

Gold Standard for the Global Goals
Key Programme Information & Programme Design Document (PoA-DD)



July 2017, Version 1

KEY PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Programme:	Title: PoA – Climate Finance for Sustainable Development GS ID: GS5658
Brief description of Programme:	The aim of this microscale Programme of Activities (PoA) is to distribute energy efficient cookstoves to households, SMEs, institutions and/or communities cooking with non-renewable firewood and safe water supply and treatment technologies to households, SMEs, institutions and/or communities boiling water with non-renewable biomass or fossil fuels and/or lacking access to safe water. The distributed technologies will reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by allowing the end-users to cook the same amount of food using less non-renewable biomass, and by removing the need to boil water as a form of purification before consumption. The PoA is promoted and developed by Carbonsink Group S.r.l. (Carbonsink), an Italian consultancy company, who will collaborate with various local partners to implement the activities within the countries included in the programme area (Madagascar, Mozambique, Ethiopia and Senegal). Later on, other countries may also be added under the programme area through post-registration changes of the PoA.
Expected duration of Programme:	20 years
Coordinating & Management Entity:	Carbonsink Group S.r.l. (Carbonsink)
Project Representative:	Carbonsink Group S.r.l. (Carbonsink)
Project Participants and any communities involved:	Project Participants of the PoA are AVSI, COOPI and ZOE
Version of PoA-DD: Date of Version:	Version 06 05/09/2019
Host Country (ies) / Location:	Madagascar, Mozambique, Ethiopia and Senegal ¹
Certification Pathway (Project Certification/Impact Statements & Products	Pathway 1 (VER project certification)
Activity Requirements applied: (mark GS4GG if none relevant)	Community Services Activity Requirements (version 1.1)
Methodologies applied:	The VPAs included under this PoA apply one of the following methodologies: <u>1. Methodology:</u> Technologies and practices to displace decentralized thermal energy consumption (TPDDTEC), Version 3.1 - Published August 2017 <u>2. Methodology:</u> Microscale Methodology for Improved Cookstoves, version 1.0 – Published February 2013
Product Requirements applied:	N/A
Regular/Retroactive:	Regular
SDG Impacts:	1 – SDG 13: Climate Action

¹ The PP may request to GS a post-registration Design Change later on to add other host countries.

	2 – SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being 3 – SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation 4 – SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy Moreover, depending on the specific characteristics of the future activities included under this PoA, the contribution on the following sustainable development goals may be included: 5 – SDG 1: No Poverty 6 – SDG 5: Gender Equality 7 – SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth 8– SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production 9 – SDG 15: Life on Land
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SECTION A. General description of PoA

A.1. Purpose and general description of the PoA

1. General operating and implementing framework of PoA

In many developing countries cooking is done by using thermally inefficient cookstoves or three stone fires consuming lots of fuels, especially non-renewable firewood and charcoal². Additionally, more than one billion people worldwide do not have access to safe drinking water³ and a high percentage of them boil their water to purify it for consumption.

The high level of firewood collection and charcoal production is leading to deforestation and land degradation especially when coupled with the high population densities and high population growth rates. Biomass combustion is also a significant source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions responsible for the enforcement of the climate change. In addition to the environmental consequences, there are serious health implications related with the inefficient cooking/water boiling methods through the exposure on the smoke and other emission as well as with the consumption of non-safe drinking water. Lastly, families spend a lot of time collecting firewood or spend a lot of money in buying charcoal or other fuels.

The aim of this microscale Programme of Activities (PoA) is to distribute energy efficient cookstoves to households, SMEs, institutions and/or communities cooking with non-renewable firewood and safe water supply and treatment technologies to households, SMEs, institutions and/or communities boiling water with non-renewable biomass or fossil fuels and/or lacking access to safe water. The distributed technologies will reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by allowing the end-users to cook the same amount of food using less non-renewable biomass, and by removing the need to boil water as a form of purification before consumption.

The PoA is promoted and developed by Carbonsink Group S.r.l. (Carbonsink), an Italian consultancy company, who will collaborate with various local partners to implement the activities within the countries included in the programme area (Madagascar, Mozambique, Ethiopia and Senegal). Later on, other countries may also be added under the programme area through post-registration changes of the PoA.

2. Policy/measure or stated goal of the PoA

The PoA aims to distribute energy efficient cookstoves to households, SMEs, institutions and/or communities cooking with non-renewable firewood and safe water supply and treatment technologies to households, SMEs, institutions and/or communities boiling water with non-renewable biomass or fossil fuels and/or lacking access to safe water. The distributed technologies will reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by allowing households to cook the same amount of food using less non-renewable biomass, and by allowing households/SMEs/institutions/communities to remove the need to boil water as a form of purification before consumption.

Besides reducing GHG emission in line with the UN's Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) number 13⁴, this programme will also seek to increase other long-term sustainability benefits for the local families, SMEs, institutions and communities. Depending on the characteristics like the specific technology(ies) to be implemented by each activity under this PoA, the contribution of each VPA on sustainable development will include at least two of the following SDGs:

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being
SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
SDG 1: No Poverty
SDG 5: Gender Equality
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

² <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs292/en/>

³ <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/water-and-sanitation/>

⁴ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

A.2. CME and participants of PoA

The coordinating/managing entity (CME) of the PoA is Carbonsink Group S.r.l. (Carbonsink), an Italian based consultancy company and project developer. Carbonsink is the entity which communicates with the Gold Standard Secretariat. The contact details of Carbonsink are provided the Appendix 1.

The other project participants of the PoA are AVSI, COOPI and ZOE. The contact details of each group are provided in Appendix 1.

A.3. Physical/ Geographical boundary of the PoA

Activities under this PoA will be located in several developing countries. Currently Madagascar, Mozambique, Ethiopia and Senegal for cookstove activities and safe water supply and treatment technologies are included as host countries. Further countries can be included later on following the Gold Standard Design Change procedure.

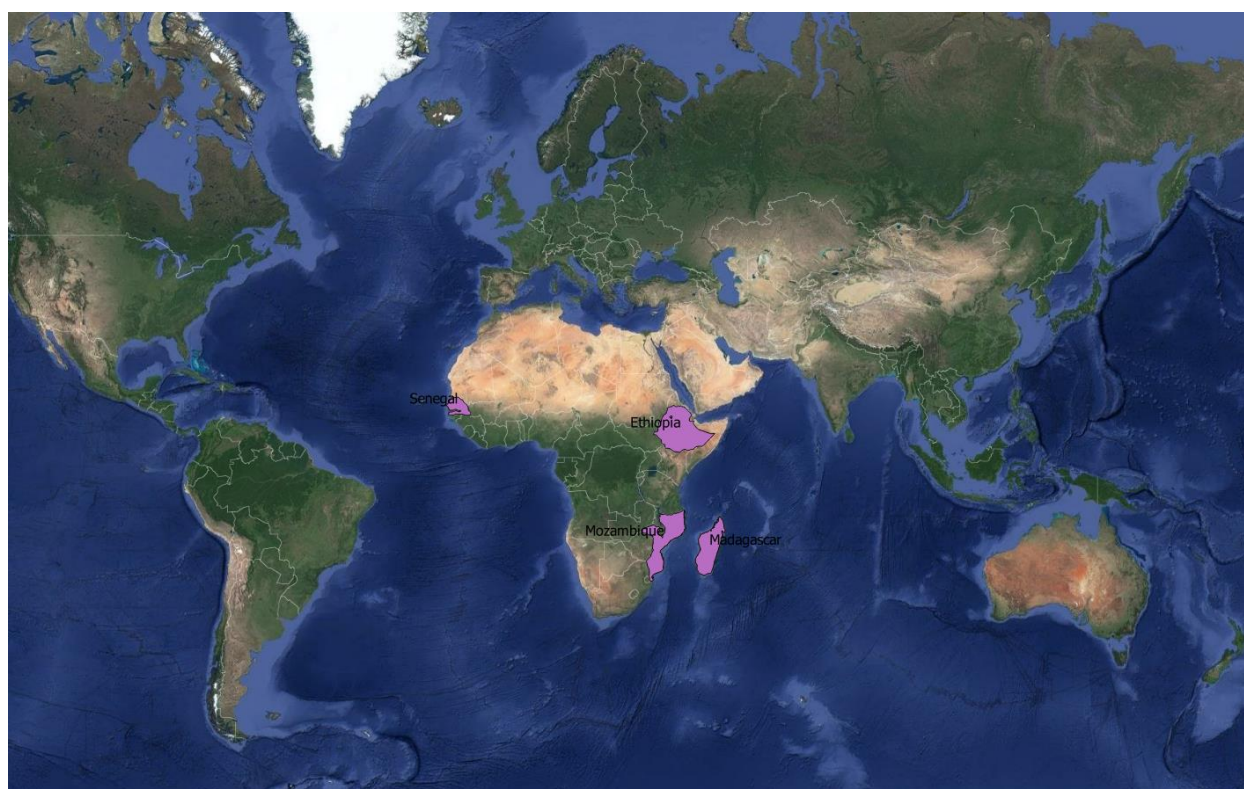


Figure A-1: Location of the Host Countries (Madagascar, Mozambique, Ethiopia and Senegal)

Table A-1. GPS coordinates of the Host Countries⁵

Capital city	Latitude	Longitude
Mozambique	-18.66569500	35.52956200
Madagascar	-18.76694700	46.86910700
Ethiopia	8.62622	39.616032
Senegal	15.221447	-14.82088

⁵ Data source: <http://www.longitude-latitude-maps.com> (accessed on 23/06/2017)

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The boundary of this PoA is the national boundaries of all the host country stated listed in table A-1. All of the micro-scale program activities (VPAs) included in this PoA will be implemented within this geographical area.

