of CME and implementers. It will be further verified at the VPA- level.</p> <p>Thus, this criterion is found to be met.</p>

		accordance with manufacturer's specifications/ recommendations, including provisions in regards to replacement or cleansing of the involved filters.							
<p>Applicability of the tool 30: "Calculation of the fraction of non-renewable biomass, version 3.0:</p>									
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Applicability Requirement</th> <th>Justification by CME</th> <th>VVB Assessment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <p>This tool may be used by: (a) DNAs to submit region- or country-specific default fNRB values, following the procedures for development, revision, clarification and update of standardized baselines (SB procedures); or project participants to calculate project- or PoA-specific fNRB values</p> </td> <td> <p>The tool has been used by the project participant to calculate f_{NRB} value for Uganda.</p> </td> <td> <p>The PoA aims at distribution of water filters to supply safe drinking water in the households in the republic of Rwanda and the Republic of Uganda. In the baseline the same household would have been using water by boiling or drinking unsafe water, the tool has been for the calculation of fraction of biomass used in year y for the baseline scenario that can be established as non-renewable biomass, which is calculated for Uganda. For Rwanda, the value will be taken from the registered projects.</p> <p>Thus, the applicability of the criteria is found to be met.</p> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Applicability Requirement	Justification by CME	VVB Assessment	<p>This tool may be used by: (a) DNAs to submit region- or country-specific default fNRB values, following the procedures for development, revision, clarification and update of standardized baselines (SB procedures); or project participants to calculate project- or PoA-specific fNRB values</p>	<p>The tool has been used by the project participant to calculate f_{NRB} value for Uganda.</p>	<p>The PoA aims at distribution of water filters to supply safe drinking water in the households in the republic of Rwanda and the Republic of Uganda. In the baseline the same household would have been using water by boiling or drinking unsafe water, the tool has been for the calculation of fraction of biomass used in year y for the baseline scenario that can be established as non-renewable biomass, which is calculated for Uganda. For Rwanda, the value will be taken from the registered projects.</p> <p>Thus, the applicability of the criteria is found to be met.</p>		
Applicability Requirement	Justification by CME	VVB Assessment							
<p>This tool may be used by: (a) DNAs to submit region- or country-specific default fNRB values, following the procedures for development, revision, clarification and update of standardized baselines (SB procedures); or project participants to calculate project- or PoA-specific fNRB values</p>	<p>The tool has been used by the project participant to calculate f_{NRB} value for Uganda.</p>	<p>The PoA aims at distribution of water filters to supply safe drinking water in the households in the republic of Rwanda and the Republic of Uganda. In the baseline the same household would have been using water by boiling or drinking unsafe water, the tool has been for the calculation of fraction of biomass used in year y for the baseline scenario that can be established as non-renewable biomass, which is calculated for Uganda. For Rwanda, the value will be taken from the registered projects.</p> <p>Thus, the applicability of the criteria is found to be met.</p>							
Findings	CL #04 was raised and successfully resolved.								
Conclusion	The Validation team confirms the application of the approved methodology, Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply, version 1.0/7/ and CDM tool 30: Calculation of the fraction of non-renewable biomass and it is confirmed that no deviation to the methodology and tool was observed.								

D.4.6. Multiple Technologies/ measures

Means validation of	The PoA aims at distribution of water filters to supply safe drinking water (SWS) devices in the households in the Republic of Rwanda and the Republic of Uganda. There is no other technology involved. Therefore, the applicability of methodology, Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply, version 1.0/7/ is found to be appropriate.
Findings	No finding was raised.
Conclusion	The validation team confirms the applicability of methodology, Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply, version 1.0/7/ to be appropriate.

D.4.7. Eligibility criteria for inclusion

Means validation of	The eligibility criteria for the inclusion of VPA in the PoA is as follows:		
	Applicability Criteria as per methodology	Justification from CME	Means of verification
	<p>1. Geographical boundary of the VPA</p> <p>The VPA will be located within the geographical boundary i.e., Rwanda and Uganda, the African countries included in the PoA.</p>	<p>The host country and location of each VPA will be specified in each VPA-DD including a statement from CME confirming the geographical boundary of the VPA that it is within the boundary of the PoA.</p>	<p>The aim of the VPAs is provide safe water technologies to the households in the western region of the Republic of Uganda and western region of Republic of Rwanda as confirmed by the VVB during the on-site interviews conducted on 21/09/2022-25/09/2022^{23/}. Further, the geocoordinates will be confirmed at VPA level.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion was found to be appropriate.</p>
<p>2. Project Technology</p> <p>VPAs involves use of only one technology i.e. distribution of safe drinking water systems (HWT and IWT technologies) to residential/institutions.</p>	<p>The VPA-DD specifies the target end-user group and the technology being distributed as provided in section A.3 of this document.</p> <p>Supporting evidence: Manufacturers specifications and Sales database</p>	<p>The PoA involves distribution of new HWT and/ or IWT to the household in the Republic of Rwanda and Republic of Uganda. The target end users will be verified at the VPA Level. Compliance with the eligibility criterion will be verifiable from sales database and manufacturer specifications.</p> <p>Thus, the criteria is found to be appropriate.</p>	

