Gold Standard
for the Global Goals

TEMPLATE

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

PUBLICATION DATE **14.10.2020**

VERSION **v. 1.1**

RELATED SUPPORT

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

This document contains the following Sections

Key Project Information

SECTION A. – General description of PoA
SECTION B. - Management System and Inclusion Criteria
SECTION C. – Demonstration of additionality
SECTION D. – Duration of PoA
SECTION E. – Safeguarding principles assessment
SECTION F. - Outcome of Stakeholder Consultations

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

KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

GS ID of Programme	GS1247
Title of Programme:	Improved Kitchen Regimes Multi-Country PoA
Start Date of POA	01/05/2012
Date of Design Certification	18/12/2012
POA Period Start Date	20/02/2020
Version number of the PoA-DD	Crediting Period 2 v14
Completion date of the PoA-DD	11/08/2021
Coordinating/managing entity	CO2balance UK Ltd.
Project Participants and any communities involved	Various partner organisations in target countries to be mentioned at the VPA level
Host Country (ies)	Burkina Faso Eritrea Ethiopia Gambia Guatemala Haiti Malawi Mozambique Rwanda Sierra Leone Tanzania Togo Uganda Zambia Zimbabwe
Activity Requirements applied	☒ Community Services Activities ☐ Renewable Energy Activities ☐ Land Use and Forestry Activities/Risks & Capacities ☐ N/A

Other Requirements applied	VERs, ADALYS, Gender Certification
Methodology (ies) applied and version number	GS TPDDTEC v3.1 GS Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves v1.1
Product Requirements applied	☒ GHG Emissions Reduction & Sequestration ☐ Renewable Energy Label ☐ N/A

SECTION A. General description of PoA

A.1. Purpose and general description of the PoA

The purpose of this Micro-Scale Programme of Activities (mPoA) is to reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions from the burning of non-renewable biomass for cooking and water treatment. This mPoA will distribute energy efficient cook stoves and/or safe water supply and treatment technologies to households/communities.
Biomass, principally firewood and charcoal, holds huge importance in Developing Countries, and is the main source of household energy for some 2-3 billion people in the Developing World, with this demand expected to continue growing.1 More than 1 billion people worldwide do not have access to safe drinking water and a high percentage of these boil their water to purify it for consumption, taking significant amounts of fuel and time.

High population densities coupled with high population growth rates, is putting increasing pressure on natural resources across the Developing World, which are being overexploited. The resulting situation is high and increasing levels of deforestation and environmental degradation.

[1] 2020 Vision for Food, Agriculture and the Environment
http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/pubs/2020/focus/focus14/focus14_10.pdf

In addition to the environmental consequences of such high wood use, there are also serious health implications. Biomass is often the predominant source of energy for cooking and water boiling, especially in rural areas, and is generally carried out on thermally inefficient traditional devices, which produce large amounts of smoke and indoor air pollution. It has been concluded that 'indoor air pollution is a major environmental and public health hazard for many of the world's poorest, most vulnerable people.'2

This mPoA will attempt to address issues such as these through the distribution of several different technologies, which will result in environmental, social and economic benefits, and significant contributions towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)3 (explored later):

- The distribution of improved cook stoves to households currently cooking on inefficient devices will reduce carbon emissions by allowing families to cook the same amount of food using less non-renewable biomass
- The distribution of household level point of use water treatment technologies to those lacking access to safe water will remove the need to boil water as a form of treatment before consumption, thus reducing carbon emissions.
- The installation and/or repair of community wide safe water supply technologies such as hand-pumped boreholes will also remove the need to treat water by boiling before consumption.

The efficient cook stoves and/or safe water supply and treatment technologies will be distributed to households/installed in communities for a nominal installation fee or through a subsidised sales model. By introducing a small fee, it is anticipated that recipients will experience greater levels of ownership, value the technology more and therefore uptake, usage and continued interest in the project will be greater.

Users will enter into an agreement with CO2balance UK Ltd, transferring rights to the VERs generated by the PoA in return for the subsidised technology. The users must also agree to submit to the monitoring programme as described in this PoA Design

[2] WHO, 2000: http://www.who.int/bulletin/archives/78(9)1078.pdf
[3] United Nations (UN), 2020: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300

Document (PoA-DD) and the relevant Voluntary Programme Activity Design Document (VPA-DD).

Forward Action Requests from CP1

- FAR 1: "The approach to communicate with the stakeholders in the local language with the help of an interpreter at the LSC level is accepted. PP shall ensure that the stakeholder consultations are conducted in the local language for all activities that are a part of the micro programme"

PP has applied this request across all LSCs under the PoA. The meeting have either been conducted in the local language completely, or in the local language with some parts translated from English to local language.