The boundary for each micro-scale VPA includes the physical, geographical sites of where energy efficient cookstoves or safe water supply and treatment technologies distributed/installed under the VPAs are located and where the consumers of safe water provided by the systems are located. The physical boundary of each microscale VPA will be defined in each VPA-DD.

A.4. Technologies/measures and eligibility under Gold Standard

The VPAs implemented under this PoA are community service activities either including “End-Use Energy efficiency” or “Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)” activities and thus the Gold Standard approved “Community Services Activity Requirements” are applicable for them. Moreover, the already approved Impact Quantification Methodologies (TPDDTEC methodology OR the GS Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves) will be applied for all the VPAs under this PoA. As described in Section B.3.

As per section 3.1.1.1. of GS4GG Principles and Requirements (Version 1.1), the project types under this PoA are thus automatically eligible for Gold Standard Certification⁶. The detailed description how the VPAs meet the relevant eligibility criteria will be confirmed and described in detail for each VPA-DD by demonstrating that the eligibility criteria for inclusion of a VPA in the PoA, as described in the Section B.2 of this PoA-DD, are fulfilled.

Safe Water Supply and Treatment Technologies (applying ‘TPDDTEC’ methodology)

In this PoA the safe water supply and treatment technologies are provided to end-users (households, SMEs, institutions and/or communities) in Madagascar, Mozambique, Ethiopia and Senegal⁷. The use of these technologies will result in GHG emissions reductions by removing the need to boil water as a form of purification before consumption. Carbon credits can be claimed for end-users that are currently using fossil fuel or non-renewable biomass for water boiling and for consumers without access to safe drinking water (suppressed demand). The technologies employed in this PoA doesn’t lead to GHG emissions.

Examples of the safe water supply and treatment technologies are the installation of community level boreholes and/or clean water systems and their repair/maintenance/operation and/or distribution of household level water filters or chlorine dispensers. The same baseline and project emission calculations apply for all types of safe water supply and treatment technologies.



⁶ As per the paragraph 3.1.1.1. of GS4GG Principles and Requirements (Version 1.1), a project type is automatically eligible for Gold Standard Certification if there are approved Gold Standard Activity Requirements and/or Gold Standard Impact Quantification Methodologies associated with it or as referenced in Gold Standard Product Requirements.

⁷ Later on, other countries may also be added under the programme area through post-registration changes of the PoA.

Figure A-2. Example of clean water system constructed under this PoA

Besides reducing GHG emission in line with the UN's Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) number 13, the safe water VPAs under this PoA will contribute also to the other Sustainable Development Goals. Depending on the specific technology(ies) to be implemented by each activity as well as for example on the baseline characteristics of the project area, the contribution on sustainable development for the local families, SMEs, institutions and/or communities may vary but will include at least two of the below listed SDG goals:

- SDG 1: Reduction in end-user expenses related to the purchase of fuel for water boiling for purification purposes.
- SDG 1 and/or SDG 5: Reduction of time needed for fuel purchase/collection activities as well as water boiling activities, thus more time is available for other tasks, like education or income generating activities especially for woman who are traditionally responsible for water supply and purification.
- SDG 3: Improved health as reduced combustion and less harmful gases during combustion in households/SMEs/institutions/communities will reduce indoor air pollution and thereby increase respiratory health of the users, particularly women and children who spend lot of their time for boiling water for purification purposes. Ensuring easy access to clean and safe water will help to combat adverse health effects related to water-borne diseases associated with unsafe water usage.
- SDG 5: Enhance the participation and working opportunities of women for example as hygiene promoters.
- SDG 6: Enhance the access to safe and affordable drinking water.
- SDG 7: Increased penetration of clean and reliable energy services (like solar energy powered pumps) used for safe water supply.
- SDG 1 and 8: New working and income opportunities are created through recruitment of locals for project related activities like e.g. distribution, maintenance or monitoring activities.
- SDG 12: Increase the awareness for sustainable development including, themes like climate change and hygiene.
- SDG 15: Reduced deforestation and forest degradation in the areas where non-renewable biomass is used as a fuel source for water boiling for purification purposes. This will contribute to the overall stability of forest ecosystems which supports biodiversity, watersheds and soil conditions.

The VPAs are “Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)” projects which is one of the pre-identified, eligible project types described in section 1.2. of the “Community Services Activity Requirements (version 1.1)”. Consequently, the VPAs are eligible also as per section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements (version 1) which requires defines the activities automatically eligible if there is Gold Standard published Activity Requirements for this project type.

Energy Efficient Cookstove Technologies (applying ‘The GS Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves’ or ‘TPDTEC’ methodology)

In this PoA the efficient cookstove technologies are provided to households, SMEs, institutions and/or communities currently cooking with non-renewable biomass in Madagascar, Mozambique Ethiopia and Senegal⁸. The use of the efficient cookstoves will result in GHG emissions reductions by allowing the households/SMEs/institutions/communities to cook the same amount of food using less non-renewable biomass. Carbon credits can be claimed for savings of the non-renewable biomass achieved through the use of the efficient cookstoves.

The distributed cookstove technologies can include but are not limited to improved cookstoves (ICS) like e.g. portable ICS for households, fixed mud ICS for households. The project stove model is being a single pot or multi port portable or in-situ cookstove and they all are with a specified efficiency of at least 20%. Moreover, the same baseline and project emission calculations apply for all types of efficient cookstove technologies included in a specific VPA.

⁸ Later on, other countries may also be added under the programme area through post-registration changes of the PoA.



Figure A-3. Examples of possible portable improved cookstoves to be distributed to households under this PoA

Besides reducing GHG emission in line with the UN's Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) number 13, the cookstove VPAs under this PoA will contribute also to the other Sustainable Development Goals. Depending on the specific technology(ies) to be implemented by each activity as well as for example on the baseline characteristics of the project area, the contribution on sustainable development may vary but will include at least two of the following SDG goals:

- SDG 1: Reduction in end-user expenses related to the purchase of fuel for cooking purposes.
- SDG 1 and/or SDG 5: Reduction of time needed for fuel purchase/collection activities as well as cooking activities, thus more time is available for other tasks, like education or income generating activities especially for woman who are traditionally responsible for cooking.
- SDG 3: Improved health as reduced combustion and less harmful gases during combustion in households/SMEs/institutions/communities will reduce indoor air pollution and thereby increase respiratory health of the users, particularly women and children who spend lot of their time for cooking activities.
- SDG 5: Enhance the participation and working opportunities of women for example as cookstove promoters.
- SDG 7: Increased penetration of clean and reliable cooking technologies
- SDG 1 and 8: New working and income opportunities are created through recruitment of locals for project related activities like e.g. cookstove distribution or monitoring activities.
- SDG 12: Increase the awareness for sustainable development including themes like climate change and responsible consumption and production of cooking fuels.
- SDG 15: Reduced deforestation and forest degradation in the areas where non-renewable biomass is used as a fuel source for cooking as less wood/charcoal will be needed for cooking activities. This will contribute to the overall stability of forest ecosystems which supports biodiversity, watersheds and soil conditions.

The cookstove VPAs are “End-User Energy Efficiency” projects which is one of the pre-identified, eligible project types described in section 1.2.2 of the “Community Services Activity Requirements (version 1.1)”. Consequently, the VPAs are eligible also as per section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements (version 1) which requires defines the activities automatically eligible if there is Gold Standard published Activity Requirements for this project type.

A.5 Funding sources of PoA

The PoA is funded by private sources of the CME and its partners. No public funding sources are used and there are neither diversion of ODA.

SECTION B. Demonstration of additionality and development of eligibility criteria

B.1. Demonstration of additionality for PoA

This PoA is a micro-scale PoA providing Community Services via safe water supply and treatment technologies or energy efficient cookstoves and therefore, as per paragraph 2.5.2 of the Community Services Activity Requirements (Version 1.1), can be considered as deemed additional and consequently the Financial Additionality is not required to be proofed at the time of Design Certification.