	<p>3. No Double counting of CEPs impacts within this PoA and across other registered or deregistered PoAs</p> <p>A unique numbering or identification system for the CEP installed is applied. This shall ensure no double counting of water purifiers within the PoA and ensure that water purifiers can be identified as belonging to this PoA and not to a PoA managed by any other CME.</p>	<p>The unique identification (numbering and programme logo) of each CEP and GPS coordinates of the end user will be included in the specific VPA-DD. Such information will be consistent across all VPAs included in the PoA DD.</p> <p>Supporting Evidence: All CEPs Sales invoices including VPA assignment and end user details (i.e. name, address, GPS coordinates). The unique numbering or identification system will be included in the specific VPA-DD and verifiable by the GS-VVB. Relevant agreements with manufacturers/distributors or a master database will be provided at the time of verification.</p>	<p>The PoA involves distribution of households that will be benefited from the safe water technologies that is supplied under the PoA and the geographical boundary of the PoA will be the western region of The Republic of Uganda and the western region of The Republic of Rwanda.</p> <p>In-order to avoid the double counting CME will take the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The proposed PoA will not be registered in any other carbon standard as confirmed from the declaration with the CME/14/. To ensure that the proposed project activities are not included in a project or programme registered under another carbon standard, the CME will consult the other carbon registries/14/. b) Each safe water technology to be distributed will be marked with a unique ID. c) CME will maintain a End user database with household information that will be benefited from the implementation of the PoA. <p>Thus, the criterion was found to be appropriate.</p>
--	---	--	--

	<p>4. No Double counting of VPA</p> <p>The VPA is exclusively included in the PoA. The VPA shall not be proposed as part of another offset program i.e. as an individual Gold Standard or CDM project and/or as part of any other CDM PoA and/or any other mechanism to avail climate change mitigation benefits CME shall issue a statement included in the VPA-DD that the specific VPA will not be part of another Gold Standard or CDM project activity or VPA under another PoA.</p>	<p>A statement by the CME is included in the VPA-DD and a declaration has also been provided by the CME to VVB that the specific VPA will not be part of other ETS, has not participated in any other GHG program and has not been rejected by other GHG program.</p> <p>Supporting Evidence: This shall be cross-checked and verified by the CME with other offset mechanisms like UNFCCC-CDM, VERRA, Gold standard. Declaration by the CME for VPA</p>	<p>The PoA involves distribution of households that will benefited from the safe water technologies that is supplied under the PoA and the geographical boundary of the PoA will be the western region of The Republic of Uganda and the western region of The Republic of Rwanda.</p> <p>The CME has submitted a declaration/14/ stating that the VPA will not be including in other offsetting mechanism. The assessment team has verified the declaration submitted/14/ and also has cross checked with other carbon offset mechanisms like CDM, VERRA. The project is only registered under gold standard. The same will be verifiable through the same means for each new VPA.</p> <p>Therefore, the criterion is found to be appropriate.</p>
	<p>5. Specification of the technology such as the level and type of service, as well as performance specification</p> <p>The VPAs will include ceramic water filter technology which will provide safe drinking water,</p>	<p>Test reports from National accredited labs confirming the compliance of treated water with WHO and host country norms.</p> <p>Performance assessment of the ceramic water filter by National Water Quality Reference Lab to show its effectiveness and efficiency to produce water that meets the recommended standards for human consumption</p>	<p>The PoA involves the distribution of safe drinking water supply in the republic of Uganda and the Republic of Rwanda. The ceramic water filter distributed are tested from national labs /12/and WHO/24/. The assessment reports have been submitted to the VVB and the assessment team has verified, and they are found to be appropriate. This will also be verifiable through the same means for each new VPA.</p>

	<p>confirming to WHO International standards and host country norms for safe water for human consumption.</p>		<p>The criterion is found to be appropriate.</p>
	<p>6. Start Date of the VPAs</p> <p>The start dates of the VPA shall be mentioned in each VPA and should be on or after the start date of the registered PoA</p>	<p>First work order/invoice/Distribution database for the VPA shall be submitted to Gold Standard VB.</p>	<p>The start date of the VPA will be defined by the date of first project technology that is distributed/sold in the VPA which will be confirmed either through the end-user database, distribution lists or sales records. Therefore, the means of verification will be confirmed at each VPA level.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is found to be appropriate.</p>
	<p>7. Non-diversion of ODA in case of public funding</p> <p>The Project Owner shall confirm that there is no public funding and no diversion of Official Development Assistance involved in the project activity.</p>	<p>A statement is included in the VPA-DD that the project does not involve public funding and no diversion of ODA is involved.</p> <p>A Declaration has been submitted to GS</p>	<p>It has been confirmed from the ODA declaration/15/ letter that no Official Development Assistance has been sought by the PoA.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is found to be appropriate.</p>
	<p>8. VPA Crediting Period</p> <p>VPA crediting period not to exceed the PoA end date and the starting date of the crediting period of a</p>	<p>A statement is included in the VPA-DD specifying the crediting period start date and that the crediting period will not exceed the PoA end date (this is 20 years after the date of registration of the PoA as per Programme of Activity Requirements).</p>	<p>Crediting period will be assessed at VPA level under section C.2 of each VPA DD. The crediting period of the PoA is 20 Years.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is found to be appropriate.</p>