A.2. Physical/ Geographical boundary of the PoA

All micro-scale voluntary project activities (mVPAs) included in the PoA will be implemented within the geographic country borders of the following, along with current and future VPAs:

- Burkina Faso: 266-271, 287-300
- Eritrea: 28, 40, 45-8, 54-5. 84-5, 65-70, 84-5, 119-26, 134-6 & 176-82
- Ethiopia: 86-90, 127-8, 149-50, 156, 165-6, 168-72 & 188-9
- Gambia: 224-30
- Guatemala 311-312
- Haiti 313-315
- Malawi: 24-7, 36-7, 91-104 & 112-16
- Mozambique: 159-63 & 200-2
- Rwanda: 1, 7-22, 38-9, 41-2, 56-64, 106-10, 151-5 & 157-8
- Sierra Leone: 203-12 & 231-240
- Togo: 272-281
- Uganda: 2-5, 33-5, 43-4, 49, 71-82, 139-41, 183-7 & 219-223
- Zambia: 190-7
- Zimbabwe: 142-7 & 213-218

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

Improved Cookstoves

Improved cookstove (ICS) VPAs provide energy efficient cook stoves to households in the countries included in the PoA, which are currently using non-renewable biomass as fuel (this may include both charcoal and wood). The ICS will replace inefficient baseline cooking technology, such as three stone fires. The models and details of the improved cookstoves will be set out in the VPA-DDs where this is the relevant technology. The stove design will vary by VPA as different locations, climates,

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

One example of the ICS technology which may be included under the PoA is a design developed by CO2balance. The user-friendly design delivers high thermal efficiency and, where possible, is built from locally sourced materials. This technology performs at 21% thermal efficiency, thereby reducing the amount of biomass required in day-to-day cooking by approximately 70% as compared to the traditional three-stone, open fire method of cooking.

Figure 2: Efficient Stove Design

The improved stove has been designed to balance efficiency, safety, cost, stability and strength with a focus on using locally available materials. The key components of the stove are prefabricated in local factories and the rest of the components can be sourced and manufactured in the locality of the project. The stove consists of a metal case, ceramic liner, soft clay, husks, sand, cement, and metal pot support and grate. The exact stove construction details will be listed in a specification document which will accompany the specific VPA-DD for which that technology is used.

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

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

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

- SDG 3: Reduction in exposure to indoor air pollution
- SDG 5: Reduction in time spent on unpaid chores by women and girls
- SDG 7: Distribution of improved technology
- SDG 8: Provision of work, training and sales opportunities
- SDG 13: Reduction in CO2 emissions
- SDG 15: Reduction in demand for firewood

Water Filters

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

These technologies are likely to treat water at the point of use. The technology chosen may vary by VPA as different locations, climates, traditions and improvements in technology demand. The technology likely to be chosen is a household level water filter, similar to that shown in Figure 3 below.

Figure 3: Household Ceramic Filter

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

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

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

- SDG 3: Reduction in exposure to indoor air pollution or reduction in illnesses related to unsafe water
- SDG 4: Reduction in absences from school due to reduction in time spent by children on unpaid domestic duties
- SDG 5: Reduction in time spent on unpaid chores by women and girls
- SDG 6: Provision of access to clean water
- SDG 13: Reduction in CO2 emissions
- SDG 15: Reduction in demand for firewood

Safe Water Sources

The project will involve the provision of technologies that provide a safe water source to communities in the host country currently boiling water as a purification method, or, using the concept of suppressed demand, members of the community that are not able to boil water due to the unavailability or expense of firewood.
These technologies will provide a safe water provision to communities, so that it can be consumed from the source without the need for treatment first. The technology chosen may vary by VPA as different locations, climates, traditions and improvements in technology demand. The technology likely to be chosen is a zero-emission pumped borehole, with the pump similar to that shown in Figure 4 below. The project activity will involve the installation and/or repair of broken boreholes, and their maintenance over the lifetime of the project.

Figure 4: AfriDev Hand Pump

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

In addition to water filter and borehole technology safe water sources, other additional safe water technology may be included under the PoA, such as, but not limited to, solar powered desalination plants similar to those in Figure 5 below.

