


**Validation report form for renewal of  
programme of activities period**

**BASIC INFORMATION**

<b>Title and GS reference number of the programme of activities (PoA)</b>	GHG Emission Reduction through use of Bondhu Chula (Improved Cook Stoves) in Bangladesh. PoA GS ID: GS 3112
<b>Number and duration of the next PoA period</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> : 01/04/2021 to 31/03/2026
<b>Version number of the validation report</b>	03
<b>Completion date of the validation report</b>	10/09/2022
<b>Version number of PoA-DD to which this report applies</b>	Version 3.0 , Dated :- 09/09/2022
<b>Coordinating/managing entity (CME)</b>	Bangladesh Bondhu Foundation (BBF)
<b>Host Parties</b>	People's Republic of Bangladesh
<b>SDG Impacts:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SDG 1: No Poverty (GSDM 1.1.1)</li> <li>2. SDG 5: Gender Equality (GSDM 5.4.1)</li> <li>3. SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy (GSDM 7.1.1), (GSDM 7.1.2)</li> <li>4. SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth (GSDM 8.5.1)</li> <li>5. SDG 13: Climate Action (mandatory) (GSDM 13.2.1)</li> <li>6. SDG 15: Life on Land (GSDM 15.1.1)</li> </ol>
<b>Applied methodologies and standardized baselines</b>	The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves, Version 1.1, dated April 2020
<b>Mandatory sectoral scopes</b>	Sectoral Scope 03
<b>Conditional sectoral scopes, if applicable</b>	N/A
<b>Name and UNFCCC reference number of the VVB</b>	E-0052 :Carbon Check (India) Private Limited
<b>Name, position and signature of the approver of the validation report</b>	 Vikash Kumar Singh, Compliance Officer

## **SECTION A. Executive summary**

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### Purpose and general description

The Coordinating/managing entity (CME), Bangladesh Bondhu Foundation (BBF) has appointed the VVB, Carbon Check (India) Private Ltd. to perform a renewal of crediting period of the Gold Standard Programme of Activities “GHG Emission Reduction through use of Bondhu Chula (Improved Cook Stoves) in Bangladesh” GS ID – GS 3112 (hereafter referred to as “project activity”). This report summarises the findings of the validation of the project, performed on the basis of Gold Standard criteria for registration/renewal of PoA period, as well as criteria given to provide for consistent project operations, monitoring and reporting. This report contains the findings and resolutions from the validation and a validation opinion.

The purpose of the microscale project is dissemination and maintenance of Improved Cookstoves (ICS) branded as Bondhu Chula, to households/SMEs in Bangladesh. The dissemination of Improved Cookstoves (ICS) replaces existing, less efficient traditional cooking stoves used for cooking. The Project will reduce GHG emission and particulate emissions (PM), thus enhancing health and the Indoor Air Quality of project households, thereby achieving equivalent GHG emissions reductions in Bangladesh.

The purpose of a renewal of PoA period is to have a thorough and independent assessment of the proposed project activity against the applicable Gold standard, in particular, the project's baseline, monitoring plan and the project's compliance with relevant Gold standard criteria. These are validated in order to confirm that the project design, as documented, is sound and reasonable and meets the identified criteria. Validation is a requirement for all Gold Standard projects and is necessary to provide assurance to stakeholders of the quality of the project and its intended generation of voluntary emission reductions (VERs).

### Location

Bangladesh.

### Scope of the validation

The validation scope is defined as an independent and objective review of the project design document (PoA-DD). The PoA-DD /01/ is reviewed against the relevant criteria (see above) and decisions by the Gold standard, including the approved baseline and monitoring methodology /B01/. The validation team has, based on the recommendations in the CDM Validation and Verification Standard and GS rules, employed a rule-based approach, focusing on the identification of significant risks for project implementation and the generation of VERs.

The validation is not meant to provide any consulting towards the project participants. However, stated requests for clarifications and/or corrective actions may have provided input for improvement of the project design.

While carrying out the validation, CCIPL determines if the project activity complies with the requirements of the applicability conditions of the selected methodology /B01/, guidance issued by the Gold Standard and also assess the claims and assumptions made in the PoA-DD /01/ without limitation on the information provided by the project participants.

The Validation team confirms the contractual relationship signed between the VVB, Carbon Check (India) Private Ltd. and the CME. The team assigned to the validation meets the Carbon Check (India) Private Ltd.'s internal procedures including the UNFCCC/Gold Standard requirements for

the team composition and competence. The projects team has conducted a thorough contract review as per UNFCCC and Carbon Check's procedures and requirements.

### Validation methodology

The validation has been performed as described in the VVS and constitutes the following steps:

- Document review of data and information (PoA-DD /01/ and the relevant documents including the reference to information relating to projects or technologies similar to the proposed project activity and review based on the approved methodology /B01/ being applied and of the appropriateness of formulae and accuracy of calculations).
- Cross checks between information provided in the PoA DD /01/ and information from other sources.
- Follow up actions for cross checking data and remote assessment.
- Reference to available information
- Issuance of Validation Report.

### Validation Process

The validation consists of the following four phases:

- I. A desk review of the project design documents
  - A review of data and information;
  - Cross checks between information provided in the PoA-DD /01/ and the information from sources with all the necessary means without limitations to the information provided by the project proponent;
- II. Remote Audit and follow-up interviews with the project stakeholders
  - Interviews with the relevant stakeholders in the host country with personnel having knowledge with the project development via telephone, email or remote audit
  - Cross checking between information provided by interviewed personnel with all necessary means without limitations to the information provided by the project proponent;
- III. Reference to available information's relating to projects or technologies similar projects under validation and review based on the approved methodology /B01/ being applied of the appropriateness of formulae and accuracy of calculations.
- IV. Resolution of outstanding issues and the issuance of the final validation report and opinion.

The report is based on the assessment of the PoA-DD /01/ undertaken through stakeholder consultations, application of standard auditing techniques including but not limited to document reviews, remote audit and stakeholder interviews, review of the applicable/applied methodology /B01/ and its underlying formulae and calculations.

This report contains the findings and resolutions from the validation and a validation opinion on the proposed project thus confirming the project design as document is sound and reasonable and meets the stated requirements and identified criteria.

The validation protocol describes a total of seven (07) findings which include:

- 07 Clarification Request (CL);

All findings are closed during the validation process.

### **Conclusion**

Carbon Check (India) Private Ltd. concludes the validation of renewal of PoA period with a positive opinion that the PoA "GHG Emission Reduction through use of Bondhu Chula (Improved Cook

Stoves) in Bangladesh”, as described in the PoA-DD /01/, meets all applicable Gold standard requirements, relevant methodologies, tools and guidelines.

The selected baseline and monitoring methodology /B01/ is applicable to the project and correctly applied. Carbon Check (India) Private Ltd. therefore recommends the project to the Gold Standard for renewal of PoA period.

## 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)
1.	Team Leader/Technical Expert/Local Expert	IR	Agarwalla	Sanjay Kumar	CCIPL
2.	Trainee Assessor	IR	Halder	Manas	CCIPL
3.	Technical Reviewer	IR	C	Indumathi	CCIPL
4.	Approver	IR	Singh	Vikash Kumar	CCIPL

#### Audit Team Experience:

The team composition is linked to the methodology and local experience in the host country.