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

Table. B-1. Eligibility Criteria for inclusion of the VPAs with Safe Water Supply and Treatment Technologies into the PoA:

No.	Eligibility criteria		Means of proof	Confirmation
	Description	Conditions to be met		
1.	Scale of the activity	The annual emission reductions achieved by the VPA are limited to a maximum of 10,000 tons of CO ₂ e, in each and every year of the crediting period. Whenever actual emission reductions as per the verification report exceed the upper threshold for a given registered project, the project can still request for issuance, but the claimable emission reductions are capped at 10,000 tonnes of CO ₂ per year.	The estimation of the annual emission shall be described in the VPA-DD. In case the VPA is found to exceed the applicable limit during any verification, the claimable emission reductions shall be capped at 10 000 CO ₂ per year.	Yes/No
2.	Type of activity, scope and used technology	The VPA is a Community Service Activity (end-use energy efficiency project) which provides or improves access to clean water. The VPA includes distribution of 'zero emission' safe water supply and treatment technologies to end-users.	The applied technology/technologies used for providing or improving access to clean water shall be described in the VPA-DD together with the description how the activity leads to climate change mitigation. For the water supply and treatment technologies, the VPA-DD shall include description of the technology/technologies being 'zero emission technologies'.	Yes/No
3.	Target group and distribution mechanism	The target group of the activity can be households, SMEs, institutions and/or communities boiling water with non-renewable biomass or fossil fuels and/or lacking access to safe water. The distribution of the project technologies needs to be recorded via an accurate and complete sales/dissemination/installation	The target group of the activity (either household, community or institution level) and the distribution mechanism shall be described in the VPA-DD.	Yes/No

		record.		
4.	Host country, boundary and location	The VPA is located within the host parties listed in section A.4.1.1. of the PoA-DD.	VPA location and boundary shall be defined in the VPA-DD.	Yes/No
5.	Crediting period duration	The duration of the crediting period of the VPA doesn't exceed the end date of the registered PoA or shall be capped by the end date of the PoA. The final date for which ERs can be credited shall be no later than 20 years after the start date of the PoA.	Description of the duration of the VPA crediting period ⁹ shall be provided in the VPA-DD.	Yes/No
6.	Financial Additionality & Ongoing Financial Need	All VPAs are micro-scale projects and can thus be considered as deemed additional in line with the paragraph 2.5.2 of the Community Services Activity Requirements (Version 1.1). The Financial Additionality is not required to be proven at the time of Design Certification. Either there is no need to demonstrate the ongoing financial need at Certification Renewal.	The VPA-DD includes the demonstration of the additionality.	Yes/No
7.	Conditions to check the start date of the VPA through documentary evidence	The start date of an activity being defined as the earliest date on which the Project Developer has committed to expenditures related to the implementation of the Project will be defined for each activity. Examples of start date may be the date on which contracts have been signed for equipment or construction/operation services required for the Project.	Documentary evidence (like e.g. sales agreement, protocol about date of commissioning or any other appropriate evidence) of the first safe water device sold/implemented or any other first real action will be available for each VPA.	Yes/No
8.	Regular and retroactive project activities	Regular VPAs (Projects where the Stakeholder Consultation meeting has taken place prior to the Project Start Date) submit the required documents to GS (time of first submission) within three months of the event (though this date may be after the Project Start Date). Retroactive VPAs (with a start date before or after the time of first submission of PoA) submit the required documents to GS (time of first submission) within one year of its start date.	The VPA has its first submission for the preliminary review within three months of the stakeholder meeting for regular VPAs and within one year of its start date for retroactive VPAs.	Yes/No

⁹ In line with CS Activity Requirements (paragraph 2.4.1) the duration of crediting period of a VPA is 5 years which can be renewed maximum twice.

9.	Stakeholder inclusivity	VPA shall identify and engage relevant stakeholders and seek expert stakeholder input where necessary in the design planning and implementation. The activity level stakeholder consultation is carried out, either for a single VPA or for a group of VPAs in a two-step process, i.e. the Stakeholder Consultation meeting and Stakeholder Feedback Round (SFR) in line with the Gold Standard “Stakeholder Procedure, Requirements & Guidelines (version 1)” and “Community Service Activity Requirements (version 1)”. In case of a grouped stakeholder consultation, the following conditions need to be fulfilled: i) same host country, ii) same technology iii) similar distribution mechanism shall be employed. VPAs implementation shall start within 3 years from the date of grouped stakeholder consultation meeting.	The VPA-DD shall include the demonstration how it has identified, engaged and consulted with relevant stakeholders and how the outcomes have been integrated in the project design, implementation and monitoring. In case of a grouped stakeholder consultation, it shall be demonstrated that all three conditions are met and that the start date of the VPA is maximal 3 years after the date of grouped stakeholder consultation approval.	Yes/No
10.	Baseline and Monitoring Methodology	The VPA applies the following GS methodology: Technologies and practices to displace decentralized thermal energy consumption (TPDDTEC), version 3.1.	The VPA-DD shall describe the applied methodology and justification how the applicability criteria of the selected methodology are being met at VPA-level. The defined Baseline and Project Scenarios shall be included in the VPA-DD.	Yes/No
11.	Conditions related to environmental impact analysis	The VPA has to fulfill host country requirements concerning environmental impact analysis.	The VPA-DD shall include the summary of the analysis and provide the references to all related documentations in case the environmental impact analysis is required by the host country.	Yes/No
12.	Conditions to provide an affirmation that funding from Annex I Parties, if any, does not result in a diversion of ODA	In case that any of the VPA receives ODA, it is ensured that there is no diversion of ODA, i.e. that no ODA is provided under the condition that all or part of the carbon credits have to be returned to the donor country/entity providing ODA.	The VPA has signed the ODA declaration confirming that there is no diversion of ODA.	Yes/No
13.	Credit ownership	The transfer of credit ownership	A clear description of the	Yes/No

		all along the investment chain is clearly described and communicated to all project participants and proofed that end-users are aware of and willing to give up their rights on emission reductions. 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. The end-users will need to be informed and notified that they cannot claim for emission reductions from the project. This can be proofed for example with the waiver forms signed by end-users.	transfer of credit ownership all along the investment chain is made in the VPA-DD and relevant contracts or written assertions are provided. For example, Community Water Resource Committees sign on behalf of the community in which the safe water system is situated and confirm to give up their rights and any claims on emission reductions. Also, a description how the credit ownership was discussed during the stakeholder process needs to be made in the VPA-DD.	
14.	Avoiding double counting	The VPA applies an identification system enabling unique identifying of each unit (sold, installed or constructed) or its users so that the double counting of emission reductions can be avoided. The VPA will also show that it is exclusive to the PoA and not registered as a standalone project activity or as part of another PoA.	The VPA-DD shall describe and confirm the avoiding of the double counting in two ways: - The relevant online carbon registries have been consulted to confirm that the proposed activity is neither registered as a standalone project activity or as a part of a PoA with GS or other carbon standard. - Each project stove or other project technology will be identified with a unique identification number or other way which enables the unique identification of the devices to be part of the specific VPA. This unique identification system shall be outlined in VPA-DD.	Yes/No
15.	Conditions related to sampling requirements for the PoA	The VPA complies with the sampling plan as outlined in PoA-DD, section B.3 and VPA-DD, section B.6.1.	The VPA-DD outlines the sampling plan in section B.6.1 which is in line with the one stipulated in the PoA-DD.	Yes/No

Table. B-2. Eligibility Criteria for inclusion of the VPAs with Energy Efficient Cookstove Technologies into the PoA:

No.	Eligibility criteria		Means of proof	Confirmation
	Description	Conditions to be met		

1.	Scale of the activity	The annual emission reductions achieved by the VPA are limited to a maximum of 10,000 tons of CO ₂ e, in each and every year of the crediting period. Whenever actual emission reductions as per the verification report exceed the upper threshold for a given registered project, the project can still request for issuance, but the claimable emission reductions are capped at 10,000 tonnes of CO ₂ per year.	The estimation of the annual emission shall be described in the VPA-DD. In case the VPA is found to exceed the applicable limit during any verification, the claimable emission reductions shall be capped at 10 000 CO ₂ per year.	Yes/No
2.	Type of activity, scope and used technology	The VPA is a Community Service Activity (end-use energy efficiency project) which includes distribution of energy efficient cookstoves to households, SMEs, institutions and/or communities.	The applied cookstove technology/technologies shall described in the VPA-DD together with the description how the activity leads to climate change mitigation.	Yes/No
3	Target group and distribution mechanism	The target group of the activity shall be households, SMEs, institutions and/or communities. The distribution of the project technologies needs to be recorded via an accurate and complete sales/dissemination/installation record.	The target group of the activity and the distribution mechanism shall be described in the VPA-DD.	Yes/No
4.	Host country, boundary and location	The VPA is located within the host parties listed in section A.4.1.1. of the PoA-DD.	VPA location and boundary shall be defined in the VPA-DD.	Yes/No
5.	Crediting period duration	The duration of the crediting period of the VPA doesn't exceed the end date of the registered PoA or shall be capped by the end date of the PoA. The final date for which ERs can be credited shall be no later than 20 years after the start date of the PoA.	Description of the duration of the VPA crediting period ¹⁰ shall be provided in the VPA-DD.	Yes/No
6.	Financial Additionality & Ongoing Financial Need	All VPAs are micro-scale projects and can thus be considered as deemed additional in line with the paragraph 2.5.2 of the Community Services Activity Requirements (Version 1.1). The Financial Additionality is not required to be proven at the time of Design Certification. Either there is no need to demonstrate the ongoing financial need at Certification Renewal.	The VPA-DD includes the demonstration of the additionality.	Yes/No

¹⁰ In line with CS Activity Requirements (paragraph 2.4.1) the duration of crediting period of a VPA is 5 years which can be renewed maximum twice.