Figure 5: Solar powered desalination plant

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

- SDG 3: Reduction in exposure to indoor air pollution or reduction in illnesses related to unsafe water
- SDG 4: Reduction in absences from school due to reduction in time spent by children on unpaid domestic duties
- SDG 5: Reduction in time spent on unpaid chores by women and girls
- SDG 6: Provision of access to clean water
- SDG 13: Reduction in CO2 emissions
- SDG 15: Reduction in demand for firewood

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

>>

Sustainable Development Goals Targeted	Most relevant SDG Target	SDG Impact Indicator (Proposed or SDG Indicator)
SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	3.9: By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination. By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.	HAPRy: total reduction in household air pollution for project activity in year y (%) OR 3.9.2 Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services)
SDG 4: Quality Education	4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to a relevant and effective learning outcome	4.1.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to a relevant and effective learning outcome
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	5.4.1 -Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location

	shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.	
SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	6.1 – By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.	6.1.1 - Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services
SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	7.1.2: Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology.	ICSa,y: number of project ICS active in year y
SDG 13: Climate Action	13.B – Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities.	Emissions Reductions 13.B.1: Number of least developed countries and small island developing States with nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans, strategies as reported in adaptation communications and national communications
SDG 15: Life on Land	By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation	Total reduction in total wood use under project activities compared to baseline scenario

	and reforestation globally

A.5. Coordinating/managing entity

CO2balance UK Ltd. is the CME of the PoA. CO2balance UK Ltd. is the entity which communicates with the Gold Standard.

Local partner organisations and staff will be involved in the implementation of activities in some VPAs, therefore being participants in the PoA. These will be identified and indicated at the individual VPA level.

Project Implementer is defined as CO2balance UK Ltd. or a nominated organisation defined in each VPA-DD.

A.6. Funding sources of PoA

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

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

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

SECTION B. MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND INCLUSION CRITERIA

B.1. Management System

The operational and management plan has been updated as the CP1 PoA focused on a specific improved cookstoves programme. The updated management system under CP2 PoA is more inclusive.

Project Implementer, will have overall operational and management responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of the proposed PoA and the VPAs belonging to it; and is therefore the PoA Managing Entity.

Operation and Management

Project Implementer will be responsible for the following operational and management activities related to each VPA under the PoA as listed below:

Manufacturing and Distribution

a. It is hoped that all components for the improved cook stoves will be manufactured in the host country; however stove parts may be imported if a suitable supplier cannot be found. The stove technology may be changed if an improved product is developed or if a specific requirement is identified in a specific VPA; in this case stove performance figures will be provided and calculations amended accordingly.

b. Safe water treatment technologies will be manufactured where possible in the host country, however they may be sourced from other locations if necessary. Project Implementer will work with partners, Community Based Organisations (CBOs) and/or NGOs responsible for borehole installation and maintenance in applicable areas in relation to safe water provision technologies

VPA Project Area/Household Identification and Sensitisation

a. For each VPA a process for identifying project areas and/or households will be managed by Project Implementer and their partners. This will involve working with relevant stakeholders to help identify project areas and/or households suitable for stove sales and distribution and/or safe water supply and treatment technology project.
b. In partnership with community leaders, NGOs and other local community organisations, Project Implementer will initiate a sensitisation procedure to ensure that households/recipients understand the benefits of the technology, cultural issues are addressed, and users are trained in the optimal use of the equipment. Sensitisation campaigns for each project type will be carried out as follows:
    i. Improved Cookstoves – End-User training in line with Annex 10 of the Methodology

Safe Water Technologies - Hygiene campaign will be carried out in line with Annex 3 Section A.3.3.F of the Methodology

Data Collection

a. Upon sale, distribution, rehabilitation or installation of each stove and/or safe water supply or treatment technology in the VPA, a representative or partner of Project Implementer will be responsible for collecting monitoring data. In line with Section 3.A of the Methodology, this will include:

1. Date of sale/installation/distribution/rehabilitation
2. Geographic area of sale/installation/distribution/rehabilitation
3. Model/type of project technology sold/installed/distributed/rehabilitated
4. Quantity of project technology sold/installed/distributed/rehabilitated
5. Name and telephone number (if available), and address:
    i. For all bulk purchasers i.e. retailers and industrial users

ii. All end users except in cases where this is justified as not feasible (such as cases of distributed sales of small items, including portable cook stoves and water filters, sold in market stalls or shops where the retailer cannot reasonably be expected to collect customers names and addresses during busy times. In such cases the number of names/telephone numbers/addresses collected will be as many as commensurate with representative sampling

6. Mode of use: domestic, commercial, other:
   i. At a minimum as many as commensurate with representative sampling

b. This data will be collected and form the Project Database

Monitoring:

a. The ongoing monitoring of the performance of the stoves and/or safe water supply or treatment technology in each VPA will be the responsibility of Project Implementer and/or partner organisations.
b. A sampled group of project technologies will be assessed in line with the Methodology monitoring requirements. Sampling will be carried out as described in Section B.3.
c. Monitoring Reports will be written for each VPA or group of homogenous VPAs in each verification period.

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

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

The Monitoring Plan will be described in detail in each VPA-DD, which will also include a Sampling Plan for each survey. Each project type will follow a general pattern tailored to the demands of the individual project.