	<p>VPA shall be on or after:</p> <p>(i) The date of registration of the PoA, if the corresponding VPA-DD is submitted together with the request for registration;</p> <p>(ii) The date when the VPA was included in the PoA.</p>		
	<p>9. Approval of VPA by CME</p> <p>CME approves each VPA to be included into its registered PoA.</p>	<p>Statement of CME in each VPA-DD giving approval for the VPA to be included into its registered PoA.</p>	<p>The approval of the CME will be confirmed by declaration from the CME to the project developer of each VPA. Thus, the criterion is found to be appropriate.</p>
	<p>10. Methodology Requirement</p> <p>Each VPA will comply with the applicability criteria of methodology Emission Reduction from safe drinking water supply-version 1.0</p>	<p>The VPA-DD shall include information on how it complies with all the applicability criteria of the methodology "Emission Reduction from safe drinking water supply", version 1.0</p>	<p>Section B.2 of the VPA-DD will describe the applicability conditions of the methodology.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is found to be appropriate.</p>
	<p>11. Target groups of the programme</p> <p>The VPAs included in the POA will involve sale/distribution of safe water supply devices</p>	<p>Distribution database/Sale invoices and agreement with the end user by SPOUTS</p>	<p>The target group of the PoA and each VPA are households. The end-user database of the VPA will be checked to confirm the target group and distribution mechanism followed by CME.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is found to be appropriate.</p>

	<p>(ceramic water filters) directly to the end users/households</p>		
	<p>12. Additionality</p> <p>All VPAs to be included under the PoA will be in compliance with item 1.1.3 of Annex B – positive list mentioned in the ‘Community Services Activity Requirements’, Version 1.2. All VPAs will be solely composed of isolated units (CEPs) where the users of the technology/measure are households or communities or institutions and where each unit results in <=</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 600 MWh of thermal energy savings per year for ICS. b. 600 tCO₂ per year for HWT and IWT technologies <p>Hence, according to</p>	<p>The VPA-DD to confirm that the thermal energy savings per year at a unit level (i.e. per CEP) are clearly below 600 tCO₂ per year for WPS and to be outlined in the ER calculation sheet.</p>	<p>Section B.5 of the VPA-DD will describe the additionality. The additionality has been assessed in detail under section D.5 of this report.</p> <p>The CME has also submitted a declaration stating that the threshold limit for each VPA will be below 600 tCO₂ per year for water purifier systems/19/.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is found to be appropriate.</p>

	<p>paragraph 4.1.9 of the 'Community Services Activity Requirements', each of the VPAs, regardless of the host country in which the project activity is being implemented, is deemed additional and therefore is not required to prove additionality at the time of Design Certification.</p>		
	<p>13. Sampling requirement for PoA</p> <p>The VPAs will follow the usage survey guidelines of the methodology and UNFCCC guidelines on sampling and survey for Programme of Activities version 4.0</p>	<p>VPA-DD will incorporate the sampling procedure and sampled survey forms shall be provided to GS VB</p>	<p>Implementation is on a VPA level and therefore the VPA monitoring plan will be described at the VPA level.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is found to be appropriate.</p>
	<p>14. meet the small-scale or microscale thresholds and remain within those thresholds throughout the crediting period</p> <p>The CME will ensure that the emission reductions of each VPA are</p>	<p>An undertaking by the CME confirming scale of the VPA and confirmation that it will remain within the threshold limits and foregoing the ERs if it crosses the threshold.</p>	<p>The CME has submitted an undertaking stating the threshold for the small scale, and all the VPAs that will be included under the PoA will remain within the threshold limit. The assessment team has verified the declaration submitted/19/.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is found to be appropriate.</p>

	<p>within <60k tCER/year limit. If in case the threshold is breached the CME would let go the ERs above the threshold limit.</p>		
	<p>15. Conditions to be met by each VPA regarding SDG outcomes assessment</p> <p>The CME shall conduct the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) impact assessment at the VPA level as per Principles & Requirements</p>	<p>SDG outcome assessment report at VPA level shall be submitted to GS VVB.</p>	<p>SDG claims will be assessed under each monitoring parameter at the VPA level in line with section A.4 of the PoA DD/1/ and the same will be included in each VPA DD and Gold Standard SDG Impact Tool. Thus, the criterion is found to be appropriate.</p>
	<p>16. Conditions to be met by each VPA regarding safeguarding principles</p> <p>Projects shall conduct a Safeguarding Principles Assessment and conform to Gold Standard Safeguarding Principles and Requirements</p>	<p>Safeguarding principles assessment report will form part of the Project Design Document, including the Monitoring & Reporting Plan at VPA level and shall be submitted to GS VB</p>	<p>Section D and Appendix 1 of the VPA-DD will demonstrate the safeguarding principles.</p> <p>Thus, the criterion is found to be appropriate.</p>
Findings	CAR#05 was raised and resolved		
Conclusion	The validation team has cross checked the parameters and values related to the emission reduction and confirmed that justification of the mentioned values is correct.		

D.5. Demonstration of additionality

Means of validation	<p>At PoA-Level:</p> <p>CME has confirmed during the interviews that PoA is a voluntary programme and doesn't have any mandatory programme for the dissemination of safe water technologies in the host countries. There is no external funding/15/ available except the revenue from GS. The proposed</p>
----------------------------	--