**Sanjay Kumar Agarwalla:** He is an appointed Team Leader and Technical Expert for technical area 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 3.1, 4.1, 5.1, 5.2, 8.1, 9.1, 9.2 and 13.1. He is having more than 22 years of experience, which involves more than 10 years of industrial experience and almost twelve years in climate change. He worked in various capacities at Kesoram Rayon, Durgapur Chemicals Limited, Gensol Consultants, TUV Rheinland India Pvt Ltd and LRQA. He is involved in more than 70 GHG audits including validation/verification/post registration changes. He also has GS Audit Experience and attended the Gold Standard webinar. The GS projects on which he has worked are 1309, 850, 6191, 411, 1353 and 939.

**Manas Halder:** He is qualified as Trainee Auditor in TA 1.2, 3.1 and 13.1. He has also attended Gold Standard VVB webinar training.

**Indumathi C.:** She is a qualified internal technical reviewer for validation and verification of GHG emission reduction projects under CDM, VCS and Gold Standard (GS). She is an appointed Team Leader and Technical Expert for technical areas TA 1.1, 1.2, 3.1, 13.1 & 13.2. She has more than 13 years of work experience in climate change mitigation, renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy access. She has worked with various Designated Operational Entities like TUV NORD, TUV Rheinland and 4KES for more than 250 GHG emission reduction projects under different carbon crediting mechanisms. She is a certified GHG Auditor and Energy Manager (Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Government of India).

## SECTION C.

### C.1. Desk/document review

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List of all documents reviewed or referenced during the validation is provided in Appendix-3

## C.2. On-site inspection

On-site visit is not done for the validation activity (Renewal of PoA period) due to national and international restrictions on travel due to COVID-19 impact. Therefore, VVB followed GS rule update 'COVID-19: Interim measures', version 5 dated 21/12/2021 and alternate measures are adopted as described below:

The validation team has carried out remote interviews in order to assess the information included in the updated PoA DD is consistent with the registered POA-DD. During the desk review, the relevant updated information in consistent with the registered POA-DD and corresponding validation report were checked. Previous periodic monitoring and verification reports, telephonic interviews with project representatives were carried out. Details obtained were cross checked with publicly available documents to cross check consistency of information. There is no change of the project design, construction, operation and monitoring plan. There is no pre-project information that is relevant to the requirements for renewal of the PoA period and may not be traceable after the renewal.

## C.3. Interviews

No.	Interviewee			Date	Subject	Team member
	Last name	First name	Affiliation			
1.	Lohia	Rohit	Climate Secure	12/05/2022	Discussion on the revised POA DD and the proposed RCP	Sanjay Kumar Agarwalla, Manas Halder
2.	Kumar	Ritesh	Climate Secure	12/05/2022	Discussion on the revised POA DD and the proposed RCP	Sanjay Kumar Agarwalla, Manas Halder
3.	Khalequzzaman	Md	Bangladesh Bondhu Foundation	12/05/2022	Discussion on the revised POA DD and the proposed RCP	Sanjay Kumar Agarwalla, Manas Halder

## C.4. Sampling approach

>> Not Applicable

## C.5. Clarification requests (CLs), corrective action requests (CARs) and forward action requests (FARs) raised

Area of validation findings	No. of CL	No. of CAR	No. of FAR
<b>Programme of activities</b>	--	--	--
Compliance with PoA-DD form	03	--	--
Programme of activities period	01	--	--
Coordinating/managing entity and the project participants	--	--	--
Post-registration changes	--	--	--
<b>Generic component project activities</b>	--	--	--
Application and selection of methodologies and standardized baselines	01	--	--
Validity of original baseline or its update	--	--	--
Estimated emission reductions or net anthropogenic removals	--	--	--

Validity of monitoring plan	01	--	--
Eligibility criteria for inclusion of VPAs	01	--	--
Others (please specify)	--	--	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>

## SECTION D. Validation findings

### D.1. Programme of activities

#### D.1.1. Compliance with PoA-DD form

<b>Means of validation</b>	Document review, interviews
<b>Findings</b>	CL 01, 02 and 03 had been raised and successfully resolved. Please refer to Appendix 4 for further details.
<b>Conclusion</b>	<p>CC IPL confirms the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The compliance of the GS-PoA-DD /01/ (with the valid version of the applicable PoA-DD form, version 1.1 including the instructions for completion of the form) /B02/.</li> <li>CME has used the latest version of the GS-PoA-DD form /B02/ and assessment team confirms that the information transferred to the latest version of the PoA-DD /01/ is materially the same as that in the approved PoA-DD.</li> </ul> <p>The validation team confirms that the requirements of the GS-PoA-DD FORM /B02/ filling guidelines have been appropriately met.</p>

#### D.1.2. Programme of activities period

<b>Means of validation</b>	Document review, Interviews
<b>Findings</b>	CL 02 and CL 07 had been raised and successfully resolved. Please refer to Appendix 4 for further details.
<b>Conclusion</b>	<p>The implementation status of the project activity has been provided to the validation team. The start date of the second PoA Period will be 01/04/2021, immediately after the end of the first PoA period.</p> <p>Start date of the crediting, expected operational lifetime and duration of the crediting period, have been provided in the PoA-DD /01/; Checked and found appropriate to the Validation Team. According to paragraph 13.1.1 of the PoA Requirements, "All Gold Standard PoAs shall be renewed every 5 years. Exception is granted to PoAs that were registered under earlier versions of Gold Standard which shall be renewed after the first 7 years and thereafter follow the Gold Standard for the Global Goals certification cycle (i.e., 5 year renewals)".</p> <p>Furthermore, according to paragraph 3.1.3 of the PoA Requirements "<i>The PoA duration shall not exceed 20 years or the crediting period of first VPA plus 5 years, whichever is greater. The PoA that are design certified under an earlier version of Gold Standard shall maintain their maximum crediting periods as envisaged at time of registration</i>".</p> <p>Accordingly CME has maintained the the length of the PoA as 20 years, renewal after every 5 years which is deemed acceptable to the validation team. So the second period of the POA will be from 01/04/2021 to 31/03/2026.</p> <p>The validation team noted that the first PoA period expired on 31/03/2021. CME has clarified that there has been a delay in renewing the PoA period due to COVID. In response to CL 02 raised, CME has clarified that as per COVID interim measures and DEV_158, for LDCs an extension of 2 Years is allowed towards renewing the PoA after expiry of the previous PoA period. The Gold Standard has approved a deviation in this regard for this PoA period renewal. /09/.</p>

### D.1.3. Coordinating/managing entity and the project participants

<b>Means of validation</b>	Document review, Interviews
<b>Findings</b>	-
<b>Conclusion</b>	<p>The Validation team has checked the names of the coordinating/managing entity and the project participants in the updated PoA-DD.</p> <p>As per the updated PoA-DD /01/, the coordinating/managing entity, project participants and parties involved in the programme of activities is Bangladesh Bondhu Foundation (BBF).</p> <p>Names of the coordinating/managing entity and the project participants in the updated PoA-DD /01/ are consistent with the names of the coordinating /managing entity and the project participants is the same as per the registered PoA DD.</p>

### D.1.4. Post-registration changes

Not applicable

## D.2. Generic component project activities

### D.2.1. Application and selection of methodologies and standardized baselines

<b>Means of validation</b>	Document Review, Interview
<b>Findings</b>	CL 05 had been raised and successfully resolved. Please refer to Appendix 4 for further details.
<b>Conclusion</b>	Please refer to the assessment in Appendix 5 of the VR.