B.2. Application of methodologies

The PoA will apply GS Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC) v3.1. However, under the PoA's first Crediting Period TPDDTEC v1 was applicable. Existing VPAs under the PoA will continue to apply TPDDTEC v1 until that VPA's Crediting Period is renewed, at which point v3.1 will be applied and the VPAs will follow a 5-year crediting cycle as per GS4GG requirements.

Technology	Methodology
Improved Cookstoves	GS Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC) v3.1; or GS Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves

Water Filters	GS Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC) v3.1 v1.1
Safe Water Sources	GS Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC) v3.1

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

The community-based projects listed in the table above involve the transfer of carbon rights from individuals, households, institutions and/or communities to the Project Developer. The process is discussed during feasibility studies, at the LSC and at the time of project implementation with end users and other stakeholders. The details of carbon transfer is dealt with at the VPA level.

The following conditions in Section 1.0 'SOURCE AND APPLICABILITY' of TPDDTEC v3.1 are met:

Methodology Requirement	**Project**
1. The project boundary needs to be clearly identified, and the technologies counted in the project are not included in any other voluntary market or CDM project activity (i.e. no double counting takes place). In some cases there maybe another similar activity within the same target area. Project proponents must therefore have a survey mechanism in place together with appropriate mitigation measures so as to prevent any possibility of double counting.	The project boundary is the physical, geographical sites of the project technologies and potentially of the baseline and project fuel collection. The individual households where the project technologies will be installed, and/or communities where the boreholes are situated, are within the target area, which have been clearly demarcated using administrative boundaries. The technologies counted are given a unique identification number which is stored in the project database. This ensures that

	the technologies are not counted in other project activities.
2. The technologies each have continuous useful energy outputs of less than 150kW per unit (defined as the total useful energy delivered from start to end of operation of a unit divided by time of operation). For technologies or practices that do not deliver thermal energy in the project scenario but only displace thermal energy supplied in the baseline scenario, the 150kW threshold applies to the displaced baseline technology.	The stove project technology primarily delivers thermal energy, whilst the water technology displaces thermal energy supplied in the baseline. Therefore, the 150kW threshold applies differently to the two technologies. Stoves: Calculations will be included with each VPA-DD to demonstrate that the applicable technology has a continuous useful energy output of less than 150kW per unit Safe Water Technology: Calculations will be included with each VPA-DD to demonstrate that the displaced baseline technology has a continuous useful energy output of less than 150kW.
3. Using the baseline technology as a backup or auxiliary technology in parallel with the improved technology introduced by the project activity is permitted as long as a mechanism is put into place to encourage the removal of the old technology (e.g. discounted price for the improved technology) and the definitive discontinuity of its use.	As referenced in the methodology 'the removal and continued non-use of three stone fires and other easily constructed traditional devices (the baseline technology replaced by this project activity) is in many cases unlikely and impractical to monitor'. However, the mechanism introduced to encourage the cessation of use of baseline technology is educating local people on the extensive health and environmental benefits of abandoning inefficient baseline technology entirely. The same method of educating users about water technology will be adopted, whereby the extensive benefits will be fully explained.
a) The project documentation must provide a clear description of the approach chosen and the monitoring	Overall use of the baseline technology will be monitored in conjunction with that of the project technology, as will

plan must allow for a good understanding of the extent to which the baseline technology is still in use after the introduction of the improved technology. For example, whether the existing baseline technology is not surrendered at the time of the introduction of the improved technology, or whether a new baseline technology is acquired and put to use by targeted end users during the project crediting period	the emergence of any other baseline technology by targeted end users.
b) The success of the mechanism put into place must therefore be monitored, and the approach must be adjusted if proven unsuccessful5 . If an old technology remains in use in parallel with the improved technology, the corresponding emissions must be accounted for as part of the project emissions	Parallel baseline technology use (three stone fires or traditional equivalent for either cooking or water boiling) will be revealed during monitoring and its effect on emissions reductions will be captured in line with equations provided in the Methodology: Stoves: $B_{p,y} = N_{p,y} * ((P_{p,y} * U_{p,y}) + (P_{b,y} * (1 - U_{p,y}))$ Safe Water Technologies: $B_{p,y} = (1-C_j) * N_{p,y} * W_{b,y} * (Q_{p,rawboil,y} + Q_{p,cleanboil,y})$ The uptake rate U will be determined by usage surveys and hence used to account for parallel baseline and project technology use.
4. The project proponent must clearly communicate to all project participants the entity that is claiming ownership rights of and selling the emission reductions resulting from the project	A full explanation will be given to all household stove and/or water technology recipients, or end users, that Project Implementer distributed the technology on the basis that the