	<p>VPA's under the PoA will not be implemented without the Gold Standard Certification related finance. Therefore, in line with para 4.5 of Gold Standard Programme of Activities Requirements/2/, the proposed PoA is found to be additional.</p> <p>VPA-level requirement to be demonstrated: As per GS4GG Community services activity requirements/9/, Version 1.2, Para 4.1.9, Projects that meet any of the following criteria are considered as deemed additional and therefore are not required to prove Financial Additionality at the time of design certification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive list (Annex B of this document) • Projects located in LDC, SIDS, LLDC • Microscale projects <p>The proposed PoA introduces safe water supply and treatment technologies that displaces the boiling of water in communities lacking safe drinking water access. Therefore, as per annex B para 1.1.5 of GS4GG Community services activity requirements, Version 1.2,/9/ it falls under the positive list of projects irrespective of its scale and therefore, the project is auto additional. Documentation of barriers is not required for the positive list of technologies and PoA types that are defined as automatically additional.</p> <p>The assessment team has reviewed the details provided in PoA-DD and also the documentary evidence followed by the on-site visit and confirms that the PoA is additional. Additionality will be demonstrated for each VPA during VPA inclusions, which has been ensured through specific VPA inclusion criterion (Eligibility criterion for VPA inclusion #12). The approach to demonstrate additionality is found appropriate and acceptable.</p>
Findings	CAR #06 was raised and successfully resolved.
Conclusion	<p>The validation team confirms that all the documented evidence listed and reviewed during the validation process are found correct and is able to confirm that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GS benefits were considered necessary in the decision to undertake the project as a proposed PoA. • All the assumptions and data used by the project participants are listed in the PoA-DD, including their references and sources. • All underlying assumptions are appropriate and reasonable in context of the PoA. • The capacity and technology details are correct and in line with the requirements for Auto additional projects.

D.6. Start date, crediting period type and duration

Means of validation	<p>The start date of the PoA is 30/03/2022 as this was the date when the Design Consultation report was first submitted to GS4GG/17/.</p> <p>The duration of the PoA is 20 years. The lifetime of the project was found to be in-line with the para 3.1.3.GS4GG PoA requirements/2/ which states that the PoA duration shall not exceed 20 years.</p>
Findings	CAR #05 was raised and resolved.

Conclusion	<p>The project start date as stated in PoA-DD/1/ has been validated as per the definition of start date given in the CDM glossary terms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PoA duration is indicated in the PoA-DD that of 20 years.
-------------------	--

D.7. Safeguarding Principles Assessment

D.7.1. Justification of Safeguarding Principles Assessment at PoA level

Means of validation	The Safeguarding Principles Assessment has been undertaken by the CME at the VPA level. Please refer to the section below for detailed assessment.
Findings	No findings were raised
Conclusion	This project has only positive impacts on the environment. Both Social and environmental aspects are properly discussed in the section below.

D.7.2. Assessment of Safeguarding principles, if undertaken at PoA level

Means of validation	N/A as this has been conducted at the VPA level
Findings	N/A as this has been conducted at the VPA level
Conclusion	N/A as this has been conducted at the VPA level

D.8. Summary of Stakeholder consultation

Means of validation	<p>The stakeholder consultation conducted at PoA level was a virtual meeting conducted on 16/03/2022. The invites for the same was sent on electronically between 10/02/2022 to 14/02/2022. The details of the project design were shared with the stakeholders and they were asked to provide the comments.</p> <p>Following information was shared with stakeholder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spouts international Technology that were to be distributed SDG contribution <p>The local stakeholder consultation has been carried out at VPA level (in Uganda and Rwanda).</p>
Findings	FAR#01 have been raised and resolved.
Conclusion	The Validation team confirmed that the CME has conducted stakeholder's consultation process in-line to the requirements set under COVID-19 interim measures/8/.

D.9. Grievance Mechanism at PoA Level

Means of validation	<p>CME has provided e-mail IDs and Phone numbers of PP representatives for the continuous Input or Grievance Mechanism in the PoA-DD as a method to register grievance which are:</p> <p>email: ronaldampaire@spouts.org and danyin@spouts.org</p> <p>address: Ronald Ampaire, Global Carbon Specialist (SPOUTS International):</p> <p>+256 (0) 75 775 9533 – Mobile & WhatsApp +256 (0)78 739 2327 – Mobile</p>
----------------------------	---

	<p>Gold Standard’s telephone number is: +41 (0) 22 788 7080. For grievances at VPA level, it can be lodged locally with VPA implementers.</p> <p>Along with this, a grievance register will be kept at SPOUTS regional offices. The stakeholders can write their concerns/ inputs and supports in the book kept. The assessment team has verified the details mentioned in the PoA-DD during the onsite audit/23/. It was found to be appropriate. Grievance mechanism will also be detailed at the time of VPA inclusions.</p>
Findings	No findings were raised.
Conclusion	<p>The Grievances are discussed in the PoA-DD/1/.</p> <p>The validation team confirms the expression book will be made available CME office along with working email ID, reflects the good practice in the host countries.</p>

SECTION E. Internal quality control

The draft validation report prepared by the validation team was reviewed by an independent technical review team to confirm if the internal procedures established and implemented by ESPL were duly complied with and such opinion/conclusion is reached in an objective manner that complies with the applicable CDM and GS4GG rules/requirements. The technical review team is collectively required to possess the technical expertise of all the technical area/sectoral scope the PoA relates to. All team members of technical review team were independent of the validation team.

The technical review process may accept or reject the validation opinion or raise additional findings in which case these must be resolved before requesting for registration. The technical review process is recorded in the internal documents of ESPL, and the additional findings get included in the report.

The final report approved by the technical reviewer is authorized by Managing Director and issued to CME and/or submitted for request for registration, as appropriate on behalf of ESPL.

