

TEMPLATE

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

PUBLICATION DATE **14.04.2023**

VERSION **2.2**

RELATED SUPPORT

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 - [TEMPLATE GUIDE Key Project Information & PoA Design Document v.2.2.1](#)
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Key Project Information

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entity(ies)

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KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

GS ID of Programme	GS23147
Title of Programme:	Equatoria Clean Cooking Programme in Northern Uganda
Type of PoA	☒ Non – Forestry and/or Non -AGR PoA ☐ Forestry and/or AGR PoA
VPAs scale included in the PoA <i>Note that same PoA can included VPAs of different scales. Please select all applicable.</i>	☐ Microscale ☐ Small scale ☒ Large scale
Start Date of POA	01/02/2026
Date of Design Certification	N/A
Start date of crediting cycle of PoA	02/02/2026
Version number of the PoA-DD	1.1
Completion date of the PoA-DD	11/11/2025
Coordinating/managing entity	Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC)
Project Participants and any communities involved	Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC)
Host Country (ies)	The Republic of Uganda.
Activity Requirements applied	☒ Community Services Activities ☐ Renewable Energy Activities ☐ Land Use and Forestry Activities/Risks & Capacities

	☐ N/A
Other Requirements applied	Not applicable
Methodology (ies) applied and version number	Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption' (TPDDTEC), version 04.0
Product Requirements applied	☒ GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration ☐ Renewable Energy Label ☐ N/A

REAL CASE VPAS (ALL REAL CASE VPAS INCLUDED IN THE POA)

GS ID	Title
	GS23147 VPA1: Improved cooking solutions for West Nile households in Uganda
GS23148	GS23148 VPA1: Improved cooking solutions for West Nile households in Uganda

SECTION A. General description of PoA

A.1. Purpose and general description of the PoA

1. General operating and implementing framework of PoA

In Uganda, the heavy dependence on firewood has led to widespread deforestation, resulting in depletion of natural resources and contributing to climate change (Nuwagira et al., 2022)¹. As the country continues to urbanize and its population grows, these challenges are becoming more pronounced, calling for transition toward clean energy solutions for cooking². In Uganda household cooking is primarily carried out using three-stone fires or inefficient traditional cookstove³. These technologies exhibit high specific fuel consumption, predominantly relying on non-renewable firewood and charcoal, thereby exacerbating biomass resource depletion⁴. The use of these inefficient cookstoves is mostly concentrated in urban informal settlement and rural villages⁵. The high biomass consumption has negative impacts on the environment leading to deforestation and land degradation, Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) emissions, loss of soil fertility and soils' reduced ability of water retention. Further, indoor air pollution through health-damaging pollutants while combusting firewood and charcoal results in diseases such as pneumonia, stroke, ischemic heart diseases, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases and lung cancer.

¹ Nuwagira, U., Yasin, I., & Ikiriza, H. (2022). *Review of deforestation in Ugandan tropical rainforest reserves: A threat to natural medicine*. *East African Journal of Environment and Natural Resources*, 5 (1), 204-217.

<https://journals.eanso.org/index.php/eajenr/article/download/742/958>

² <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/sustainability/articles/10.3389/frsus.2025.1567398/pdf>

³ Uganda Bureau of Statistics. (2024). *National population and housing census 2024: Final report (Vol. I: Main)* (p. 141). Uganda Bureau of Statistics. <https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/National-Population-and-Housing-Census-2024-Final-Report-Volume-1-Main.pdf>

⁴ <https://www.netjournals.org/pdf/NJSS/2023/2/22-025.pdf>

<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/164241468178757464/pdf/98664-REVISED-WP-P146621-PUBLIC-Box393185B.pdf>

⁵ <https://doi.org/10.1108/TECHS-06-2023-0024>

The goal of the Programme of Activities (PoA) 'Equatoria Clean Cooking Programme in Northern Uganda' is to deploy efficient improved cookstoves (ICS) reducing woody biomass consumption for households, institutions and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) across Northern Uganda.

The PoA is developed by Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC), a Uganda-based enterprise committed to transforming traditional cooking practices through the promotion of clean and efficient cookstove technologies. With nearly two decades of experience in forestry and large-scale community-based project implementation, ECC focuses on replacing harmful three-stone fires and other inefficient cooking methods with high-performance, environmentally friendly alternatives. Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC) will collaborate with various local partners to implement the project activities (VPAs) within the programme's boundary.

ECC is the implementer of the POA and has partnered with Ecoa Climate Capital, subsidiary of BURN Manufacturing USA LLC, the biggest manufacturer of efficient improved cookstoves in Sub-Saharan Africa, producing all its stoves in the first and only modern cookstove manufacturing facility in Kenya.

2. Policy/measure or stated goal of the PoA

The PoA aims to distribute efficient improved cookstoves to households, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and institutions (e.g. schools, prisons, hospitals, restaurants etc.) that in the baseline scenario, rely on inefficient three-stone fires or traditional cookstoves using non-renewable biomass.