### D.2.2. Validity of original baseline or its update

<b>Means of validation</b>	Document review, Interviews
<b>Findings</b>	-
<b>Conclusion</b>	<p>Validation team reviewed the revised PoA-DD /01/ to assess the impact of new national and/or sectoral policies and circumstances existing at the time of requesting renewal of PoA period on the modalities to estimate baseline GHG emissions for the subsequent crediting period of each corresponding VPA, without reassessing the baseline scenario.</p> <p>The validation team assessed whether SDG parameters used for determining the original baseline, that were determined during the registered PoA period and are still valid for baseline at the renewal of the PoA period. During 2<sup>nd</sup> renewal period, PoA has applied valid version of the methodology, "The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves, Version 1.1, dated April 2020", this project is a micro scale scale project.</p> <p>Validation team confirms that the baseline scenario opted by the project activity is in accordance with the requirements of the applied methodology, "The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves, Version 1.1, dated April 2020"/B01/.</p> <p>Based on the review of revised POA DD /01/ and remote audit, validation team confirms that the baseline scenario (use of traditional inefficient stoves, perpetuating environmental and health degradation) of the project is still valid during the 2<sup>nd</sup> PoA period.</p>

### D.2.3. Estimated emission reductions or net anthropogenic removals

<b>Means of validation</b>	Document review, Interviews
<b>Findings</b>	-
<b>Conclusion</b>	As per applicable methodology, The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves, Version 1.1, dated April 2020; formula to calculate emission

reductions (ERs) is:

$$ER_y = \sum_{t=0}^{xoy} N_{P,y} * P_y * U_{P,y} * (f_{NRB,y} * EF_{b,fuel,CO2} + EF_{b,fuel,non\_CO2}) * (1 - DF_{b,Stove,y})$$

Where,

Parameter	Description
$N_{P,y}$	Number of project cook stoves of each age group operational in the year y
$P_y$	Quantity of firewood that is saved in the year y (tons per household in year y)
$U_{P,y}$	Usage rate for project cook stoves in year y, based on adoption rate and drop off rate revealed by usage surveys (fraction)
$f_{NRB,b,y}$	Fraction of biomass, used in year y for baseline scenario, which can be established as non-renewable. The project proponents shall estimate project specific national/ regional value or apply the default fNRB value provided by the CDM Executive Board and endorsed by the host country DNA.
$EF_{b,fuel,CO2}$	CO2 emission factor of firewood that is substituted or reduced. (Default value for wood fuel 1.747 tCO2/ton of wood)
$EF_{b,fuel,non\_CO2}$	Non-CO2 emission factor of firewood that is substituted or reduced. (Default value for wood fuel 0.53 tCO2/ton of wood)
$DF_{b,Stove,y}$	Usage of baseline cook stove during the year y (fraction) in project scenario
x	y – 1
y	Year of the crediting period

**Determination of quantity of biomass saved (Py):**

Quantity of fire wood that is saved (Py) is estimated as follows:

$$P_y = B_{b,y} * (1 - \eta_b / \eta_{p,y}) * LAF$$

Where,

Parameter	Description
$B_{b,y}$	Quantity of firewood consumed in baseline scenario during year y (tonnes per household per year)
$\eta_{p,y}$	Efficiency of project cook stove in year y (fraction)
$\eta_b$	Efficiency of the baseline cook stove being replaced (fraction). A default value of 10% shall be used if the replaced cook stove is a three stone fire, or a conventional device without a grate or a chimney i.e. with no improved combustion air supply or flue gas ventilation
LAF	Default leakage adjustment factor= 0.95 to account for leakages related to non-renewable biomass saved by the project activity

**Determination of quantity of fire wood consume in the baseline (Bb,y):**

The firewood consumed is the estimated average annual consumption of firewood per household (tons/year), which may be derived using, option (a) of the methodology, i.e. historical data. Accordingly,  $B_{b,y}$  is referenced from historical data as available in published literature. As per table 2.2 of the World Bank Study, Restoring Balance: Bangladesh's Rural Energy Realities, March 2009, the fuel wood usage per household for cooking is 1.06484 tons per annum.

	<p><b>Determination of project cook stove efficiency (<math>\eta_{p,y}</math>):</b>          Efficiency of project cook stove in year y (<math>\eta_{p,y}</math>) is estimated as follows:</p> $\eta_{p,y} = \eta_p * (DF_{\eta})^{y-1} * 0.94.$ <p>Where,</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><math>\eta_{p,y}</math></td> <td>Efficiency of project cook stove in year y (fraction)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><math>\eta_p</math></td> <td>Efficiency of project cook stove (fraction) determined at the start of the project activity.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><math>DF_{\eta}</math></td> <td>Discount factor to account for efficiency loss of project cook stove per year of operation (Fraction). The default value for this parameter is 0.99 i.e. 1% efficiency loss/year.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0.94</td> <td>Adjustment factor to account for uncertainty related to project cook stove efficiency test</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Parameter	Description	$\eta_{p,y}$	Efficiency of project cook stove in year y (fraction)	$\eta_p$	Efficiency of project cook stove (fraction) determined at the start of the project activity.	$DF_{\eta}$	Discount factor to account for efficiency loss of project cook stove per year of operation (Fraction). The default value for this parameter is 0.99 i.e. 1% efficiency loss/year.	0.94	Adjustment factor to account for uncertainty related to project cook stove efficiency test
Parameter	Description										
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$DF_{\eta}$	Discount factor to account for efficiency loss of project cook stove per year of operation (Fraction). The default value for this parameter is 0.99 i.e. 1% efficiency loss/year.										
0.94	Adjustment factor to account for uncertainty related to project cook stove efficiency test										

#### D.2.4. Validity of monitoring plan

<b>Means of validation</b>	Document reviews, interviews
<b>Findings</b>	CL 04 had been raised and successfully resolved. Please refer to Appendix 4 for further details.
<b>Conclusion</b>	<p>The outcome for SDG 13 will be quantified as CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions by applying the, "The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves, Version 1.1, dated April 2020" methodology /B01/. The SDG 13 outcome will be certified as 'Certified SDG 13 Impact Statement' allowing the generation of carbon credits (VERs).</p> <p>The other SDG impacts of this project activity (SDG 1, SDG 5, SDG 7, SDG 8 and SDG 15) will not be certified as 'Certified Impact Statements' and therefore, for these SDG impacts no specific methodologies for estimation and monitoring will be applied. Section A.4 of the POA-DD /01/ outlines how these SDGs are relevant and will be monitored.</p> <p>As per the POA-DD /01/ the monitoring activity provides a framework for project preparation and monitoring processes that will be undertaken, as required by the GS rules. This schedule takes into account the key parameters that are needed during the crediting periods of the project. All required monitoring and documentation will be implemented, reported, consolidated and managed by the project proponent or a qualified expert partner to meet verification requirements.</p> <p>Validation team confirms that the monitoring plan complies with the requirements of the methodology, "The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves", Version 1.1, dated April 2020 /B01/. The monitoring arrangements described in the monitoring plan are feasible within the project design and that the PP is able to implement the described monitoring plan. Validation team further confirms that all the ex-post monitoring parameters (Carbon as well as SD monitoring parameters) have been approved by GS during the transition of the project in GS4GG /06/ and thus acceptable.</p>

#### D.2.5. Eligibility criteria for inclusion of VPAs

<b>Means of validation</b>	Document review, Interviews
<b>Findings</b>	CL 06 had been raised and successfully resolved. Please refer to Appendix 4 for further details.
<b>Conclusion</b>	As per the section B.3 of the revised PoA-DD /01/,