SECTION F. Validation opinion

ESPL was contracted by SPOUTS international for validation of the PoA “GS11638 SPOUTS water Purifier Programme in Africa”/1/. The validation was performed on the basis of rules and requirements defined by UNFCCC for the CDM project activities and GS4GG rules and requirements/6/.

The PoA involves distribution of safe water technologies, compatible with the requirements of the applied methodology, Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply version 1.0 /7/ in the host countries Republic of Uganda and Republic of Rwanda is assessed against latest valid GS4GG requirements/6/.The reduction in the amount of fuel consumption by the not burning non-renewable biomass to purify water, reduces CO₂ emissions that are real, measurable, and mainly helps in mitigating climate change while providing safe water technologies.

The proposed GS PoA is likely to achieve the anticipated emission reductions stated in the PoA-DD/1/ provided the underlying assumptions do not change.

ESPL has informed the project participants of the validation outcome through the draft validation report.

ESPL applied the following validation process and methodology using a competent validation team;

- the desk review of documents and evidence submitted by the project participant in context of the reference GS4GG and CDM rules and guidelines issued by CDM EB and GS secretariat,
- undertaking/conducting on-site visit, interview, or interactions with the representative of the project participant,
- reporting audit findings with respect to clarifications and non-conformities and the closure of the findings, as appropriate and
- preparing a draft validation opinion based on the auditing findings and conclusions

The review of the PoA-DD, supporting documentation, subsequent follow-ups actions (interviews) has provided ESPL with sufficient evidence to determine the fulfilment of stated criteria and the gold standard certified project design status will be achieved by successfully undergoing validation and design review.

Appendix 1. Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Full texts
General	
BE	Baseline Emission
CAR	Corrective Action Request
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CL	Clarification Request
CO2	Carbon di oxide
CP	Crediting Period
DR	Desk Review
DOE	Designated Operational Entity
EB	Executive Board
ESPL	Earthood Services Private Limited
FAR	Forward Action Request
GHG	Green House Gas
GSC/GSP	Global Stakeholder Consultation Process
GSGG	Gold Standard for the Global Goals
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
KP	Kyoto Protocol
LoA	Letter of Approval/Authorization
LSC	Local Stakeholder Consultation Process
MoC	Modalities of Communication
MoV	Means of Validation
MP	Monitoring Plan
N2O	Nitrous Oxide
PCP	Project Cycle Procedure
PE	Project Emission
PoA DD	Programme of Activities Design Document
PP	Project Participant
PS	Project Standard
RFR	Request for Registration

tCO2e	Tonnes of Carbon di oxide equivalent
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
V	Version
VVS	Validation and Verification Standard

Appendix 2. Competence of team members and technical reviewers

Competence Statement			
Name	Shifali Guleria		
Education	M.Sc. (Environmental Studies and Resource Management), TERI University		
Experience	3+ year		
Field	Climate Change		
Approved Roles			
Team Leader	YES		
Validator	YES		
Verifier	YES		
Methodology Expert	YES (AMS-I.A., AMS-II.G.,AMS-II.E., AMS-III.A.V., AMS-I.D, ACM0002)		
Local expert	YES		
Financial Expert	NO		
Technical Reviewer	YES		
TA Expert	YES (1.2, 3.1)		
Reviewed by	Deepika Mahala	Date	16/02/2022
Approved by	Ashok Gautam	Date	18/02/2022

Competence Statement			
Name	Deepika Mahala		
Country	India		
Education	M. Sc. (Environment Management), GGSIP University B.Sc. Hons. (Chemistry), Sri Venkateshwar College, DU		
Experience	6 Years +		
Field	Climate Change		
Approved Roles			
Team Leader	YES		
Validator	YES		
Verifier	YES		
Methodology Expert	ACM0002, AMS.I.D., AMS.I.A, AMS.III.AV, AMS.II.G, AMS-II.C		
Local expert	YES (India, Bangladesh)		
Financial Expert	NO		
Technical Reviewer	YES		

TA Expert	YES (TA 1.2 & TA 3.1)		
Reviewed by	Shifali Guleria (QM)	Date	28/04/2022
Approved by	Kaviraj Singh (MD)	Date	28/04/2022

Competence Statement			
Name	Vishnu S Panicker		
Education	M.Sc (Sustainable Development and Environment Management) B.Sc (Forestry)		
Experience	-		
Field	Forestry and environment		
Approved Roles			
Team Leader	NO		
Validator	NO		
Verifier	NO		
Methodology Expert	NO		
Local expert	NO		
Financial Expert	NO		
Technical Reviewer	NO		
TA Expert (X.X)	NO		
Trainee	YES		
Reviewed by	Deepika Mahala (Quality Manager)	Date	08/09/2021
Approved by	Ashok Kumar Gautam (Technical Manager)	Date	17/09/2021

Competence Statement			
Name	Muskan Chawla		
Education	M.Sc. Environment Science		
Experience	NA		
Field	Environment Science		
Approved Roles			
Team Leader	NO		
Validator	NO		
Verifier	NO		
Methodology Expert	NO		
Local expert	NO		
Financial Expert	NO		
Technical Reviewer	NO		
TA Expert (X.X)	NO		
Trainee	YES		
Reviewed by	Deepika Mahala	Date	09/03/2022
Approved by	Ashok Gautam	Date	09/03/2022