7.	Conditions to check the start date of the VPA through documentary evidence	The start date of an activity being defined as the earliest date on which the Project Developer has committed to expenditures related to the implementation of the Project will be defined for each activity. Examples of start date may be the date on which contracts have been signed for equipment or construction/operation services required for the Project.	Documentary evidence (like e.g. sales agreement, protocol about date of commissioning or any other appropriate evidence) of the first cookstove sold/installed or any other first real action will be available for each VPA.	Yes/No
8.	Regular and retroactive project activities	Regular VPAs (Projects where the Stakeholder Consultation meeting has taken place prior to the Project Start Date) submit the required documents to GS (time of first submission) within three months of the event (though this date may be after the Project Start Date). Retroactive VPAs (with a start date before or after the time of first submission of PoA) submit the required documents to GS (time of first submission) within one year of its start date.	The VPA has its first submission for the preliminary review within three months of the stakeholder meeting for regular VPAs and within one year of its start date for retroactive VPAs.	Yes/No
9.	Stakeholder inclusivity	VPAs shall identify and engage relevant stakeholders and seek expert stakeholder input where necessary in the design planning and implementation. The activity level stakeholder consultation is carried out, either for a single VPA or for a group of VPAs in a two-step process, i.e. the Stakeholder Consultation meeting and Stakeholder Feedback Round (SFR) in line with the Gold Standard “Stakeholder Procedure, Requirements & Guidelines (version 1)” and “Community Service Activity Requirements (version 1.1)”. In case of a grouped LSC, the following conditions need to be fulfilled: i) same host country, ii) same technology iii) similar distribution mechanism shall be employed. VPAs implementation shall start within 3 years from the date of grouped LSC meeting.	The VPA-DD shall include the demonstration how it has identified, engaged and consulted with relevant stakeholders and how the outcomes have been integrated in the project design, implementation and monitoring. In case of a grouped stakeholder consultation, it shall be demonstrated that all three conditions are met and that the start date of the VPA is maximal 3 years after the date of grouped stakeholder consultation approval.	Yes/No

10.	Baseline and Monitoring Methodology	The VPA applies one of the following GS methodologies: - The VPA applies the following GS methodology: Microscale Methodology for Improved Cookstoves, version 1.0 or - Technologies and practices to displace decentralized thermal energy consumption (TPDDTEC), version 3.1.	The VPA-DD shall describe the applied methodology and justification how the applicability criteria of the selected methodology are being met at VPA-level. The defined Baseline and Project Scenarios shall be included in the VPA-DD.	Yes/No
11.	Conditions related to environmental impact analysis	The VPA has to fulfill host country requirements concerning environmental impact analysis.	The VPA-DD shall include the summary of the analysis and provide the references to all related documentations in case the environmental impact analysis is required by the host country.	Yes/No
12.	Conditions to provide an affirmation that funding from Annex I Parties, if any, does not result in a diversion of ODA	In case that any of the VPA receives ODA, it is ensured that there is no diversion of ODA, i.e. that no ODA is provided under the condition that all or part of the carbon credits have to be returned to the donor country/entity providing ODA.	The VPA has signed the ODA declaration confirming that there is no diversion of ODA.	Yes/No
13.	Credit ownership	The transfer of credit ownership all along the investment chain is clearly described and communicated to all project participants and proofed that end-users are aware of and willing to give up their rights on emission reductions. 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. The end-users will need to be informed and notified that they cannot claim for emission reductions from the project. This can be proofed for example with the waiver forms signed by end-users.	A clear description of the credit ownership all along the investment chain is made in the VPA-DD and relevant contracts or written assertions are provided. For example, each end-user will sign a contract (for example the selling contract of the efficient cookstove) confirming that they voluntarily enter the agreement in which they cannot claim emissions reductions from the project. Also, a description how the credit ownership was discussed during the stakeholder process needs to be made in the VPA-DD.	Yes/No
14.	Avoiding double counting	The VPA applies an identification system enabling unique identifying of each unit	The VPA-DD shall describe and confirm the avoiding of the double counting in two ways:	Yes/No

		(sold, installed or constructed) or its users so that the double counting of emission reductions can be avoided. The VPA will also show that it is exclusive to the PoA and not registered as a standalone project activity or as part of another PoA.	- The relevant online registries have been consulted to confirm that the proposed activity is neither registered as a standalone project activity or as a part of a PoA with GS or other carbon standard. - Each project stove or other project technology will be identified with a unique identification number or other way which enables the unique identification of the devices to be part of the specific VPA. This unique identification system shall be outlined in VPA-DD.	
15.	Conditions related to sampling requirements for the PoA	The VPA complies with the sampling plan as outlined in PoA-DD, section B.3 and VPA-DD, section B.6.1.	The VPA-DD outlines the sampling plan in section B.6.1 which is in line with the one stipulated in the PoA-DD.	Yes/No

B.3. Application of technologies/measures and methodologies

Combination of the technologies/measures and methodologies

The combinations of the technologies/measures and methodologies used in the PoA are listed in the below table B-3. The detailed description of each indicated technologies/measures is provided in the above section A.4.

Table B-3. The combinations of the technologies/measures and methodologies used in the PoA

	Technology/measure	Methodology
1.	Safe Water Supply and Treatment Technologies	Technologies and practices to displace decentralized thermal energy consumption (TPDDTEC), version 3.1. ¹¹
2.	Energy Efficient Cookstove Technologies	Microscale Methodology for Improved Cookstoves, version 1.0 ¹²
3.	Energy Efficient Cookstove Technologies	Technologies and practices to displace decentralized thermal energy consumption (TPDDTEC), version 3.1. ¹³

¹¹ Available at Gold Standard website: <https://www.goldstandard.org/project-developers/standard-documents> (Site visited 28/06/2019)

¹² Available at Gold Standard website: <https://docs.google.com/viewerng/viewer?url=http://46.101.18.39/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/401.13-ER-MS-CS.pdf&hl=en> (Site visited 28/06/2019)

¹³ Available at Gold Standard website: <https://www.goldstandard.org/project-developers/standard-documents> (Site visited 28/06/2019)

1) Safe Water Supply and Treatment Technologies - with TPDDTEC methodology

Justification regarding the Gold Standard TPDDTEC methodology, version 3.1 for safe water supply and treatment technologies in Madagascar, Mozambique, Ethiopia and Senegal:

Table B-4. Applicability of the TPDDTEC methodology for safe water supply and treatment technologies

Methodology applicability requirement	Justification regarding this PoA
This methodology is applicable to programs or activities introducing technologies and/or practices that reduce or displace greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the thermal energy consumption of households and non-domestic premises. The project technologies/practices must introduce 'zero emission technology' for safe water, instead of boiling water as a purification technique.	The VPAs under this PoA include 'zero emission' safe water supply and treatment technologies which will reduce GHG emissions by removing the need to boil water as a form of purification before consumption. The targeted end-users are households, SMEs, institutions and/or communities which would use non-renewable biomass or fossil fuels to boil water as a form of purification or are lacking the access to safe drinking water (suppressed demand) in the absence of this PoA.
The project activity is implemented by a project proponent and can include additional project participants. The individual households and institutions do not act as project participants.	The CME of the PoA is the project proponent of each of the VPAs included under it. The additional project participants may be included and will be described in the VPA-DD. The individual households and institutions will not act as project participants.
The project boundary needs to be 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). 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 boundary of the PoA is the national boundaries of all the host country states listed in section A.3 of this PoA-DD. All of the VPAs included in the PoA will be implemented within this geographical area. The specific project boundaries of each VPA will be clearly identified in each VPA-DD. Each VPA-DD will also outline the unique identification system applied by the VPA together with appropriate mitigation measures (for example unique ID numbers of the technologies and checking of the Gold Standard and CDM project registries) to avoid the double counting.
Technologies each have a continuous useful energy output of less than 150kW per unit (defines as total energy delivered usefully 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 safe water supply and treatment technologies included in this PoA will not deliver any thermal energy in the project scenario but only seek to displace the use of non-renewable biomass and/or fossil fuels used for boiling water in the baseline scenario and/or to provide the safe water for consumers without access to safe drinking water (suppressed demand). The useful energy output per single unit in the baseline scenario is less than 150kW. This will be demonstrated with the calculations included in each relevant VPA-DD.
The use of baseline technology as backup or auxiliary technology in parallel with the improved technology introduced by the project activity is permitted as long as a mechanism is put into place to encourage the removal of the old technology (e.g. discounted price for the improved technology) and the definitive discontinuity of its use. The project documentation must provide a clear description of the approach chosen and the monitoring plan must allow for a good understanding of the extent to which the baseline technology is still in use after the introduction of the improved technology. For example, whether the existing baseline technology is not surrendered at the time of the	Each VPA-DD will include the description of the mechanism, and its monitoring plan, put in place (e.g. educating local people on the extensive health and environmental benefits) to encourage the removal of the old technology. The success of this mechanism will be monitored and adjusted if proven unsuccessful. The ratio of end-user that are still boiling drinking water in the project scenario will be monitored and accounted for to calculate the fuel consumption and the corresponding project emissions.