activity. For technology producers and the retailers of the improved technology or the renewable fuel in use, this must be communicated by contract or clear written assertions in the transaction paperwork. If the claimants are not the project technology end users, the end users will need to be informed and notified that they cannot claim for emission reductions from the project6 .	emissions reductions will be transferred to CO2balance (or another entity set out in the relevant VPA-DD).
5. Project activities making use of a new biomass feedstock in the project situation (e.g. shift from non-renewable to green charcoal, plant oil or renewable biomass briquettes) must comply with relevant Gold Standard specific requirements for biomass related project activities, as defined in the latest version of the Gold Standard rules7 . If the biomass feedstock is sourced from a dedicated plantation, the criteria must apply to both plantations established for the project activity AND existing plantations that were established in the context of other activities but will supply biomass feedstock.	The emission reductions from this project, for both stove and water technologies, will result from a change in quantity of fuel consumed, rather than change of fuel type, therefore this condition is not applicable.
a) Adequate evidence is supplied to demonstrate that indoor air pollution (IAP) levels are not worsened compared to the baseline, and greenhouse gases (as listed in section 2.1) emitted by the project fuel/stove combination are estimated with adequate precision8 . The project fuel/stove combination may	The fuel used in both the project and baseline scenario is the same, as such there are no additional harmful gases released in the project scenario. Stoves: Distributed in households that previously used a traditional inefficient device. As such, both the volume of greenhouse gases and volume of

include instances in which the project stove is a baseline stove.	harmful gases are reduced in the project scenario. Safe Water Technologies: Result in reduced boiling of water, hence also a reduction in both the volume of greenhouse gases and volume of harmful gases.
b) Records of renewable fuel sales may not be used as sole parameters for emission reduction calculation, but may be used as data informing the equations in section 2.0 of this methodology. These records need to be correlated to data on distribution9 and results of field tests and surveys confirming (a) actual use of the renewable fuel and usage patterns (such as average fraction of non-renewable fuels used in mixed combustion or seasonal variation of fuel types), (b) GHG emissions, (c) evidence of CO levels not deteriorating (d) any further factors effecting emission reductions significantly.	The emission reduction calculation will be based on fuel wood usage measurements for both cook stoves and water technologies (Kitchen Performance Tests and Wb,y Tests). Fuel sales will not be monitored or used in any equations in this project.

The following conditions in Section 1.0 'SOURCE AND APPLICABILITY' of GS Simplified Cookstove Methodology are met:

Methodology Requirement	**Project**
This methodology is applicable, i. If the baseline fuel is only fire wood ii. If the baseline stove is a three stone fire, or a conventional device without a grate or a chimney i.e. with no improved	Projects applying the Simplified Cookstove Methodology will assess: i. baseline fuel use being replaced; and ii. baseline stove use being replaced by means of a baseline survey carried out in the Project Area

combustion of air supply or flue gas ventilation; and iii. If the project stove is single pot or multi pot portable or in-situ cook stoves with specified efficiency of at least 20%	and iii. Project stove efficiency by means of a WBT carried out on the project stove Information and evidence will provided in each VPA-DD to demonstrate compliance with the conditions
2. The project boundary can be clearly identified, and the cookstoves counted in the proposed project activity are not included in another voluntary market or CDM project activity (i.e. no double counting takes place). The project proponent must have a mechanism in place together with appropriate mitigation measures to prevent double counting.	The project boundary is the physical, geographical sites of the project technologies and potentially of the baseline and project fuel collection. The individual households where the project technologies will be installed, and/or distributed, are within the target area, which have been clearly demarcated using administrative boundaries. The technologies counted are given a unique identification number which is stored in the project database. This ensures that the technologies are not counted in other project activities.
3. The project proponent must clearly communicate that the entity is claiming ownership rights and selling of the emission reductions resulting from the project activity. This must be communicated to the efficient cookstoves producers, retailers and end users by contract or clear written assertions in the transaction paperwork	A full explanation will be given to all household stove recipients, or end users, that Project Implementer distributed the technology on the basis that the emissions reductions will be transferred to CO2balance (or another entity set out in the relevant VPA-DD). Means of communication will be set out in relevant VPA-DD

For example, leaflets distributed with the products alerting end-users to the waiving of their carbon rights in exchange for pricing of the improved cookstove which discounts its true cost (waiver forms signed by end users are another example)	
4. Using the baseline technology as a backup or auxiliary technology in parallel with the improved technology introduced by the project activity is permitted as long as a mechanism is put into place to encourage the removal of the old technology (e.g. discounted price for the improved technology) and the definitive discontinuity of its use.	As referenced in the methodology 'the removal and continued non-use of three stone fires and other easily constructed traditional devices (the baseline technology replaced by this project activity) is in many cases unlikely and impractical to monitor'. However, the mechanism introduced to encourage the cessation of use of baseline technology is educating local people on the extensive health and environmental benefits of abandoning inefficient baseline technology entirely. Other mechanisms such as guarantees on project technology may also be implemented
a) The project documentation must provide a clear description of the approach chosen and the monitoring plan must allow for a good understanding of the extent to which the baseline technology is still in use after the introduction of the improved technology. For example, whether the existing baseline technology is not	Overall use of the baseline technology will be monitored in conjunction with that of the project technology, as will the emergence of any other baseline technology by targeted end users.