Competence Statement			
Name	Julius Sam Khaukha		
Country	Uganda		
Education	Bachelors in Social Administration		
Experience	7 Years +		
Field	Education and Social Work		
Approved Roles			
Team Leader	NO		
Validator	NO		
Verifier	NO		
Methodology Expert	NO		
Local expert	YES (Uganda)		
Financial Expert	NO		
Technical Reviewer	NO		
TA Expert	NO		
Reviewed by	Abhishek Mahawar	Date	01/03/2018
Approved by	Ashok Kumar Gautam	Date	01/03/2018

Competence Statement			
Name	Olivier Uwimana		
Education	Bachelor's in Applied Mathematics		
Experience	4+ years		
Field	Statistics		
Approved Roles			
Team Leader	No		
Validator	No		
Verifier	No		
Methodology Expert	No		
Local expert	Yes (Rwanda)		
Financial Expert	No		
Technical Reviewer	No		
TA Expert	No		
Reviewed by	Shreya Garg	Date	19/08/2019
Approved by	Anshika Gupta	Date	19/08/2019

Appendix 3. Documents reviewed or referenced

S.N o.	Author	Title	References to the document	Provider
1.	SPOUTS International	PoA-DD	Version 2.4 dated 10/02/2023	CME
2.	The Gold Standard Foundation	PoA Requirements https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/107-par-programme-of-activity-requirements/	Version 2.0 dated 05/05/2022	CME
3.	UNFCCC	Standard: CDM PS for PoA https://cdm.unfccc.int/Reference/Standards/index.html	Version 3.0	Others
4.	UNFCCC	Standard: CDM PCP for PoA https://cdm.unfccc.int/Reference/Standards/index.html	Version 3.0	Others
5.	UNFCCC	Standard: CDM VVS for PoA https://cdm.unfccc.int/Reference/Standards/index.html	Version 3.0	Others
6.	The Gold Standard Foundation	Principles and requirements for GS4GG https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/101-par-principles-requirements/	Version 1.2	Others
7.	The Gold Standard Foundation	Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/429-ee-sws-emission-reductions-from-safe-drinking-water-supply/	Version 1.0, dated 03/05/2021	Others
8.	The Gold Standard Foundation	GS4GG Stakeholder consultation and engagement requirements https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/102-par-stakeholder-consultation-requirements/	Version 2.1, Dated 14/06/2022	Others
9.	The Gold Standard Foundation	Community Services Activity Requirements https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/201-ar-community-services-activity-requirements/	Version 1.2 Dated Oct 2019	Others
10	The Gold Standard Foundation	GS PoA-DD Form https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/t-prereview-poa-design-document/	Version 2.1, Dated 31/05/2022	Others

11	The Gold Standard Foundation	Site visit and remote audit requirements and procedures	Version 1.0	Others
12	National Water Quality Reference Laboratory (Ministry of Water and Environment)	Performance assessment of the ceramic water filter	09/07/2015	Others
13	WHO/UNICEF	https://washdata.org/ .	-	CME
14	SPOUTS International	CME Declaration for no double counting	26/11/2021	CME
15	SPOUTS International	ODA Declaration	07/02/2022	CME
16	The Gold Standard Foundation	GHG Emissions Reduction & Sequestration Product Requirements	Version 2.1 Dated 24/02/2022	Others
17	SPOUTS International	Design Consultation report	Version 2.0, dated 08/07/2022	CME
18	SPOUTS International	Manufacturer specifications of WPS	Dated 02/06/2022	CME
19	AGS Carbon Advisory	Undertaking stating the threshold limit for VPA		
20	United Nations	UN SDG framework https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/Global%20Indicator%20Framework%20after%202022%20refinement_Eng.pdf	-	Others
21	UN	List of LDCs: https://www.un.org/en/conferences/least-developed-countries#:~:text=The%2046%20countries%20currently%20on,%2C%20Kiribati%2C%20Lao%20People's%20Dem.	-	Others
22	SPOUTS International	Carbon Right owner agreement between AGS Carbon Advisory and SPOUTS international	May 2022	CME
23	VVB	On-site audit	21/09/2022 to 25/09/2022	Others
24	WHO	WHO Purifaaya Results	August 2017	Others
25	UNFCCC	CDM tool 30: Calculation of the Fraction of non-renewable biomass	Version 3.0	Others

26	Rwanda Standard Board	Ceramic water Filter results for Rwanda	12/07/2021	CME
----	-----------------------	---	------------	-----

Appendix 4. Clarification requests, corrective action requests and forward action requests

Table 1. Remaining FAR from preliminary review

FAR ID	01	Section no.	E.2	Date	: 28/09/2022
Description of FAR					
<p>The project developer shall carry out the physical meeting and Stakeholder Feedback Round (SFR) after the project achieves listing/design certification considering the requirements of COVID 19: INTERIM MEASURES (sections 2.2 to 2.4). Kindly respond to the FAR from preliminary review, raised by GS4GG.</p>					
Project participant response					Date : 26/10/2022
<p>As per para 4.5 of the Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements “The CME may employ any appropriate means (physical meeting(s) or remote meeting(s) or feedback via electronic means or other appropriate means) for stakeholder engagement for PoA design consultation. The PoA design consultation does not necessarily require a physical meeting”. Since the Local Stakeholder Consultations are carried out at VPA level, only remote meeting via zoom call was carried out for the PoA.</p>					
Documentation provided by project participant					
DOE assessment					Date : 31/10/2022
<p>The VVB has received the design consultation document, the assessment team has verified the details mentioned in the document submitted. It has also been verified that local stakeholder consultation will be held at VPA level and during the design Consultation the stakeholders were invited. Therefore, the Finding is closed</p> <p>FAR# 01 closed.</p>					