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 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.	
The project proponent must clearly communicate to all project participants the entity that is claiming ownership rights of and selling the emission reductions resulting from the project activity. For technology producers and the retailers of the improved technology or the renewable fuel in the project situation, 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 should be informed and notified that they cannot claim for emission reductions from the project. For example, leaflets distributed with the products alerting the end-users to the waiving of their carbon rights in exchange for pricing or the improved technology, which discounts its true cost (waivers forms signed by end-users are another example).	Before the inclusion of any activity in to the PoA, a legally-binding contractual agreement between CME and the specific VPA implementer will be made. As part of this agreement, the ownership and selling rights of the emission reductions resulting from the project activity are clearly defined. Moreover, each VPA-DD includes a clear description of the transfer of credit ownership all along the investment chain and provides relevant contracts or written assertions for proofing this. For example, when applicable, each end-user or their representor sing a “Carbon Transfer Statement” confirming that they voluntarily enter the agreement in which they cannot claim emissions reductions from the project. For example, a Community Water Resource Committees can sign on behalf of the community in which the project borehole is situated.
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 rules¹⁴.	No new biomass feedstock will be used in the project situation and therefore this condition is not applicable.
The water in its improved form should be available within 1 km walking/pedaling distance from the households.	Each VPA-DD will include a description regarding the compliance with the 1 km distance criterion between safe water supply source and households. There is a two-year grace period (from date of VPA project design certification) for any household falling outside of this distance, however once this period is over these household would not be included in the emission reduction calculations.

MONITORING

In line with the methodology TPDDTEC, the monitoring activities will involve data collection during distribution, installation and construction as well as post-implementation usage information regarding the project safe water supply / treatment technologies.

Firstly, the project proponent must to keep records of the information collected in an electronic database. In case of water supply and treatment technologies this database (“Installation record” or “selling record”) may include the following information:

- Unique identification number of each project water supply/treatment system/unit

¹⁴ Gold Standard Toolkit, Annex C, and rule updates released prior to the time of first submission of the project activity to the Gold Standard.

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- Date of installation, distribution, or construction of each project water supply/ treatment system/unit
- Name, address and telephone number (when possible) of the end-user in case the project technologies are sold directly to end-users
- GPS location of the p water supply/treatment system/unit (when possible)
- Model of the water supply/treatment technology/technologies
- Total quantity of the water supply/treatment systems/units installed / distributed / constructed
- The total number of people obtaining their water from each water supply/treatment system/unit
- Mode of use: commercial/domestic/institutional

Secondly, after the project implementation start, the project proponent must conduct the following studies for each project scenario:

A. Project Non-Renewable Biomass (NRB) Assessment – at least at renewal of crediting period

In accordance with the TPDDTEC methodology, the NRB assessment will remain fixed for the entire crediting period, although the project proponent may choose to re-examine the assessment at any time following the guidelines of the applied TPDDTEC methodology. In case of a renewal of the crediting period and as per Gold Standard rules, the NRB fraction must be reassessed as any other baseline parameters and updated in line with most recent data available.

B. Project Survey (PS) of end-user characteristics – completed annually

The safe water project survey has the same requirements as the baseline survey (described under paragraph “B. Baseline Survey” of Section 2.4 of the applied TPDDTEC methodology) but is conducted with end-users representative of the project scenario target population and currently using the safe water project technology. Guidance on representativeness and sample sizing is the same.

In the guidance data collected, questions about end-user characteristics and baseline technology and fuels should be treated as specific to safe water supply and water treatment. These questions should be asked twice, first regarding to the baseline scenario water supply and water treatment, including boiling technologies, and second in regards to the project scenario clean water supply, including treatment and boiling technologies.

During the monitoring activities the Project Survey and the below described Usage Survey will be implemented together.

C. Baseline Water Boiling Test (BWBT) - completed at least once

The guidelines for BWBT are described in Section A.3.3. of the Annex 3 of the applied TPDDTEC methodology (under paragraph “C. Baseline Water Boiling Test”).

BWBT may be performed ex-ante or prior to the first verification. If the later monitoring surveys reveal that the same water boiling technologies are prevalent in the baseline and project scenarios, $W_{b,y}$ and $W_{p,y}$ are equal. The BWBT should be updated if monitoring surveys show that water boiling technologies changes over time. The BWBT should be conducted using the 90/30 rule for selection of samples, accounting for variability in the types of prevalent baseline technologies.

Under certain circumstances the baseline scenario may require updating, in which case new baseline water boiling test may be necessary.

D. Water Consumption Field Test (WCFT) - completed at least biennially

The project proponent may choose to use default values indicated in the Section A.3.2 of the applied TPDDTEC methodology and in this case the WCFT is not required to be completed.

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Alternatively, project proponent may choose to carry out the WCFT to determine the actual safe water consumption and boiling volumes (both of raw/unsafe water and safe water)¹⁵ for each project scenario. The WCFT is to be completed prior to first verification and then at least every two years after with randomly selected end-users representative of the project scenario target population and currently using the project technology.

Three different volumetric variables are measured:

Q_p	Quantity of safe water in litres consumed in the project scenario p and supplied by project technology per person per day
$Q_{p,rawboil,y}$	Quantity of raw or unsafe water boiled in the project scenario p per person per day
$Q_{p,cleanboil,y}$	Quantity of safe (treated, or from safe supply) water boiled in the project scenario p per person per day

Two valid options are allowed for the statistical analysis. In all cases, the sample size must be greater than 20:

- 90/10 rule. When the sample sizes are large enough to satisfy the “90/10 rule”, i.e. the endpoints of the 90% confidence interval lie within $\pm 30\%$ of the estimated mean, overall emission reductions can be calculated on the basis on the estimated mean of each of the respective variable mentioned above.
- 90% confidence rule. When the sample size is such that the “90/10 rule” is not complied with, the result used for the each of the respective variable mentioned above is not the mean (or average) test result, but a lower value, i.e. the lower bound of the one-sided 90% confidence interval (in order to reach a conservative estimate).

E. On-going Monitoring Studies: Usage rates, leakage, water quality

Water quality testing – completed every quarter

The quality of the treated water will be assessed to ensure that it is fit for human consumption. This must be tested every quarter, with the first test within 6 months of the stated project start date. In addition, project participants shall ensure that water quality is tested at least once during season where there is a high chance of contamination, for example the rainy season.

Local non-accredited laboratories can do the quarterly water quality testing. However, at least ones every two years, accredited laboratories must perform the water quality testing. If accredited laboratory results differ materially from non-accredited laboratory results, testing with the aberrant non-accredited laboratory must be discontinued. If local labs conduct the testing, the testing protocol should be provided to the DOE for validation. Also, in any case where the national laws on water quality testing are stringent, these national standards apply.

As a first option, project shall meet host country standard (where available) for treated water quality. Where national standard are not available, project shall meet WHO standard of less than 1 Colony Forming Unit (CFU) of E.Coli / 100 ml of safe water. The 90/10 precision rule must be followed in calculating the sample size required for testing water quality. For “point of use” technologies such as water filters, the quality testing shall be done for samples collected at source (water outlet). For boreholes and chlorine dispensers, testing shall be done for samples collected at source as per national/or the above mentioned criteria. Also, the monitoring of hygienic use of water at the end-user end shall further complement the testing process.

Usage Survey – completed at least annually

¹⁵ Water consumption is typically measured as volume per person per day. Other metrics can be applied as in applicable in a given scenario, such as volume per unit per day.

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The Usage Survey is completed annually, or more frequently, and all cases on time for any request of issuance. The usage survey provided a single usage parameter that is weighted based on drop off rates that are representative of age distribution for project technologies in the sales/distribution/construction record.

A usage parameter must be established to account for drop off rates as project technologies age are replaced. Prior to verification, a usage parameter is required that is weighted to be representative of the quantity of project technologies of each age being credited in a given project scenario. For example, if only technologies in the first year of use (age₀₋₁) are being credited, a usage parameter must be established through a usage survey for technologies age₀₋₁. If an equal number of technologies in the first year of use (age₀₋₁) and second year of use (age₁₋₂) are credited, a usage parameter is required that is weighted to be equally representative of drop off rates for technologies age₀₋₁ and age₁₋₂. To ensure conservativeness, the usage survey with technologies in the first year of use (age₀₋₁) must have technologies that have been in use on average longer than 0.5 years. For technologies in the second year of use (age₁₋₂), the usage survey must be conducted with technologies that have been in use on average at least 1.5 years, and so on.

The minimum total sample size is 100, with at least 30 samples for project technologies of each age being credited. The majority of interviews in a usage survey must be conducted in person. Thus, if technologies of age 1-5 are credited, the usage survey must include 30 representative samples from each age for total of 150 samples. The resulting usage parameter should be weighted based on the proportion of technologies in the total sales record of each age.

In line with the applied methodology, any sampling methods can be used, provided that the sample is selected randomly. If sampling approach other than simple random sampling is applied, 'Guidelines for sampling and survey for CDM project activities and program of activities'¹⁶ must be followed. In case an activity installs/sells household water treatment filtration technologies, the 'Guidelines for carrying out usage surveys for projects implementing household water filtration technologies'¹⁷ will be used.