	No.	Eligibility Criterion	Description/ Required condition	Means of Verification/S upporting evidence for inclusion	VVB assessment
	1.	Geographic Boundary	The ICS under the VPA must operate within the geographical boundary of the PoA i.e. Republic of Bangladesh	All ICS under the VPA shall be installed within Bangladesh  Evidence – Sales database listing the country of installation of ICS under the VPA	<p>Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs in line with GS-Template Guide for completing the PoA-DD, version 1.1.</p> <p>The geographical boundary of each VPA, shall be consistent with the geographical boundary set in the PoA in accordance with para 2.1.1 of the GS4GG Programme of activity ver 1.2 requirements. The PoA boundary is set as Bangladesh.</p> <p>Validation team based on review of PoA-DD /01/ confirms that the eligibility criterion is defined in accordance with the GS4GG principles and requirements ver 1.2.</p> <p>Furthermore, the eligibility criterion – category, including the conditions provide sufficient information for the corresponding VPAs. The description in the PoA-DD including the supporting evidence for inclusion provides information to meet the requirement and is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the</p>

				assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.
2.	Avoiding double counting of GHG ERs	For each VPA, CME will check for avoidance of double counting of ERs by: 1. Ensuring presence of a system of Unique Serial numbering of ICS included in the VPA 2. Maintaining a database of end users (name, address and telephone number (if available)) 3. Provisioning a system to ensure transfer of ownership of emission reductions, generated by project devices, from end user to CME.	1. ICS installation database under VPA. a. Each ICS has a provision of unique serial number which avoids double counting b. End users' details (name, address, and telephone number (if available)) 2. Each project device beneficiary transfers the rights of CER ownership to CME through End user agreement  Evidence- ICS sales database containing ICS unique Serial numbers End user agreement	Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs in line with the GS4GG principles and requirements ver 1.2. and GS-Template Guide for completing the PoA-DD, version 1.1.  Validation team based on review of POA DD /01/ and remote interview confirms that the project activity is implemented in Bangladesh.  Validation team based on web-research of carbon registries (CDM, GS, VCS), provided agreements with the project owner and distributors/producers and unique identification (serial number/logo) system on the ICS confirms that there are no other such GS projects in the region where the project intervenes, hence no risk of double counting. Thus, it can be confirmed that the project boundary is clearly identified, and the technologies counted in the project are not included in another voluntary market or CDM project activity (i.e., no double counting takes place).
3.	Exclusiveness	For each VPA,	CME confirms	Validation team

		<p>s of VPA</p>	<p>CME will check for avoidance of double counting of VPA proposed for inclusion in the PoA by confirming that the VPA is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>neither registered as an individual project activity</li> <li>nor included in another registered PoA</li> <li>neither de-registered as a VPA from an existing PoA</li> </ol>	<p>the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The VPA is not Registered as a project activity, or</li> <li>The VPA is not included any other registered PoA, or</li> <li>The VPA is not deregistered from an registered PoA</li> </ol> <p>Evidence – Declaration by CME</p>	<p>confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs in line with GS-Template Guide for completing the PoA-DD, version 1.1.</p> <p>All VPAs shall avoid double-registration of VPA (and double counting) by declaration by the CME/04/ after checking the gold standard registration homepage. And letter signed by the CME.</p> <p>Validation team based on review of PoA-DD /01/ confirms that the eligibility criteria is defined in accordance with the GS4GG Programme of activity ver 1.2 requirements.</p>
4.	Specification s of Technology/ Measure	<p><b>1. Type –</b> The program will promote dissemination of high efficiency biomass-based ICS in Bangladesh.</p> <p><b>2. Key Design Features –</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The stoves shall have a fuel grate and/or a chimney</li> <li>The stove shall be fixed or portable type.</li> </ol> <p><b>3. Specification</b> - The rated efficiency of technologies included under the program shall be at least 20 per cent.</p>	<p>1. The VPA promotes dissemination of biomass ICS in Bangladesh.</p> <p>2. The stoves shall either be fixed or portable type.</p> <p>3. The rated efficiency of ICS included in the VPA is more than 20%.</p> <p>Evidence –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Installation database</li> <li>Project ICS specifications</li> <li>Thermal efficiency Test results</li> </ul>	<p>Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs inline with the requirements and applicability conditions prescribed by the methodology, as well as GS-Template Guide for completing the PoA-DD, version 1.1.</p> <p>The key technology specification of the each VPA will be provided in the VPA DD and shall be checked at the time of verification.</p> <p>Validation team based on review of PoA-DD /01/ confirms that the eligibility criteria is</p>	

					<p>defined in accordance with the GS4GG Programme of activity ver 1.2 requirements.</p> <p>Technical Specification Details will be made available by the VPA to demonstrate compliance with the eligibility conditions .</p> <p>Furthermore, the eligibility criterion – category, including the conditions provide sufficient information for the corresponding VPAs.</p> <p>The description in the PoA DD including the supporting evidence for inclusion provides information to meet the requirement and is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs.</p>
	5.	Start Date	Date on which first ICS was installed under the VPA. The start date of any proposed VPA will be on or after the start date of the PoA	<p>The VPA start date (date of installation of first ICS under the VPA) shall be after 26 Feb 2014 (i.e. start date of PoA as per registered PoA-DD).</p> <p>Evidence - Customer agreement / installation database for the first ICS installed in the VPA.</p>	<p>Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs in line with GS-Template Guide for completing the PoA-DD, version 1.1.</p> <p>The start date of VPAs shall be on or after the PoA start date.</p> <p>The start date of the VPAs will be the date of the installation of first ICS under the VPA.</p>

					<p>Furthermore, the eligibility criterion – category, including the conditions provide sufficient information for the corresponding VPAs. The description in the PoA-DD including the supporting evidence for inclusion provides information to meet the requirement and is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.</p>
	6.	Applicability of the methodologies	<p>VPA must follow, “The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves”, Version 1.1, dated April 2020.</p> <p>The applicability of methodology at VPA level has been demonstrated in section B.2 above. Technology related requirements stipulated by the methodology have been specified in criteria #4 above.</p>	<p>VPA-DDs applying, “The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves”, Version 1.1, dated April 2020.</p>	<p>Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs which will distribute the ICS technologies inline with the requirements §9.1.2 and §9.1.3 of the GS4GG for PoAs, v 1.2.</p> <p>All VPAs will comply with the GS methodology “The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves”, Version 1.1, dated April 2020</p> <p>Validation team based on review of PoA-DD /01/ confirms that the eligibility criteria is defined in accordance with the GS4GG Programme of activity ver 1.2 requirements.</p> <p>Furthermore, the</p>

					<p>eligibility criterion – category, including the conditions provide sufficient information for the corresponding VPAs. The description in the PoA-DD including the supporting evidence for inclusion provides information to meet the requirement and is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.</p>
	7.	<p>Additionality</p>	<p>Each VPA will satisfy the criteria for demonstrating additionality through one of the following options:</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> As per Activity Requirement: As per GS4GG Community services activity requirements, 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> <p>(a) Positive list (Annex B of this document)</p> <p>(b) Projects located in LDC, SIDS, LLDC</p>	<p>All ICS in the VPA are located within the geographical boundary of Bangladesh, which is a LDC, therefore the PoA and its VPAs meets the requirements of Para 4.1.9(b) mentioned within the CSA Requirements and hence is deemed automatically additional.</p> <p>Evidence – VPA-DD with its boundary being limited to Bangladesh.</p>	<p>Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs as per GS4GG Community services activity requirements, Version 1.2.</p> <p>All VPAs shall be additional to be included in the PoA provided they met this eligibility criteria of the PoA. This is adequately prescribed in section C of the PoA-DD.</p> <p>Furthermore, the eligibility criterion – category, including the conditions provide sufficient information for the corresponding VPAs. The description in the PoA-DD including the supporting evidence for inclusion provides information to meet the requirement and is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and</p>