Table 2. CL from this validation

CL ID	01	Section no.	Section A of PoA DD	Date	: 28/09/2022
Description of CL					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Section A.3 of the PoA- DD mentions ‘The chosen technologies will be in compliance with the WHO and host country norms’, however the supporting documents for how the project is compliance with the WHO and host country norms is not provided by the CME in the PoA-DD. Also, the CME is requested to provide the weblinks for host country norms. - The section A.3 of the PoA- DD mentions that ‘Other water filtration products and technologies like water kiosks, chemical treatment, chlorine tablets etc. may also be introduced in the PoA over the course of its crediting period.’ However, the details of the criteria to be met before addition of any new technology has not been mentioned along with that statement in the PoA-DD. 					
Project participant response					Date : 26/10/2022
<p><i>The test reports confirm project Water purifiers compliance with WHO and host country norms. The weblinks for the host country norms shall be provided in country specific VPAs</i></p>					
Documentation provided by project participant					
<i>Test Reports of water purifiers</i>					
DOE assessment					Date : 31/10/2022

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The CME has submitted the water purifier test reports. The assessment team has verified the test report and the link has been added by the CME at the VPA level. It is found to be satisfactory. Hence, the Finding is closed. - The section A.3 mention of the PoA-DD has been updated by the CME. The assessment team has verified the details added it is found to be satisfactory. Hence, the finding stands closed. <p>CL#02 is closed.</p>

CL ID	02	Section no.	Section A.3 of PoA DD	Date : 28/09/2022
Description of CL				
<p>The Section A.3 of the PoA-DD mentions that effectiveness of all the three water purifiers is 99.99% against the germs and bacteria, however the basis of this claim i.e. supporting documents to support the 99.99% water quality is not provided. The CME is requested to provide a clarification about how the percentage level of water purity determined.</p>				
Project participant response				Date : 26/10/2022
<p><i>The effectiveness of the water purifiers has been provided in the test report for performance Assessment of Ceramic water filters by National Water Quality Reference Laboratory</i></p>				
Documentation provided by project participant				
<p><i>National Water Quality Reference Laboratory Test results</i></p>				
DOE assessment				Date: 31/10/2022
<p>The CME has submitted the National water Quality Reference Laboratory to the VVB. The assessment team has verified the details mentioned in the report submitted. The information provided by the CME is found to be inline with the report submitted. Therefore, the finding stands closed.</p> <p>CL# 02 closed.</p>				

CL ID	03	Section no.	Section A of PoA DD	Date : 28/09/2022
Description of CL				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The section for eligibility criteria as per GS4GG principles & requirement, point 3 mentions that, 'all CEPs under this programme shall have a unique ID number / Tag / batch number, either inscribed on the CEP or retained by the buyer, to uniquely identify the CEP avoiding any double counting', however the details regarding the mechanism for generation of unique ID number and how it will be verifiable at each household in not clear from the PoA-DD. The CME is requested to provide a clarification regarding the same. - The section for eligibility criteria as per GS4GG principles & requirement, point 6 mentions that 'AGS Carbon Advisory will own the carbon credits', however the information mentioned here is into coherent with the information provided on the on- site interviews. The CME is requested to provide a clarification regarding this along with the supporting documents. - The Section A.4 of the PoA-DD mentions SDG Targets, For Target 8- Decent Work and Economic Growth, it is mentioned that jobs will be created, however the details regarding the type of jobs and the phases of the project during which these jobs will be created is not mentioned in the PoA DD. The CME is requested to provide a clarification regarding the same. 				
Project participant response				Date : 26/10/2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The mechanism for generation of unique ID number for each water purifier has been detailed in section A.3. of the PoA-DD</i> - <i>The carbon credits that will be issued for the VPAs shall be transferred into CME i.e. AGS Carbon Advisory account. However, as per AGS and SPOUTS internal agreement the carbon credits will finally be transferred to SPOUTS International who is the project owner.</i> - <i>The details regarding the type of jobs and phases during which these jobs will be created has now been mentioned in the PoA-DD</i> 				
Documentation provided by project participant				
<p><i>Copy of addendum to Agreement between AGS and SPOUTS regarding transfer of carbon credits to SPOUTS is attached.</i></p> <p><i>Revised PoA-DD</i></p>				
DOE assessment				Date: 31/10/2022

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The CME has updated point 3 of the PoA-DD. The assessment team has verified the details added by the CME regarding the unique identification procedure and for double counting. The information added by the CME is found to be correct and sufficient. Hence the finding is closed. - The copy of addendum agreement has been submitted to the VVB. The assessment team has verified the document submitted. It has been verified that the credits will be first transferred to the CME and then finally transferred to the SPOUTS who is also the project owner. The document submitted is found to be sufficient. Hence, the finding stands closed. - he Section A.4 of the PoA-DD mentions SDG Targets, For Target 8- Decent Work and Economic Growth, it is mentioned that jobs will be created, but the details regarding the type of jobs is still not mentioned. The CME is requested to indicate which section of the PoA has provided the required information. CL Open. 	
CL Open	
Project participant response	Date : 07/11/2022
<i>In section A.4 of the PoA-DD it has been mentioned that the jobs will be created in different phases of the projects, during Distribution, Monitoring and Carbon project development. The details on the types of jobs created under each phase shall be provided under each VPA.</i>	
Documentation provided by project participant	
DOE assessment	Date: 11/11/2022
The CME has provided the additional information on the job creation process. The information provided is found to be satisfactory. Hence, the finding stands closed.	
CL#03 Closed.	