Leakage Assessment – completed every other year

As the leakage risks related to the safe water supply and treatment technologies can be deemed very low, the leakage can be ignored and leakage is expected to be 0. However, to confirm that leakage can be deemed very low, the leakage assessment shall be completed every other year, starting on time for the first verification following the indications regarding the sources of leakage in line with the section 2.6 ("Leakage") of the applied TPDDTEC methodology.

F. Hygiene Survey – completed annually

Project Proponents need to carry out and provide evidences for hygiene campaigns. The following guidelines may be adopted for conducting these campaigns.

- Hygiene refers to access to sanitation amenities, equipment and infrastructure, as well as to the behaviour in respect to regular and correct use of such amenities. It also refers to behaviour that prevents infections from water-related diseases.
- The Project Proponent shall report the activities conducted each year in the annual monitoring report. Any major changes on the health status of the water users as a result of contaminated water (e.g. an outbreak of water related disease) must be reported and, if relevant, a strategy put in place to address it through the hygiene campaign.

¹⁶https://cdm.unfccc.int/sunsetcms/storage/contents/stored-file-20151023152925068/Meth_GC48_%28ver04.0%29.pdf (site visited 30/05/2017)

¹⁷<http://www.goldstandard.org/sites/default/files/documents/rule-update-guidelines-for-carrying-out-water-usage-surveys.pdf>

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- The detailed method used to assess hygienic handling of clean water must be provided within the VPA-DD presented for the validation.
- The details of the method should be adjusted to suit the circumstances of each project and also to suit learning year on year.

2) Energy Efficient Cookstove Technologies – with Microscale Methodology for Improved Cookstoves

Justification regarding the Gold Standard Microscale Methodology for Improved Cookstoves, version 1.0 for energy efficient cookstove technologies in Madagascar, Mozambique Ethiopia and Senegal:

Table B-5. Applicability of the Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves for energy efficient cookstove technologies

Methodology applicability requirement	Justification regarding this PoA
The methodology is applicable to micro-scale programmes and micro-scale activities that introduce new wood burning cookstoves to reduce the use of non-renewable firewood or switch from non-renewable to renewable firewood to meet thermal energy requirements for household cooking.	The PoA is a micro-scale programme. Each cookstove VPA implemented under the PoA using this methodology introduces new wood burning cookstoves to reduce the use of non-renewable firewood or switch from non-renewable to renewable firewood to meet thermal energy requirements for household cooking.
A project proponent implements the activity or Programme of Activities (PoA). The individual households and institutions do not act as project proponent.	The CME of the PoA is the project proponent of each of the VPAs included under it. The additional project participants may be included and will be described in the VPA-DD. The individual households and institutions will not act as project participants.
The baseline fuel is only firewood.	Each cookstove VPA implemented under the PoA using this methodology will have the baseline fuel only firewood. The demonstration of the baseline fuel will be described in each relevant VPA-DD.
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	Each cookstove VPA implemented under the PoA using this methodology will have the baseline with three stone fires or with conventional devices without a grate or a chimney. The demonstration of the baseline stove will be described in each relevant VPA-DD.
The project stove is a single pot or multi pot portable or in-situ cookstove with a specified efficiency of at least 20%.	Each cookstove VPA implemented under the PoA using this methodology will introduce project stoves with a specified efficiency of at least 20%. The project stoves may be a single pot or multi pot portable or in-situ cookstoves. The project stove characteristics and thermal efficiencies will be description in each relevant VPA-DD.
The project boundary can be clearly identified, and the cookstoves counted in the proposed project activity are not included in any other 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 boundary of the PoA is the national boundaries of all the host country states listed in section A.3 of this PoA-DD. All of the VPAs included in the PoA will be implemented within this geographical area. The specific project boundaries of each VPA will be clearly identified in each VPA-DD. Each VPA-DD will also outline the unique identification system applied by the VPA together with appropriate mitigation measures (for example unique ID numbers of the technologies and checking of the Gold Standard and CDM project registries) to avoid the double counting.
The project proponent must clearly communicate if the entity is claiming the ownership rights to sell the emission reductions resulting from the project activity. This must be communicated to the cookstove producers, retailers and end-users by contract or clear written assertions in the transaction paperwork.	Before the inclusion of any activity in to the PoA, a legally-binding contractual agreement between CME and the specific VPA implementer will be made. As part of this agreement, the ownership and selling rights of the emission reductions resulting from the project activity are clearly defined. Moreover, each VPA-DD includes a clear description of the transfer of credit ownership all along the investment chain and provides relevant contracts or written assertions for proofing this. For example, each

	stove end-user sign a “Carbon Transfer Statement” confirming that they voluntarily enter the agreement in which they cannot claim emissions reductions from the project and transfer the ownership and all the rights on carbon credits to the CME/project implementer. For example, each end-user of the efficient project cookstoves will sign this statement at the moment they buy the cookstove.
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 mechanism is put in place to encourage the removal of the old cookstove (e.g. discounted price for the improved cookstoves) and there is a definitive discontinuity of its use. The project documentation must provide a clear description of the approach chosen and the monitoring plan must provide 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 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-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 prove unsuccessful. If the baseline cookstove remains in use in parallel with the project cookstove, corresponding emissions must be accounted for as part of the project emissions, using the guidance give in Section III of the methodology.	Each VPA-DD will include the description of the mechanism, and its monitoring plan, put in place (e.g. educating local people on the extensive health and environmental benefits) to encourage the removal of the old technology. The success of this mechanism will be monitored and adjusted if proven unsuccessful. The ratio of end-user that are still cooking with baseline cookstoves in the project scenario will be monitored and accounted for to calculate the fuel consumption and the corresponding project emissions.

MONITORING

In line with the Gold Standard “Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves” a field survey will be conducted annually from a representative sample of project stoves in order to consider the variation of the monitored parameters. Below is described the principles of the monitoring procedures.

Sale/Distribution Record

The Sale Record will include the following data as required by the methodology:

- i. Date of sale/distribution and of installation
- ii. Geographic area of sale/distribution
- iii. Model/type of project cookstove(s) sold/distributed
- iv. Name and telephone number (if available), address.
 - a. Required for all bulk purchasers, i.e. retailers
 - b. All end users; The names and telephone numbers or names and addresses collected must be commensurate with representative sampling, i.e. the names and addresses or phone numbers (where possible) within sale/distribution records shall be large enough so that surveys can be based on representative, random selected sample.

The above information will be collected during the stove distribution and recorded in electronic format. In case the original documentation is in hard copy format, they will be stored for entire life cycle of the project and backed up electronically.

A. Project database

The project database is derived from the total sales record with project cookstoves differentiated by different project scenarios. The differentiation of the project database into sections is based on the results of the applicable monitoring studies for each project scenario, in order that emissions reduction calculations can be conducted appropriately section by section. Project database is maintained and updated by the project participant at VPA-level. The data will be backed up electronically, with original possible original hard copy documentation being stored for entire life cycle of the project.

B. Ongoing Monitoring Studies

The ongoing monitoring studies are conducted for each project scenario annually, at least beginning one year after the project registration and on time for any request of issuance. Survey format B in Annex A of the applied methodology may be applied for carrying out the studies.

- i. Monitoring consist of checking of a representative sample, once every year (annually) to ensure that project cookstoves are still operating by carrying out the usage survey as per the guidelines below.

Usage survey must be conducted to estimate the drop off rates as project cookstove may not be adopted or may be disposed of and potentially replaced again by a baseline stove. Moreover, through the usage survey it will be ensured that the possible households using in the baseline improved stoves or other fuels than firewood, will be excluded from the ER calculations.

Prior to the verification, a usage survey for each cookstove age-groups is required. For example, if only cookstoves in the first year of use (age₀₋₁) are being credited, a usage parameter must be established for age-group 0-1, through a usage survey for cookstove age₀₋₁. If cookstoves of age 0-1 and age 1-2 are being credited (as part of first request for issuance), usage parameters must be established for age-group 0-1 and 1-2, respectively through a usage survey. If cookstoves of age-group 0-1 and age-group 1-2 are being credited (as part of second request for issuance), usage parameter must be established for age group 1-2 only through a usage survey as the usage rate for cookstoves of age-group 0-1 can be applied from the previous issuance.

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To successfully conduct a usage survey, a minimum project cookstove sample size of each age-group should be in line with the following guidelines:

- Target population < 300: Minimum sample size 30
 - Target population 300 to 1,000: Minimum sample size 10% of group size
 - Target population > 1,000: Minimum sample size 100
- ii. Where replacements are made, monitoring shall ensure that the efficiency of the new cookstove is similar to the appliance being replaced.
 - iii. The project must monitor the use of baseline stove in the project activity during annual surveys.
 - iv. The project must monitor the physical conditions of the cookstoves during annual surveys.