surrendered at the time of the introduction of the improved technology, or whether a new baseline technology is acquired and put to use by targeted end users during the project crediting period	
b) The success of the mechanism put into place must therefore be monitored, and the approach must be adjusted if proven unsuccessful. If an old technology remains in use in parallel with the improved technology, the corresponding emissions must be accounted for as part of the project emissions	Parallel baseline technology use will be revealed during monitoring and its effect on emissions reductions will be captured. The uptake rate U will be determined by usage surveys and hence used to account for parallel baseline and project technology use.

B.1.1. Multiple technologies/measures

>>

B.2. Eligibility criteria for inclusion of a VPA in the PoA

No.	Eligibility Criterion	Description/ Required condition	Means of Verification/Supporting evidence for inclusion
1	Types of Project	Eligible Projects shall include physical action/implementation on the ground. Pre-identified eligible Project types are identified in the Eligibility Principles and Requirements section.	Projects will involve the distribution of improved cookstoves or the distribution/installation/rehabilitation of safe water sources or treatment technologies. Project types are eligible under Community Services Activity Requirements s3.1.1(b) and s3.1.1(d).

2	Location of Project	The host country and location of each VPA will be specified in each VPA-DD, in line with the locations outlined in Section A.3.	This will be clearly stated in each VPA-DD.
3	Project Area, Project Boundary and Scale	The Project Area and Project Boundary shall be defined. Projects may be developed at any scale although certain rules, requirements and limitations may apply under specific Activity Requirements, Impact Quantification Methodologies and Products Requirements. In order to avoid double counting the Project shall not be included in any other voluntary or compliance standards programme unless approved by Gold Standard (for example through dual certification). Also, if the Project Area overlaps with that of another Gold Standard or other voluntary or compliance standard programme of a similar nature, the project shall demonstrate that there is no double counting of impacts at design and performance certification (for example use of similar technology or practices through which the potential arises for double counting or misestimation of impacts amongst projects).	Each VPA will state the location of the Project and provide a range of GPS coordinates and maps to define the Project boundary. Each micro-scale VPA included under this PoA will not be included by any other carbon standard and will not exceed the 10,000 VERs per year cap.

4	Host Country Requirements	Projects shall be in compliance with applicable Host Country's legal, environmental, ecological and social regulations.	Each VPA will be in compliance with these regulations.
5	Contact Details	As part of the Project Documentation the Project Developer shall provide (i) name and (ii) contact details of all Project Participants; AND in case of an organisation (iii) the legal registration details and (iv) documentation by the governing jurisdiction that proves that the entity is in good standing (defined as being a legal or other appropriate entity registered in or allowed to operate within the required jurisdiction and with no evidence of insolvency or legal/criminal notices placed against it or any of its Directors). Gold Standard retains the right (at its own discretion) to refuse use of the Standard where reputational concerns are highlighted.	The details of the Project Developer will be included in each VPA-DD.
6	Legal Ownership	Full and uncontested legal ownership of any Products that are generated under Gold Standard Certification, (for example carbon credits) shall be demonstrated. Where such ownership is transferred from project beneficiaries this must be demonstrated transparently and with full, prior and informed consent (FPIC). Note that	Means of demonstration of legal ownership of Products generated under the Programme will be specified in each VPA-DD. Demonstration of legal ownership will be in line with Community Services Activity Requirements s.3.1.4.

		for certain Project types there is a requirement for full and uncontested legal land title/tenure to be demonstrated. These are contained within specific Activity or Product Requirements. All projects shall immediately report to Gold Standard any land title/tenure disputes arising.	
7	Other Rights	As well as legal title and ownership, the Project Developer shall also demonstrate where required uncontested legal rights and/or permissions concerning changes in use of other resources required to service the Project (for example, access rights, water rights etc.). Any known disputes or contested rights must be declared immediately to Gold Standard by the Project Developer and resolved prior to further Project implementation in affected areas.	This will be demonstrated where applicable in the relevant VPA-DDs.
8	Official Development Assistance (ODA) Declaration	All Project Developers applying for project activities located in a country named by the OECD Development Assistance Committee's ODA recipient list and seeking Gold Standard Certification for carbon credits shall declare the Official Development Assistance (ODA) support. The Project Developer shall follow the GHG Emissions Reduction &	A declaration confirming that there is no diversion of ODA for each VPA will be attached with the PoA-DD and individual VPA-DDs.