			<p>(c) Microscale projects</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> As per tool 21: “Demonstration of additionality of SSC project activities”</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> As per tool 19: “Demonstration of additionality of microscale project activities”</p>		<p>comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.</p>
	8.	LSC	<p>The LSC shall be conducted at VPA level</p>	<p>LSC shall be conducted for regular VPAs (or a group of VPAs together) and SFR for retroactive VPAs (or a group of VPAs together).</p> <p>Evidence:- VPA Stakeholder Consultation report</p>	<p>As per the PoA DD /01/, the local Stakeholder Consultation (LSC) is on VPA Level.</p> <p>Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs as per section 6 GS4GG for PoA requirements , v1.2.</p> <p>Validation team based on review of PoA-DD /01/ confirms that the eligibility criteria is defined in accordance with the GS4GG Programme of activity ver 1.2 requirements.</p> <p>Furthermore, the eligibility criterion – category, including the conditions provide sufficient information for the corresponding VPAs. The description in the PoA-DD including the supporting evidence for inclusion provides information to meet the requirement and is verifiable as well</p>

					as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.
	9.	No ODA / Public Funding	Affirmation that funding from Annex I Parties, if any, does not result in a diversion of official development assistance.	<p>This VPA does not receive any public funding from Annex 1 countries.</p> <p>Evidence:- Confirmation submitted by CME</p>	<p>Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs.</p> <p>Also as per PoA DD section A.3. Table 1 point no. 8 "Official Development Assistance (ODA) Declaration"/05/ provided by CME and Section A.6. of the PoA-DD, states no public funding from Annex 1 parties.</p> <p>Validation team based on review of PoA-DD /01/ confirms that the eligibility criteria is defined in accordance with the GS4GG Programme of activity ver 1.2 requirements.</p> <p>Furthermore, the eligibility criterion – category, including the conditions provide sufficient information for the corresponding VPAs. The description in the PoA-DD including the supporting evidence for inclusion provides information to meet the requirement and is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of</p>

					corresponding VPAs in the PoA
	10.	Target Group	Target Group: Households / SMEs	<p>The target groups are households / SMEs in Bangladesh.</p> <p>Evidence - ICS database.</p>	<p>Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion shall ensure that all VPAs shall specify the target group for all eligible VPAs in order to confirm to the applied GS methodology, as well as the PoA stated policy, operational and management framework inline with GS4GG requirements.</p> <p>This PoA states the target group as both rural and urban households and institutions within the national boundaries of Bangladesh, that will use the Improved Cook Stoves (ICS) technologies.</p> <p>Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs in line with GS-Template Guide for completing the PoA-DD, version 1.1.</p> <p>Furthermore, the eligibility criterion – category, including the conditions provide sufficient information for the corresponding VPAs. The description in the PoA-DD including the supporting evidence for inclusion provides information to meet the requirement and is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to</p>

					<p>permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.</p>
	11.	Sampling	<p>VPAs under the program will adhere to all requirements as mentioned in Standard: Sampling and surveys for CDM project activities and programme of activities and “Guidelines for sampling and surveys for CDM project activities and programme of activities”.</p>	<p>The sampling plan follows the guidelines outlined in the registered PoA-DD.</p>	<p>Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion shall ensure that all VPAs in the PoA shall apply to the sampling plan of the PoA.</p> <p>This eligibility criterion is in accordance with the GS methodology, “The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves”, Version 1.1, dated April 2020 and “Standard: Sampling and surveys for CDM project activities and programme of activities”, v09.</p> <p>Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs in line with GS-Template Guide for completing the PoA-DD, version 1.1.</p> <p>Furthermore, the eligibility criterion – category, including the conditions provide sufficient information for the corresponding VPAs. The description in the PoA-DD including the supporting evidence for inclusion provides information to meet the requirement and is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to</p>

				<p>permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.</p>
12.	De-Bundling Check	As per GS4GG Programme of activities requirements section 10.1.1, de-bundling provisions do not apply to Voluntary PoAs.	Not required	This criteria is not applicable as this is project is Voluntary PoA.
13.	VER Ownership	Each VPA will assure ownership of the VERs is secured by the CME.	<p>The ICS owners transfer their rights on ownership of carbon credits to CME via the user agreement.</p> <p>Alternatively, this may be communicated to the end users, at the time of ICS installation.</p> <p>BBF(CME) has full and uncontested legal ownership of GS VERs (SDG 13) that are generated from use of products distributed under the VPA (VERs rights). For units distributed under the project, the beneficiary agrees to transfer the ownership of GS VERs to BBF at the time of installation.</p> <p>Refer user</p>	<p>Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs inline with the requirements GS4GG principle and requirements v1.2</p> <p>The ICS owners transfer their rights on ownership of carbon credits at the time of distribution. Furthermore, the eligibility criterion – category, including the conditions provide sufficient information for the corresponding VPAs. The description in the PoA-DD including the supporting evidence for inclusion provides information to meet the requirement and is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.</p>

			agreements which transfers the rights of VERs from beneficiary to CME or VPA Implementer.	
14.	Safeguarding Principles Assessment	Conducted at PoA level	Not Applicable	This Criteria is not applicable at VPA level.
15.	SDG Outcome Assessment	The monitoring plan for SDG shall include: 1. Average household money savings due to decrease in expenditure on basic services due to adoption of project technology/ measures 2. Average time saving associated with cooking time and fuel collection 3. Number of beneficiaries household 4. % of ICS operating 5. Number of male/female persons hired 6. Woodfuel savings reported by user under project	VPA-DD SDG monitoring plan in line with PoA SDG monitoring plan.	Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs inline with the GS4GG principle and requirements v1.2.  Based on the review of POA-DD /01/ and during the remote audit confirms that the SDG outcome assessment was conducted at PoA level and all the VPA will follow the same monitoring plan. Furthermore, the eligibility criterion – category, including the conditions provide sufficient information for the corresponding VPAs. The description in the PoA-DD including the supporting evidence for inclusion provides information to meet the requirement and is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.
16.	Retroactive VPAs	Retroactive VPAs that are submitted to GS /SustainCert at a date later than one year from the VPA start	Retroactive VPAs, shall complete GS / SustainCert preliminary review before they are	Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs in line with GS-Template Guide for

			<p>date shall not be eligible for Gold Standard Certification.</p>	<p>included in the PoA.</p>	<p>completing the PoA-DD, version 1.1.</p> <p>Validation team based on the review of PoA DD /1/ confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs inline with the GS4GG principle and requirements v1.2.</p> <p>Furthermore, the eligibility criterion – category, including the conditions provide sufficient information for the corresponding VPAs. The description in the PoA-DD including the supporting evidence for inclusion provides information to meet the requirement and is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.</p>
	17.	CER Labelling	<p>Projects in other standards seeking labelling of CERs under GS4GG shall demonstrate compliance with section 2, Annex B of GHG Emissions Reduction and Sequestration Product Requirements</p>	<p>If applicable, to be justified in the VPA-DD</p>	<p>Validation team confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs in line with GS-Template Guide for completing the PoA-DD, version 1.1.</p> <p>Validation team based on the review of PoA DD /1/ confirms that this eligibility criterion has been sufficiently set for all VPAs inline with the GS4GG 'GHG Emissions Reduction &amp; Sequestration Product</p>

				requirements', v2.0  Furthermore, the eligibility criterion – category, including the conditions provide sufficient information for the corresponding VPAs. The description in the PoA-DD including the supporting evidence for inclusion provides information to meet the requirement and is verifiable as well as sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA.
	18.	Conditions to be met in multi-country PoAs	Not Applicable	The PoA boundary is limited to Bangladesh
<p>The CME has outlined clear and unambiguous eligibility criteria for the inclusion of a VPA under the PoA in section B.3 of the PoA-DD /01/. Validation team confirm that the eligibility criteria for inclusion of corresponding VPAs in the PoA are updated by the CME in accordance with the applicable validation requirements related to the renewal of programme of activities period GS4GG.</p> <p>Validation team confirm that the eligibility criteria are sufficiently objective and comprehensive to permit the assessment of the inclusion of VPAs in the PoA. Furthermore, the validation team confirms that eligibility criteria for the inclusion of VPAs in the PoA.</p>				

### SECTION E. Internal quality control

>>

The final validation report has passed a technical review and quality review before being submitted to the project participant and Gold Standard. The technical review was performed by a technical reviewer qualified in accordance with CCIPL's qualification scheme for CDM validation and verification.