CL ID	04	Section no.	Section B.2. of PoA DD	Date : 28/09/2022
Description of CL				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The section B.2. of PoA-DD mentions the eligibility of the methodology, the point 7 states that 'The products have also been tested at WHO designated testing laboratory confirming the compliance of treated water with WHO International scheme.' The CME is requested to provide the supporting document to support this information. - The section B.2. of PoA-DD mentions the eligibility of the methodology, point 12 states that 'These filters will be available through the MFI offices or their retailers. Specifically, the PO field staff typically meets with the users of the improved water filters on a weekly or monthly basis, either in group meetings, or when they come to a bank branch'. The CME is requested to provide clarification on the involvement of the banks in the project and also please clarify the type of agreement that will be signed between these banks and CME/ project implementer. Since the project is distributing the devices free of cost or at a subsidized rate, it is not clear if microfinancing will be involved. Additionally, the high cost of purifiers was highlighted by some stakeholders and end-users. CME shall clarify if the distributed devices included under the PoA would be free of cost/ subsidized across all VPAs, or will be sold at actual price. 				
Project participant response				Date : 26/10/2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The test report under WHO International Scheme to Evaluate Household Water Treatment Technologies has been submitted to VVB</i> - No microfinance institutions/banks will be involved in the project financing. The devices will be given both free of cost and at subsidized costs. The statement has been revised in the PoA-DD to reflect the above statement. 				
Documentation provided by project participant				
<i>Test report by WHO designated testing lab</i>				
DOE assessment				Date: 31/10/2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The CME has submitted the test report to the VVB. The assessment team has verified the details mentioned in the test report. The purifiers added compliances with the WHO International scheme. It is found to be satisfactory. Hence, stands closed. - The section has been updated by the CME. The assessment team has verified the details mentioned in the PoA-DD. However, it is not clear what will be the basis of classifying the beneficiaries as recipients of paid devices or free of cost devices. Therefore, the CME is requested to provide a clarification regarding the same. Hence CL# 05 remains open. 				
CL # open.				
Project participant response				Date : 07/11/2022

Each VPA shall be dedicated for the type of contracts that SPOUTS will have with the beneficiaries. For instance, for VPA2 under the existing PoA the project is being implemented in Uganda for which SPOUTS is distributing the WPS for free. Therefore, if SPOUTS plan to sell the WPS at subsidized price an entire VPA shall be dedicated to it. The areas that will be targeted for distribution at subsidized price shall include mostly urban / peri-urban areas and few rural areas where it is commercially viable (can pay for the filter upfront).

Documentation provided by project participant	
DOE assessment	Date: 11/11/2022
The CME has provided the explanation regarding the price and distribution of the WPS. The assessment team has verified the details added by the CME in the PoA, it is found to be inline with the information provided above. Thus, the information is found to be satisfactory. Hence, the finding stands closed. CL#04 Closed.	

Table 3. CAR from this validation

CAR ID	05	Section no.	B3 of PoA-DD	Date : 28/09/2022
Description of CAR				
The section B.3 of the PoA DD mentions the table regarding the inclusion of VPA in the PoA, the point 8 of the table states that the crediting period of the PoA is 20 years whereas the section D.2 of the same report states the duration of the PoA as 15 years. The CME is requested to maintain the consistency between the different sections of the report.				
Project participant response				Date : 26/10/2022
The crediting period of the PoA is 20 years as per the POA requirements of Gold Standard. The same has been revised in section D.2 of the PoA-DD				
Documentation provided by project participant				
DOE assessment				Date: 31/10/2022
The CME has revised section D.2. of the PoA-DD. The assessment team has verified the details revised by the CME. It is found to be satisfactory. Hence, stands closed.				
CAR#06 closed.				

CAR ID	06	Section no.	PoA-DD	Date : 29/09/2022
Description of CAR				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Section C of the PoA-DD mentions a table to demonstrate the additionality threshold for 2 water purifiers, i.e., Traditional cookstoves wood and improved Cookstoves charcoal, however the sources from which the values used for this calculation are not provided in the PoA-DD, neither any ER sheet has been provided to support/demonstrate these calculations. - The template version used by the CME for the PoA-DD is Version 1.1 dated 14/10/2020, however the latest version available on the GS4GG website is V2.1, dated 31/05/2022. 				
Project participant response				Date : 26/10/2022
<i>The section C has been updated to include source of the values used and relevant ER sheets for the calculations included in PoA-DD have been provided to the VVB</i> <i>The PoA-DD template has now been updated</i>				
Documentation provided by project participant				
<i>ER/WPS calculation sheets</i> <i>Revised PoA-DD</i>				
DOE assessment				Date: 31/10/2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The CME has updated the table demonstrating the additionality threshold. The assessment team has verified the details mentioned in the table. It is found to be satisfactory. Hence, stands closed. - The CME has updated the template to the latest version available on the GS4GG website, thus it is found to be satisfactory. Hence, stands closed. 				
CAR # 07 Closed.				

Table 4. FAR from this validation

FAR ID	XX	Section No.		Date : DD/MM/YYYY
Description of FAR				
NA				
Project participant response				Date : DD/MM/YYYY
NA				
Documentation provided by project participant				
NA				
DOE assessment				Date: DD/MM/YYYY
NA				

There is no FAR from this validation