	Sequestration Product Requirements and submit the declaration at the time of Design Certification.	

Criteria demanded from PoA Re-Validation Review		
(i) Factor of Non-Renewable Biomass	Reference from where fNRB shall be calculated for VPAs shall be included in the eligibility criteria to avoid confusion at the time of VPA inclusion and for consistency	The fNRB value will be taken, where possible, from default values provided by CDM and the Gold Standard.
(j) Test for Wb,y parameter	The test for fixed parameter Wb,y is based on the water boiling test.	The test for the Wb,y fixed parameter will be conducted following the established test set out in the 'GS1247 Annex IV - Wb,y Test Guidelines' document.
(k) Water Project Treatment Capacity	The treatment capacity limits of project technology/source are required to be monitored to ensure that the water consumption level applied for emission reductions must not be greater than the treatment capacity of the project technology/sources.	Each VPA will ensure that consumption levels are not greater than the treatment capacity of the project technology/source.
(l) Cookstove Project Theoretical Savings	The theoretical wood savings from a cook stove project shall be estimated based on following- Py = Bb,y * (1-$\hbar$b/$\hbar$p,y) Py - quantity of firewood consumed in project Bb,y - quantity of firewood consumed in baseline $\hbar$b – efficiency of baseline technology	Cookstove projects will provide theoretical estimates based on the calculation.

	hp,y – efficiency of project technology	
(j) Double Counting	Conditions to confirm that VPAs are neither registered as CDM project activities, included in another registered PoAs, nor the project activities that have been deregistered.	PP will confirm that VPAs are not registered anywhere else.
(k) Technical Specification	Specification of the technology/measure, such as the level and type of service, as well as performance specification based on, inter alia, testing/certification.	VPA-DDs will include technical specifications of the Project Technology.
(l) Start Dates	Conditions to check the start dates of VPAs through documentary evidence.	The start date of projects will be confirmed by carbon transfer forms, repair confirmation forms, or other suitable methods depending on the project type and circumstances.
(m) Applicability	Conditions to ensure compliance with the applicability of the applied methodologies, the applied standardized baselines and the other applied methodological regulatory documents.	This will bet set out in each VPA-DD.
(n) Additionality	Conditions to ensure that VPAs meet the requirements for demonstration of additionality.	This will bet set out in each VPA-DD.
(o) LSC and EIA	Conditions related to undertaking local stakeholder consultation and environmental impact analysis.	This will bet set out in each VPA-DD.

(p) Target Group	Target group (e.g. domestic/commercial/industrial, rural/urban, grid-connected/offgrid), and where applicable, distribution mechanisms (e.g. direct installation).	This will bet set out in each VPA-DD.
(q) Sampling	Sampling approaches are set out in each VPA and will follow the TPDDTEC v3.1 methodology.	The VPAs will follow the sampling approach set out in the applicable methodologies which take precedence over CDM methodologies.
(r) Crediting Period	All VPAs submitted for inclusion after the first crediting cycle of such PoA and completion of transition to GS4GG shall follow the GS4GG Certification Cycle (i.e. 5 years renewals.	The crediting period will be stated in each VPA-DD.
(s) Prior Consideration	Demonstration of prior consideration of revenues from Gold Standard certification are required in the following circumstances: (a) Regular projects are exempt from any kind of prior consideration of revenues from Gold Standard certification checks (b) Retroactive projects shall submit the required documents for preliminary review (time of first submission) within one year of the project start date.	Evidence of start date for technology implementation will be provided at a VPA level in line with prior consideration requirements. The start date of projects will be confirmed by carbon transfer forms, repair confirmation forms, or other suitable methods depending on the project type and circumstances. Credits generated more than one year before time of first submission (for registration or design change) will not be eligible for Gold Standard certification.

	(c) The prior consideration rule is also applicable to a Project that undergoes a design change. A project with a Certified Design requesting to include a new technology/measures shall submit the request for approval of design change to Gold Standard within one year of the start date of the proposed technology/measures (design change component).	