3) Energy Efficient Cookstove Technologies - with TPDDTEC methodology

Justification regarding the Gold Standard TPDDTEC methodology, version 3.1 for energy efficient cookstove technologies in Madagascar, Mozambique, Ethiopia and Senegal:

Table B-6. Applicability of the TPDDTEC methodology for energy efficient cookstove technologies

Methodology applicability requirement	Justification regarding this PoA
This methodology is applicable to programs or activities introducing technologies and/or practices that reduce or displace greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the thermal energy consumption of households and non-domestic premises. The project technologies/practices must include introduction of improved biomass or fossil fuel cookstoves, ovens, dryers, space and water heaters (solar and otherwise), heat retention cookers or solar cookers.	The VPAs under this PoA include introduction of new, fuel efficient cookstoves to reduce the use of non-renewable biomass to meet thermal energy requirements for cooking. The targeted end-users are households, SMEs, institutions and/or communities.
A project proponent implements the activity or Programme of Activities (PoA). The individual households and institutions do not act as project proponent.	The CME of the PoA is the project proponent of each of the VPAs included under it. The additional project participants may be included and will be described in the VPA-DD. The individual households and institutions will not act as project participants.
The project boundary needs to be 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). 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 boundary of the PoA is the national boundaries of all the host country states listed in section A.3 of this PoA-DD. All of the VPAs included in the PoA will be implemented within this geographical area. The specific project boundaries of each VPA will be clearly identified in each VPA-DD. Each VPA-DD will also outline the unique identification system applied by the VPA together with appropriate mitigation measures (for example unique ID numbers of the technologies and checking of the Gold Standard and CDM project registries) to avoid the double counting.
Technologies each have a continuous useful energy output of less than 150kW per unit (defines as total energy delivered usefully 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	The safe water supply and treatment technologies included in this PoA will not deliver any thermal energy in the project scenario but only seek to displace the use of non-renewable biomass and/or fossil fuels used for boiling water in the baseline scenario and/or to provide the safe water for consumers without access to safe drinking water (suppressed demand).

technology.	The useful energy output per single unit in the baseline scenario is less than 150kW. This will be demonstrated with the calculations included in each relevant VPA-DD.
The use of baseline technology as backup or auxiliary technology in parallel with the improved technology introduced by the project activity is permitted as long as a mechanism is put into place to encourage the removal of the old technology (e.g. discounted price for the improved technology) and the definitive discontinuity of its use. The project documentation must provide a clear description of the approach chosen and the monitoring plan must allow for a good understanding of the extent to which the baseline technology is still in use after the introduction of the improved technology. For example, whether the existing baseline technology is not surrendered at the time of the introduction of the improved technology, or whether a new baseline technology is acquired and put to use by targeted end users during the project crediting period. 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.	Each VPA-DD will include the description of the mechanism, and its monitoring plan, put in place (e.g. educating local people on the extensive health and environmental benefits) to encourage the removal of the old technology. The success of this mechanism will be monitored and adjusted if proven unsuccessful. The ratio of end-user that are still boiling drinking water in the project scenario will be monitored and accounted for to calculate the fuel consumption and the corresponding project emissions.
The project proponent must clearly communicate to all project participants the entity that is claiming ownership rights of and selling the emission reductions resulting from the project activity. For technology producers and the retailers of the improved technology or the renewable fuel in the project situation, 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 should be informed and notified that they cannot claim for emission reductions from the project. For example, forms signed by end-users alerting the end-users regarding the transfer of their carbon rights in exchange for pricing or the improved technology, which discounts its true cost.	Before the inclusion of any activity in to the PoA, a legally-binding contractual agreement between CME and the specific VPA implementer will be made. As part of this agreement, the ownership and selling rights of the emission reductions resulting from the project activity are clearly defined. Moreover, each VPA-DD includes a clear description of the transfer of credit ownership all along the investment chain and provides relevant contracts or written assertions for proofing this. For example, when applicable, each end-user or local efficient project cooktove producer sign a “Carbon Transfer Statement” confirming that they voluntarily enter the agreement in which they cannot claim emissions reductions from the project.
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 rules¹⁸. 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	In case no new biomass feedstock will be used in the project situation and this condition is not applicable.

¹⁸ Gold Standard Toolkit, Annex C, and rule updates released prior to the time of first submission of the project activity to the Gold Standard.

supply biomass feedstock.	
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MONITORING

In line with the methodology TPDDTEC, the monitoring activities will involve data collection during distribution/installation as well as post-implementation usage information regarding the project cookstove technologies.

Firstly, the project proponent must to keep records of the information collected in an electronic database. In case of cookstove technologies this database (“Installation record” or “selling record”) may include the following information:

- Unique identification number of each project cookstove
- Date of installation/ distribution / sale of each project cookstove
- Name, address and telephone number (when possible) of the end-user in case the project technologies are installed / distributed / sold directly to end-users
- GPS location of the cookstoves (when possible)
- Model of the cookstove
- Total quantity of the cookstoves installed / distributed / sold
- Mode of use: commercial/domestic/institutional

Secondly, after the project implementation start, the project proponent must conduct the following studies for each project scenario:

A. Project Non-Renewable Biomass (NRB) Assessment – at least at renewal of crediting period

In accordance with the TPDDTEC methodology, the NRB assessment is to be made if biomass is one of the project fuel. The NRB will remain fixed for the entire crediting period, although the project proponent may choose to re-examine the assessment at any time following the guidelines of the applied TPDDTEC methodology. In case of a renewal of the crediting period and as per Gold Standard rules, the NRB fraction must be reassessed as any other baseline parameters and updated in line with most recent data available.

B. Project Survey (PS) of end-user characteristics – completed annually

The project survey has the same requirements as the baseline survey (described under paragraph “B. Baseline Survey” of Section 2.4 of the applied TPDDTEC methodology) but is conducted with end-users representative of the project scenario target population currently using the project technology. Guidance on representativeness and sample sizing is the same. Moreover, the guidelines of the “Rule Update: Requirements and Guidelines for carrying out usage surveys for projects implementing improved cooking devices (version 23/08/2017)” needs to be followed.

During the monitoring activities the Project Survey and the below described Usage Survey will be implemented together.

C. Project performance field test (PFT) - completed at least once

The performance field tests (PFT) measure real observed technology performance in the field. Consumption must be measured with a representative sample of end users under each defined baseline (in the absence of the project technology) and project scenario.

In case of cookstove activities the PFT refers to Kitchen Performance Test and the recommended detailed KPT guidance provided in Annex 4 (“Procedure for fuel consumption measurements for improved cookstove activities”) of the applied TPDDTEC methodology shall be followed. Moreover, the below described general guidance regarding the PFTs shall be respected.

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In general, a PFT is carried out both for baseline and project scenarios, either by testing a paired sample (baseline and project performance measured for same subjects) or by independent sampling (different subjects, and usually different sample sizes, for baseline and project scenarios).

PFT may be performed ex-ante or prior to the first verification. In such cases, the project documentation submitted for validation and registration review must provide a project estimation of expected project emissions, supported by appropriate and credible sources of information.

Alternatively, the ageing test shall be carried out in place of the biennial project PFTs to account for changes in the project scenario over time as project technologies age. Please refer to Annex-8 of the applied TPDDTEC methodology for further details for ageing test based approach.

Two valid options are allowed for the statistical analysis¹⁹. In all cases, the sample size must be greater than 20:

- 90/30 rule. When the sample sizes are large enough to satisfy the “90/30 rule”, i.e. the endpoints of the 90% confidence interval lie within +/- 30% of the estimated mean, overall emission reductions can be calculated on the basis of the estimated mean annual emission reductions per unit or mean fuel annual savings per unit.
- 90% confidence rule. When the sample size is such that the “9030 rule” is not complied with, the emission or fuel saving result is not the mean (or average) test result, but a lower value, i.e. the lower bound of the one-sided 90% confidence interval (in order to reach a conservative estimate).

D. On-going Monitoring Studies: Usage rates and leakage assessment

Monitoring Survey - completed at least annually

The monitoring survey investigates changes over time in a project scenario, and in a baseline scenario in case of industrial applications (or renewal of crediting period), by surveying end users with project technologies (and baseline technologies in case of industrial applications) on an annual basis. It provides critical information on year-to-year trends in end user characteristics such as technology use, fuel consumption and seasonal variations.

End users from a given project scenario are selected using representative sampling techniques to ensure an adequate representation of users with technologies of different ages. Common sampling approaches (such as clustered random sampling) are allowed and geographic distribution should be factored into selection criteria. End users can be surveyed at any time(s) throughout the year with care taken to collect information pertaining to seasonal variations in technology and fuel use patterns.

The monitoring survey has the same sample sizing and data collection guidelines as the baseline survey described in Section 2.4. of the applied TPDDTEC methodology. However, for non-industrial applications, the monitoring survey is only conducted with end users representative of the project scenario and currently using the project technology (except for the case of a renewal of the crediting period which requires a re-assessment of the baseline). Monitoring surveys can be conducted with usage survey participants that are currently using the project technology.

Usage Survey – completed at least annually

The Usage Survey is completed annually, or more frequently, and all cases on time for any request of issuance. The usage survey provided a single usage parameter that is weighted based on drop off rates that are representative of age distribution for project technologies in the sales/distribution/installation record.

¹⁹ These options are applicable for paired and independent sampling. For single samples the 90/10 rule or 90% confidence rule described in the page 62 of the applied TPDDTEC methodology shall be followed.