### SECTION F. Validation opinion

>>

The CME, Bangladesh Bondhu Foundation (BBF), has appointed the VVB, Carbon Check (India) Private Ltd., (CC IPL) to perform the validation of the Renewal of the PoA period for the PoA "GHG Emission Reduction through use of Bondhu Chula (Improved Cook Stoves) in Bangladesh"/01/.

The validation was performed in accordance with the GS4GG principles and requirements and GS4GG programme of activity requirements and Validation and Verification body requirements and

related Standards/Guidance and host country criteria, as well as criteria given to provide for consistent project operations, monitoring and reporting.

The programme of activity will result in reductions of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that are real, measurable and give long-term benefits to the mitigation of climate change, as stated in the generic VPA-DD. In the opinion of the validation team, the programme of activity meets all relevant UNFCCC, criteria and all relevant host country criteria.


The review of the PoA-DD /01/ and the subsequent follow-up interviews have provided validation team with sufficient evidence to determine the validity of the original baseline and/or its update through an assessment. The PoA-DD /01/ correctly applies the methodology “The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves”, Version 1.1, dated April 2020/B01/. The monitoring arrangements described in the monitoring plan are feasible within the PoA-DD, and it is validation team’s opinion that the CME/VPA Implementer are able to implement the monitoring plan.

During the course of validation Seven (07) CLs were identified on initially submitted PoA-DD. All the CLs have been resolved by the CME. In summary, it is validation team’s opinion that the GS programme of activity “GHG Emission Reduction through use of Bondhu Chula (Improved Cook Stoves) in Bangladesh ” (GS 3112) meets all relevant GS4GG requirements for the renewal of the PoA period. Hence CCIPL requests the renewal of GS programme of activities period.

## Appendix 1. Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Full texts
<b>CAR</b>	Corrective Action Request
<b>CC IPL</b>	Carbon Check (India) Private Ltd.
<b>CDM</b>	Clean Development Mechanism
<b>CER</b>	Certified Emission Reduction
<b>CL</b>	Clarification Request
<b>CME</b>	Coordinating / Managing Entity
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>	Carbon Dioxide
<b>CO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	Carbon Dioxide Equivalent
<b>DR</b>	Document review
<b>FVR</b>	Final Validation Report
<b>EB</b>	CDM Executive Board
<b>EF</b>	Emission Factor
<b>EI</b>	External individual
<b>FA</b>	Final Approval
<b>FAR</b>	Forward Action Request
<b>FVR</b>	Final validation Report
<b>GHG</b>	Greenhouse gas(es)
<b>GS</b>	Gold Standard
<b>GS4GG</b>	Gold standard for global goals
<b>I</b>	Interview
<b>IAP</b>	Indoor Air Pollution
<b>ICS</b>	Improved cook stove
<b>IPCC</b>	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
<b>IR</b>	Internal resource
<b>LDC</b>	Least Developed Country
<b>LLDC</b>	Land Locked Developing Country
<b>MW</b>	Mega Watt
<b>POA-DD</b>	Programme of Activity Design Document
<b>PP</b>	Project Participant
<b>OSV</b>	On Site Visit
<b>QC/QA</b>	Quality control /Quality assurance
<b>RCP</b>	Renewal of Crediting Period
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SIDS</b>	Small Island Developing States
<b>SS</b>	Sectoral Scope
<b>TA</b>	Technical Area
<b>TR</b>	Technical Review
<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>VER</b>	Voluntary Emission Reduction
<b>VPA</b>	Voluntary Project Activity
<b>VVB</b>	Validation and Verification Body
<b>VVS</b>	Validation and Verification Standard

## Appendix 2. Competence of team members and technical reviewers



### Carbon Check (India) Private Ltd.

#### Mr. Sanjay Agarwalla

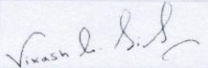
has been qualified as per CCIPL's internal qualification procedures, in accordance with requirements of Accreditation Standard (version 07.0):

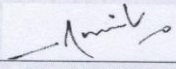
*For following functions:*

Validator  Team Leader  Technical reviewer   
 Verifier  Technical Expert  Local Assessor<sup>1</sup>

*In the following Technical Areas:*

TA 1.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TA 3.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TA 5.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TA 9.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TA13.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
TA 1.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TA 4.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TA 8.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	TA 10.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	TA14.1	<input type="checkbox"/>
TA 2.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TA 5.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TA 9.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TA 13.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

  
 Mr. Vikash Kumar Singh  
 Compliance Officer

  
 Mr. Amit Anand  
 CEO

**Date of Approval**  
 24/12/2021

**Valid Till**  
 23/12/2022

**Revision History of the Document**

01/03/2020 <sup>2</sup>	Interim Revision for office address change
01/09/2020	Interim Revision for CCIPL logo change
24/12/2020	Annual Revision
24/12/2021	Annual Revision

<sup>1</sup> India

<sup>2</sup> Please refer to previous version of competency certificates for the revision history.

CARBON CHECK (INDIA) PRIVATE LIMITED  
 CIN: U74930DL2012PTC232495  
 Regd. Off: 2071/38, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Naiwala, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110005  
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 Tel: +91 120 4373114 | URL: [www.carboncheck.co.in](http://www.carboncheck.co.in) | e-mail: [info@carboncheck.co.in](mailto:info@carboncheck.co.in)



## Carbon Check (India) Private Ltd.

### Ms. Indumathi. C

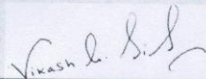
has been qualified as per CCIPL's internal qualification procedures, in accordance with requirements of Accreditation Standard (version 07.0):

For following functions:

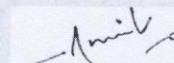
Validator  Team Leader  Technical reviewer   
 Verifier  Technical Expert  Local Assessor<sup>1</sup>

In the following Technical Areas:

TA 1.1  TA 4.1  TA 9.1  TA 13.1   
 TA 1.2  TA 5.1  TA 9.2  TA 13.2   
 TA 3.1  TA 5.2  TA 10.1  TA 14.1



Mr. Vikash Kumar Singh  
Compliance Officer



Mr. Amit Anand  
CEO

Date of Approval  
24/12/2021

Valid Till  
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<sup>1</sup> India.