Community Services Activity Requirements	
Requirements relevant to this VPA.	**Demonstration of meeting Requirements**
1.1 Eligible Project Types and Scope	
1.1.1) Projects shall lead to climate change mitigation and/or adaption by providing or improving access to services/resources at household or community or institution level. Eligible services include electricity and energy, water and sanitation, waste management, housing, etc.	By providing a safe water in rural communities, the safe water Projects will improve access to safe water services/resources at community level. By distributing improved cookstoves the cookstove projects will ensure that households consume less firewood during the process of domestic cooking. As a result, there shall be a reduction of carbon dioxide emissions from the combustion process at household level. This mitigates climate change by increasing access to improved cooking technologies amongst rural communities As such, the projects are Eligible Project Types in line with the requirements.
1.1.2) In relation to the above all Projects shall therefore confirm to Gold Standard for the Global Goals Principles & Requirements (and associated documents)	The project conforms with GS4GG Principles and Requirements.
1.2 General Eligibility Criteria	
1.2.2 Types of Project – b) End-Use Energy Efficiency: Project activities that reduce energy requirements as compared to baseline scenario without affecting the level and quality of services or products where the end user of the products and services are clearly identified and when the physical intervention is required at the user end. For example, efficient cooking, heating, lighting, etc.	By providing safe water, the safe water Project activities reduce the energy requirements compared to the baseline scenario by removing the need for households to boil water for purification. By distributing improved cookstoves the cookstove Project activities reduce the energy requirements compared to the baseline scenario by ensuring that households consume less firewood through the use of a more efficient technology.

1.2.3 Project Area, Boundary and Scale Project Area and Boundary shall be defined in line with the applicable Methodologies or Product Requirements. Projects are eligible under the microscale scheme if the annual emission reductions achieved are limited to a maximum of 10,000 tonnes of CO2eq in each and every year of the crediting period.	The project area and are defined in line with the applicable Methodology, outlined in Section A.3. The Projects are Micro-Scale Project as the annual issuance of each VPA is capped at 10,000 tCO2e per year.
1.2.4 Legal ownership: Projects involving the distribution of a large number of devices for services such as heating, cooking, lighting, electricity generation, water treatment technology such as water filter etc. shall provide a clear description of the ownership of the Products that are generated under Gold Standard Certification all along the investment chain. In line with FPIC requirement, the proofs that end-users are aware of and willing to give up their rights on Products shall be provided.	CO2balance UK Ltd is the Co-ordinating/Managing Entity which communicates with the Gold Standard; the project is managed in the Host Country by Project Implementer and/or its partners. Project Implementer have legal ownership of the carbon credits produced as result of the project.
1.2.5 The transfer of Product ownership shall be discussed during the local stakeholder consultations for regular cycle projects.	The discussion of transfer of Product ownership will be discussed in detail during Local Stakeholder Consultations, presenting the details of the project to the local community members, officials and Community Leaders who attend.
1.2.7 Where Gold Standard methodologies allow for a Suppressed Demand baseline scenario, this shall be limited to Small and Microscale Projects. Where a Suppressed Demand baseline is applied, it is not possible to 'stack' Gold Standard Impact Statements or Products as the definition of baseline may be contradictory.	The VPAs under this PoA are Micro-Scale Project and are therefore eligible for suppressed demand in the baseline scenario.

SECTION C. DEMONSTRATION OF ADDITIONALITY

Finance derived from Gold Standard Certification funds, either entirely or in part, the on-going implementation of all projects under this PoA. This may include funding of

implementing the project, such repairs of waterpoints or subsidising household technologies, and on-going project implementation, such as maintenance, repairs and sensitisation campaigns. The project activities under the PoA are sustained by the funding derived from Gold Standard Certification.

SECTION D. DURATION OF POA

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

Crediting Period 1: 01/05/2012

Crediting Period 2: 20/02/2020

D.2. Duration of the PoA

28 years from 01/05/2012

Crediting Period 1: 01/05/2013 to 30/04/2020 (7 years)
Start date of the POA is 01/05/2021.

However, in line with GS POA Requirements s.3.1.2, crediting period start date is the crediting period start date of earliest VPA in the POA. Earliest VPA under POA 1247 is GS1359 which had a first CP start date of 01/05/2013. Hence, POA CP1 Start date is 01/05/2013.
Crediting Period 2: 01/05/2020 to 30/04/2025 (5 years)

SECTION E. SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES ASSESSMENT

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

N/A

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

N/A

SECTION F. OUTCOME OF STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS

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

These assessments have been/will be carried out at VPA level.

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

N/A

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

These will be at individual VPA level and available in the VPA-DD of each VPA.

Method	Include all details of Chosen Method (s) so that they may be understood and, where relevant, used by readers.
Continuous Input / Grievance Expression Process Book (mandatory)	
GS Contact (mandatory)	help@goldstandard.org
Other	

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

CME and/or responsible person/ entity	☒ CME ☐ Responsible person/ entity for application of the selected methodology(ies) and, where applicable, the selected standardized baseline(s) to the PoA
Organization	CO2balance UK Ltd
Street/P.O. Box	Cook Way
Building	1 Discovery House
City	Taunton
State/Region	Somerset
Postcode	TA2 2BJ
Country	UK
Telephone	+44 (0) 1823 332233
E-mail	james.walker@co2balance.com
Website	www.co2balance.com
Contact person	James Walker
Title	Programme Manager
Salutation	Mr.
Last name	Walker
Middle name	

Revision History

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