A usage parameter must be established to account for drop off rates as project technologies age and are replaced. Prior to verification, a usage parameter is required that is weighted to be representative of the quantity of project technologies of each age being credited in a given project scenario. For example, if only technologies in the first year of use (age₀₋₁) are being credited, a usage parameter must be established through a usage survey for technologies age₀₋₁. If an equal number of technologies in the first year of use (age₀₋₁) and second year of use (age₁₋₂) are credited, a usage parameter is required that is weighted to be equally representative of drop off rates for technologies age₀₋₁ and age₁₋₂. To ensure conservativeness, the usage survey with technologies in the first year of use (age₀₋₁) must have technologies that have been in use on average longer than 0.5 years. For technologies in the second year of use (age₁₋₂), the usage survey must be conducted with technologies that have been in use on average at least 1.5 years, and so on.

The minimum total sample size is 100, with at least 30 samples for project technologies of each age being credited. The majority of interviews in a usage survey must be conducted in person and include expert observation by the interviewer within the kitchen in question, while the remainder may be conducted via telephone by the same interviewers on condition that in-kitchen observational interviews are first concluded and analyzed such that typical circumstances are well understood by the telephone interviewers. Thus, if technologies of age 1-5 are credited, the usage survey must include 30 representative samples from each age for total of 150 samples. The resulting usage parameter should be weighted based on the proportion of technologies in the total sales record of each age.

In line with the applied TPDDTEC methodology, any sampling methods can be used, provided that the sample is selected randomly. If sampling approach other than simple random sampling is applied, 'Guidelines for sampling and survey for CDM project activities and program of activities'²⁰ must be followed.

PFT Update – completed at least every other year

The PFT update is an extension of the project PFT and provides a fuel consumption assessment representative of project technologies currently in use every two years. Hence the PPT update accounts for changes in the project scenario over time as project technologies age and new customers are added, also as new models and designs may be introduced. It is legitimate to apply an Age Test instead of a PFT, to project technologies which remain materially the same year after year.

BFT Update - completed at least every other year

The BFT update shall be completed every other year, or more frequently, except in cases where a fixed baseline is adopted. The BFT update requirements are the same as for the PFT update.

Leakage Assessment – completed every other year

The leakage assessment shall be completed every other year, starting on time for the first verification following the indications regarding the sources of leakage in line with the section 2.6 ("Leakage") of the applied TPDDTEC methodology.

SECTION C. Management system

Operational and management plan

²⁰https://cdm.unfccc.int/sunsetcms/storage/contents/stored-file-20151023152925068/Meth_GC48_%28ver04.0%29.pdf (site visited 30/05/2017)

a) Inclusion process of VPAs

Carbonsink, as the PoA coordinating and managing entity, will make a technical review of the VPA-DD and other possible project documents and verify that eligibility conditions, as described in section B.2 of this PoA-DD, are met before requesting from the Gold Standard the inclusion of a VPA under this PoA.

As part of the inclusion of a VPA under the PoA, a legally-binding contractual agreement will be signed by the VPA implementer and Carbonsink. Under the agreement, the roles and responsibilities of the CME (Carbonsink) and the VPA implementer at the VPA design, implementation and monitoring phases will be clearly spelled out.

b) Training and capacity development

Suitable training will be conducted by Carbonsink for VPA implementers to make them aware of the relevant Gold Standard rules and procedures and the requirements (for example regarding the technology distribution and data collection) arising from the PoA under which their VPA is included. Carbonsink will keep records of the training and capacity development arrangements provided for each VPA.

The VPA implementer may sub-contract third parties for monitoring or other project activities. Any such third parties will be trained by the VPA implementer who will be responsible for ensuring correct procedures according to the PoA are fulfilled, as will be required of the VPA implementer by its agreement with the CME.

c) A record keeping system for each technology or practice under the PoA,

The VPA implementer is responsible to keep records of all unique identification numbers (or other means of unique identification) in an electronic database. Each VPA implementer shall ensure that necessary data is obtained correctly from the customer/beneficiary during the distribution/implementation and recorded in electronic database (e.g. Excel file). The databases will ensure that the individual units sold, distributed or constructed by each VPA implementer as part of the PoA are identified and logged for monitoring and verification purposes. Moreover, they will enable cross-checking of the individual units eliminating thus any risk of double-counting within and between the VPAs.

The VPA implementer is responsible for ensuring that the data contained in the databases are provided in the correct format and is complete and accurate. Carbonsink foresees to make cross-checks on the data provided by the VPA implementer.

d) A system/procedure to avoid double accounting e.g. to avoid the case of including a new VPA that has been already registered either as a project activity with GS or any other standard or as a VPA of another PoA

Before any activity will be accepted to be included in the PoA, it will be confirmed (as described in the eligibility criteria of the inclusions) that the double counting is avoided in two ways:

- The relevant online carbon registries have been consulted to confirm that the proposed activity is neither registered as a standalone project activity or as a part of a PoA with GS or other carbon standard.
- Each project stove or other project technology will be identified with a unique identification number or other way which enables the unique identification of the devices to be part of the specific VPA. This unique identification system shall be outlined in VPA-DD.

e) The provisions to ensure that those operating the VPA are aware of and have agreed that their activity is being subscribed to the PoA

The CME (Carbonsink) will coordinate the activities to be undertaken by each VPA involved in the PoA. Before the inclusion of any activity in to the PoA, a legally-binding contractual agreement between

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Carbonsink and the specific VPA implementer will be made. As part of this agreement, VPA implementer will ascribe its activity to the PoA and therefore, it can be confirmed that those operating the VPAs are fully aware of and have agreed that their activity is being subscribed to the PoA. As part of the agreement, also the ownership of the carbon credits is clearly defined. In addition, any parties that the VPA implementer may contract will also be required to enter into a contractual agreement, similarly ascribing their activities to the micro-scale PoA.

Moreover, as part of the VPA inclusion to the PoA a check of the eligibility criteria described in Section B.2 of the PoA is made and it is confirmed that the transfer of credit ownership all along the investment chain is clearly described and communicated to all project participants and proofed that end-users are aware of and willing to give up their rights on emission reductions.

SECTION D. Duration of PoA

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

06/06/2016²¹

D.2. Duration of the PoA

The duration of the PoA is 20 years (06/06/2016-05/06/2036)²².

SECTION E. Safeguarding principles and SDG outcome assessment

E.1. Level at which safeguarding principles and SDG outcome assessment is undertaken

The safeguarding principles and SGD outcome assessment are undertaken at VPA level.

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

N/A

E.3. SDG outcomes assessment, if undertaken at PoA level

N/A

²¹ Here is indicated the starting date of the first VPA activity under this PoA. The first submission of PoA documents to GS was instead made on 04/08/2016 which is the date when the PoA design consultation report was submitted for the first time to GS for listing under the Gold Standard version 2.2.).

²² The duration of the PoA shall not exceed the longer of the Certification Period of the first VPA plus 5 years or 20 years in line with paragraph 3.1.1. of the Programme of Activity Requirements (Version 1).

SECTION F. Local stakeholder consultation

F.1. Level at which stakeholder consultation is undertaken

The stakeholder consultation will be carried out at VPA-level. A grouped stakeholder consultation may be organized for multiple VPAs if this can be justified.

F.2. Solicitation of comments from stakeholders, if undertaken at PoA level

Not applicable (Stakeholder consultation conducted at VPA level).

F.3. Summary of comments received, if stakeholder consultation undertaken at PoA level

Not applicable (Stakeholder consultation conducted at VPA level).

F.4. Report on consideration of comments received, if stakeholder consultation undertaken at PoA level

Not applicable (Stakeholder consultation conducted at VPA level).

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	Carbonsink Group S.r.l. (Carbonsink)
Street/P.O. Box	Piazza Beverini
Building	4
City	La Spezia
State/Region	La Spezia
Postcode	19121
Country	Italy
Telephone	+39 055 4574675
Fax	N/A
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Website	www.carbonsink.it
Contact person	Ulla Mauno
Title	
Salutation	Ms.
Last name	Mauno
Middle name	

Other PoA Participants

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	Fondazione AVSI (AVSI)
Street/P.O. Box	Via Legnone
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Postcode	20158
Country	Italy
Telephone	+39 02 6749881
Fax	
E-mail	info@avsi.org
Website	www.avsi.org
Contact person	Giorgio Capitanio
Title	
Salutation	Mr.
Last name	Capitanio
Middle name	

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	Cooperazione Internazionale Fondazione (COOPI)
Street/P.O. Box	Via Francesco De Lemene
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State/Region	
Postcode	20151
Country	Italy
Telephone	+39 02 3085057
Fax	
E-mail	coopi@coopi.org
Website	www.coopi.org
Contact person	Claudio Ceravolo
Title	
Salutation	Mr.
Last name	Ceravolo
Middle name	

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	ZOE non-profit organization
Street/P.O. Box	Via Dolomiti
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City	Roma
State/Region	
Postcode	00139
Country	Italy
Telephone	+39 0696844751
Fax	
E-mail	assozoeonlus@gmail.com
Website	www.zoeonlus.it
Contact person	Paolo Bucciari
Title	
Salutation	Mr.
Last name	Bucciari
Middle name	

Other responsible person/ entity for application of the selected methodology(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	mkaarbon safari GmbH
Street/P.O. Box	Mozartstrasse

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
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Contact person	Johann Thaler
Title	
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Last name	Thaler
Middle name	