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### Appendix 3. Documents reviewed or referenced

Ref no.	Reference Document
/01/	PoA-DD, version 1.0, 25/04/2022 PoA DD, version 2.0, 12/05/2022 PoA DD, version 3.0, 09/09/2020
/02/	Sample End user agreement and sales receipts
/03/	Technical specification of the ICSS
/04/	Declaration from the project proponent that the project has not or shall not claim carbon credits any other scheme after Registration of the project under GS4GG.
/05/	Declaration for non-diversion of ODA funding in the project
/06/	GS 3112 Transition-Annex- v 3.0 13/01/2022
/07/	fNRB calculation spreadsheet.
/08/	Partner Agreement Form with BBF.
/09/	GS Micro scale PoA GS 3112_PoA Renewal Deviation_SC_FINAL (Deviation approval)
/10/	GS3112 Transition Review Final
/B01/	The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves, Version 1.1, dated April 2020
/B02/	Template Guide: Key Project Information & Programme Design Document (POA-DD), Version 1.1 dated: 14/10/2020
/B03/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. GS4GG Programme of Activity requirements version 1.2</li> <li>b. GS4GG Principles and requirements version 1.2</li> <li>c. Validation and Verification body requirements version 2.0</li> <li>d. Community Services Activity Requirements (version 1.1) under GS4GG</li> <li>e. GS4GG GHG Emissions Reduction &amp; Sequestration Product Requirements, version 2.0</li> </ul>

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

Table 1. CAR from this validation

<b>CAR ID</b>		<b>Section no.</b>		<b>Date:</b>
<b>Description of CAR</b>				
<b>CME response</b>				<b>Date:</b>
<b>Documentation provided by CME</b>				
<b>VVB assessment</b>				<b>Date:</b>

Table 2. CLs from this validation

<b>CL ID</b>	01	<b>Section no.</b>	PoA DD	<b>Date:</b> 12/05/2022
<b>Description of CL</b>				
Validation team has noticed that the Section and Appendix number under 'Key Project Information' section of the PoA DD are not in accordance with the PoA DD template. CME is requested to do necessary correction.				
<b>CME response</b>				<b>Date:</b> 13/05/2022
CME acknowledges the inconsistency in the section and appendices with respect to the template and the same have been rectified.				
<b>Documentation provided by CME</b>				
GS 3112 PoA renewal PoA-DD v2.0 13052022				
<b>VVB assessment</b>				<b>Date:</b> 14/05/2022
CME has now corrected the Section and Appendix number as per the PoA DD template. CL01 is closed.				

<b>CL ID</b>	02	<b>Section no.</b>	PoA DD	<b>Date:</b> 12/05/2022
<b>Description of CL</b>				
Validation team has noticed the following in the 'Key Project Information' section of the PoA DD:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Date of project design certification not provided.</li> <li>ii. As this the renewal of PoA period, along with GS PoA period start date, the start date of the 2nd PoA period and the duration of previous PoA (1st) period and current (2nd) PoA period are not provided. In this context, CME is also requested to provide justification on continuity of crediting periods with significant delay in re-validation of certification cycle renewal.</li> <li>iii. The renewal PoA DD states that the CME is 'Bangladesh Bondhu Foundation (BBF)', while the previous PoA DD specifies the CME name as 'SZ Consultancy Services Limited (SZCSL)'</li> </ul>				
CME is requested to clarify on these and do the necessary corrections in the PoA-DD.				
<b>CME response</b>				<b>Date:</b> 13/05/2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Date of project design certification has been provided in the revised PoA-DD.</li> <li>ii. As per the PoA-DD template, this section shall specify the crediting period start date of the earliest VPA included in the PoA. Thus, information specified in the PoA-DD is deemed correct and no change is required. The first PoA period expired on 31/03/2021. There has been a delay in renewing the PoA period due to COVID. However as per COVID interim measures and DEV_158, for LDCs an extension of 2 Years is allowed towards renewing the PoA after expiry of the previous PoA period. A deviation has already been submitted to the Gold Standard in this regard.</li> <li>iii. The CME was updated as "Bangladesh Bondhu Foundation (BBF)" at the time of transition the PoA from v2.2 to GS4GG which was approved on 28 Jan 2021.</li> </ul>				
<b>Documentation provided by CME</b>				
GS 3112 PoA renewal PoA-DD v2.0 13052022				
<b>VVB assessment</b>				<b>Date:</b> 14/05/2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Date of project design certification is now updated by the CME in the revised PoA-DD</li> </ul>				

- ii. The clarification regarding the start date of the PoA period provided by the CME is deemed acceptable by the validation team and is in line with the PoA-DD template guide.
- iii. The updation of the CME has been approved at the time of transition of the PoA from v2.2 to GS4GG. The relevant transition documents are provided by the CME as evidence for the same.

CL02 is closed.

<b>CL ID</b>	03	<b>Section no.</b>	PoA DD	<b>Date:</b> 12/05/2022
<b>Description of CL</b>				
Under 'Eligibility under Gold Standard Community Services Activity (CSA) Requirements',				
i. Section no. of GS4GG CSA Requirements is incorrect.				
ii. For eligibility criteria no. 3, 'GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA – Project Area, Boundary and scale', Justification for the scale of the project is missing.				
CME is requested to clarify on these and do the necessary corrections in the PoA-DD.				
<b>CME response</b>				<b>Date:</b> 13/05/2022
i. Section no. has been revised as per the Community Services Activity Requirements, Version 1.2				
ii. Justification for the scale of the project has now been included in the revised PoA-DD.				
<b>Documentation provided by CME</b>				
GS 3112 PoA renewal PoA-DD v2.0 13052022				
<b>VVB assessment</b>				<b>Date:</b> 14/05/2022
i. Section no. of GS4GG CSA Requirements is now corrected.				
ii. Justification for scale of the project for eligibility criteria no. 3, 'GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA – Project Area, Boundary and scale', has now been updated by the CME.				
CL03 is closed.				

<b>CL ID</b>	04	<b>Section no.</b>	PoA DD	<b>Date:</b> 12/05/2022
<b>Description of CL</b>				
In the table for SDGs targeted by the PoA, under section A.4. SDG goal for SDG 12 is incorrectly stated. CME is requested to rectify this.				
<b>CME response</b>				<b>Date:</b> 13/05/2022
The same has been rectified in the revised PoA-DD.				
<b>Documentation provided by CME</b>				
GS 3112 PoA renewal PoA-DD v2.0 13052022				
<b>VVB assessment</b>				<b>Date:</b> 14/05/2022
The CME has updated the SDGs according to the GS SDG tool and no longer claims SDG 12.				
CL04 is closed.				

<b>CL ID</b>	05	<b>Section no.</b>	PoA DD	<b>Date:</b> 12/05/2022
<b>Description of CL</b>				
Under section B.2. 'Application of methodologies', according to the actual sentence stated in the applied methodology, some words have been changed or are missing in the statements under applicability conditions. CME is requested to check and correct all applicability condition paragraphs accordingly.				
<b>CME response</b>				<b>Date:</b> 13/05/2022
The inconsistencies in the applicability condition paragraphs with respect to the applied methodology have been corrected to conform with the applied methodology.				
<b>Documentation provided by CME</b>				
GS 3112 PoA renewal PoA-DD v2.0 13052022				
<b>VVB assessment</b>				<b>Date:</b> 14/05/2022
Inconsistencies in the applicability condition paragraphs under section B.2. of the PoA DD 'Application of methodologies', has now been updated as per the applied methodology.				
CL05 is closed.				

<b>CL ID</b>	06	<b>Section no.</b>	PoA DD	<b>Date:</b> 12/05/2022
<b>Description of CL</b>				
Validation team has noticed that in the table under section B.3. 'Eligibility criteria for inclusion of a VPA in the PoA', For criteria 20 'CER Labelling', under required condition the section no. of Annex B of 'GHG Emissions Reduction and Sequestration Product Requirements' is incorrect. Clarification is requested.				
<b>CME response</b>				<b>Date:</b> 13/05/2022

The required correction has been made in the revised PoA-DD.	
<b>Documentation provided by CME</b>	
GS 3112 PoA renewal PoA-DD v2.0 13052022	
<b>VVB assessment</b>	<b>Date: 14/05/2022</b>
In the table under section B.3. 'Eligibility criteria for inclusion of a VPA in the PoA', For criteria 20 'CER Labelling', under required condition the section no. of Annex B of 'GHG Emissions Reduction and Sequestration Product Requirements' is now corrected by the CME. CL06 is closed.	

<b>CL ID</b>	07	<b>Section no.</b>	PoA DD	<b>Date:</b> 12/05/2022
<b>Description of CL</b>				
Under section D.2. "Duration of the PoA", along with Duration of the PoA, CME is requested to add the assessment for renewal of the PoA.				
<b>CME response</b>				<b>Date:</b> 13/05/2022
The Duration of the PoA has been revised to include the renewal cycle of the PoA.				
<b>Documentation provided by CME</b>				
GS 3112 PoA renewal PoA-DD v2.0 13052022				
<b>VVB assessment</b>				<b>Date:</b> 14/05/2022
The Duration of the PoA has been updated by the CME under section D.2. of the revised PoA-DD. CL07 is closed.				

**Table 1. FAR from this validation**

<b>FAR ID</b>	xx	<b>Section no.</b>		<b>Date :</b> DD/MM/YYYY
<b>Description of FAR</b>				
-				
<b>Project participant response</b>				<b>Date :</b> DD/MM/YYYY
<b>Documentation provided by project participant</b>				
<b>VVB assessment</b>				<b>Date:</b> DD/MM/YYYY

## Appendix 5: Methodology Applicability

The project applies the approved methodology, The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves, Version 1.1, dated April 2020 /B01/. Applicability criteria for the baseline methodology /B01/ are assessed by the validation team by means of document review and interview. It is agreed in the validation team's opinion that the project activity fully meets the criteria as described below:

Applicability criteria as per methodology /B01/	Means of Validation
<p><b>1. Paragraph 1 of section 1 of the applied methodology:</b>            This methodology is applicable to micro scale programmes and micro scale activities that introduce new wood fired cookstoves that reduce use of non-renewable firewood or switch from non-renewable to renewable fire wood to meet thermal energy requirement for household cooking.</p> <p><b>Justification:</b>            The VPAs under the PoA shall involve installation of new improved wood burning ICS to reduce the use of non-renewable firewood attributed to use of baseline stoves.</p>	<p>As verified during the remote audit and review of POA-DD /01/, the validation team confirms that the methodology used is applicable to the project activity as it includes dissemination of high efficiency biomass fired ICS, to replace the existing traditional cookstoves in beneficiary households / institutions.</p>
<p><b>2. Paragraph 2 of section 1 of the applied methodology:</b>            A project proponent implements the micro-scale activity or micro-scale Programme of Activities. The individual households and institutions do not act as project proponents.</p> <p><b>Justification:</b>            The individual households shall not act as project proponents; project proponent is BBF who is also the project implementer.</p>	<p>Based on the remote audit and review of the POA-DD /01/ the validation team confirms that, the individual households shall not act as project proponents.</p>
<p><b>3. Paragraph 3.1 of section 1 of the applied methodology:</b></p> <p>The following conditions apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This methodology is applicable,           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. If the baseline fuel is only firewood; and</li> <li>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 combustion air supply or flue gas ventilation; and</li> <li>iii. If the project stove is single pot or multi pot portable or an in-situ cook stove with a specified efficiency of at least 20%.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p><b>Justification:</b></p> <p>i. This has already been substantiated at the PoA level for entire Bangladesh as a whole. Refer section A.1 above which substantiates by means on external studies / published literature that fuel wood is used for cooking significant population and traditional means of cooking are prevalent in &gt;80% of population. Additionally at the time of installation it is ensured that the ICS is being</p>	<p>Based on the remote audit and review of the POA-DD /01/ the validation team confirms that, the baseline fuel use id firewood and the stove used is of traditional threestone fired stove. The review of the PoA DD also confirms the design efficiency of the ICS to be more than 20%.</p>

<p>installed wherein the baseline is traditional firewood cooking</p> <p>ii. Same as above</p> <p>iii. The design efficiency of ICS is more than 20%. This has been developed as eligibility criteria for inclusion of a VPA in the PoA</p>	
<p><b>4. Paragraph 3.2 of section 1 of the applied methodology:</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>Justification:</b>        All ICS under this PoA shall be provided with unique serial number and address of the ICS tracing its location. The ICS serial number, end user information will be collected at the time of installation (by relevant entity), and recorded in a database by the CME.</p>	<p>Validation Team based on remote audit and review of PoA-DD /01/ confirms that, all the ICS will be provided with unique serial number and address of the ICS tracing location to prevent double counting.</p>
<p><b>5. Paragraph 3.3 of section 1 of the applied methodology:</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>Justification:</b>        Each user shall sign an agreement at that time of stove installation transferring the ownership of credits from user to CME / CME representative.</p>	<p>Validation team based on remote audit and review of POA-DD /01/ confirms that, the agreement will be signed at the time of stove installation for transfer of credits ownership from the end user to the CME.</p>
<p><b>6. Paragraph 3.4 of section 1 of the applied methodology:</b></p> <p>4. The use of the baseline cookstove as a backup or auxiliary technology in parallel with the improved cookstove introduced by the project activity is permitted as long as a mechanism is put into place to encourage the removal of the old cookstove (e.g. discounted price for the improved cookstove) and the definitive discontinuity of its use. The project documentation must provide a clear description of the approach chosen and the monitoring plan must allow for a good understanding of the extent to which the baseline technology is still in use after the introduction of the improved technology, whether the existing baseline cookstove is not surrendered at the time of the introduction of the improved technology, or whether a new baseline cookstove is acquired and put to use by targeted end</p>	<p>Validation team based on remote audit and review of POA-DD /01/ confirms that, the old traditional stoves will be disposed off during the installation of the ICS and will investigate if the traditional are no longer in use or destroyed even in a secondary role.</p>

users during the project crediting period. The success of the mechanism put into place must therefore be monitored, and the approach must be adjusted if proven unsuccessful. If the baseline cookstove remains in use in parallel with the project cookstove, corresponding emissions must of course be accounted for as part of the project emissions, using the guidance given in Section III.

**Justification:**

The old stoves shall be disposed of during installation of ICS (unless objected by the ICS beneficiary). Alternatively, the operational status survey on a sample of ICS will also investigate the extent to which traditional stoves are destroyed and no longer used, even in a secondary role, in the houses adopting the ICS. If it is found that a portion of kitchens exists in which a traditional stove is used, even in a secondary role, then emission reductions shall be adjusted taking into account only the portion of the wood used in ICS.

## Appendix 6: Sustainability Validation Report

### 1. Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) outcomes

As per the PoA-DD /01/, the relevant SDG targets are:

SDG	SDG Target
1	1.1 "By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day."
5	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."
7	7.1 "By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services"
8	8.5 "By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value"
13	13.2 "Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning"
15	15.1 "By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements"

Validation team confirms that above SDG targets have been approved by GS during the transition /06/ of the project in GS4GG and are also in compliance with the GS SDG tool and thus deemed acceptable to the validation team.

### 2. Safeguarding principle Assessment

POA-DD has provided GS4GG Safeguarding Principles Assessment in Section E.2. Validation team confirms that GS4GG Safeguarding Principles has been approved by GS during the transition /06/ of the project in GS4GG and thus it can be concluded that the safeguarding principles assessment for the project has been conducted appropriately, according to GS4GG requirements, based on accurate information with all the reference sources as indicated in the POA-DD /01/. Therefore, in CCIPL's opinion the project has no harmful impact.