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions achieved through saving of non-renewable biomass will result in carbon credits following GS certification rules and procedures.

The revenues from the sale of carbon credits are needed to:

- a) Distribute improved cookstoves to a subsidized price affordable for end-users. This sales approach ensures that project stoves are purchased primarily by low-income families at a subsidised cost;
- b) scale up and expand the programme, thus reaching a wider range of end-users and generating more jobs;
- c) provide a reliable after-sales service. A dedicated team is available to handle end-user inquiries and concerns through call support, monitoring visits, and other channels, ensuring timely resolution.
- d) sensitize and raise awareness amongst end-users about climate change and global warming; the impacts of unsustainable biomass consumption and related health hazards; and the benefits and how to use the improved cookstoves. Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC) provides end-user training on the use of ECOA Wood stove or similar cookstove technologies the stoves through organized demonstrations and in some cases, home follow-up visits. The purpose is to ensure sensitization of end users towards correct and sustained use of the project stoves through organized demonstrations and in some cases, home follow-up visits.

Besides reducing GHG emission in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) number 13 'Climate Action'⁶, this programme will also seek to increase other long-term sustainability benefits for the local families, SMEs and institutions as well as the local environment. Project activities under the PoA are expected to contribute to different Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the following way:

- Reduction in end-user expenses related to the purchase of fuel for cooking (in line with SDG 1 'No Poverty').

⁶ <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

- Time savings both for fuel procurement and cooking, thus more time is available⁷ for other tasks like income-generating activities, food production or child care (in line with SDGs 1 'No Poverty', and 5 'Gender Equality').
- Less harmful carbon monoxide and particulate matter during combustion in households/SMEs/institutions will reduce indoor air pollution and thereby decrease of respiratory diseases, headache and itchy eyes, particularly for women and children who spend lot of their time in cooking activities (in line with SDG 3 'Good health and well-being' and 5 'Gender Equality').
- Improved cookstoves cook faster than traditional stoves and use less fuel, enabling children, particularly girls to dedicate more time to other activities such as education/school instead of for cooking (in line with SDG 4 'Quality Education')
- Increased penetration of clean and reliable cooking technologies (in line with SDG 7 'Affordable and Clean Energy') and raising awareness of the related safety, economic, and environmental benefits (in line with SDG 4 'Quality Education').
- Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC) has partnered Ecoa Climate Capital, subsidiary of BURN Manufacturing USA LLC to produce high-efficiency cookstoves, thus generating hundreds of jobs on the African continent. Other jobs will be created directly by Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC) for sales, marketing, distribution, and monitoring staff. Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC) ensures proper stove use through initial training, home visits, and post-purchase follow-ups, where field officers are trained to reinforce correct and sustained usage practices. Additionally, continuous training of field teams enhances their capacity to conduct usage monitoring, ensuring long-term knowledge retention and effective end-user engagement. Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC) may distribute more cookstoves depending on the demand (in line with SDGs 1 'No Poverty' and 8 'Decent Work and Economic Growth').

⁷ In particularly women benefit of more time for other tasks. Since it is most of the times women who are responsible for fuel procurement and cooking activities.

- Reduced deforestation and forest degradation in the areas where non-renewable biomass is used as a source of fuel. This will contribute to the overall stability of forest ecosystems which support biodiversity, watersheds and soil conditions (in line with SDG 15 'Life on Land').

Please note that not all of the aforementioned SDG indicators may be monitored.

3. Confirmation that the proposed PoA is a voluntary action by the coordinating/managing entity

The PoA is a purely voluntary activity by Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC), a private entity. ECC is under no obligational requirement to implement such programs. There are no laws/policies mandating the adoption and/or dissemination of the improved cookstoves within the PoA boundary. Therefore, the proposed PoA is a voluntary action by the CME.

A.2. Physical/ Geographical boundary of the PoA

The proposed Programme of Activity "Equatoria Clean Cooking Programme in Northern Uganda" is being developed with the objective of replacing inefficient stoves through the dissemination of efficient improved cookstoves to rural users (households) in Northern Uganda Region. This will be achieved through the distribution and installation of efficient cooking devices including ECOA Wood.

During the first VPA, Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC) will distribute improved cookstoves to households in 7 districts in the West Nile Region: Moyo, Obongi, Yumbe, Koboko, Arua, Madi-Okollo and Nebbi. The other districts will be included later in the other VPAs. Three local stakeholder consultation meetings have been conducted, in Nebbi, Arua and Yumbe towns. Below is the map of Northern Uganda with Coordinates:with Coordinates:

GPS Coordinates for Nothern Uganda: 3.05° N 33.2167° E⁸

District	Latitude (°N)	Longitude (°E)
Moyo ⁹	3.65499	31.72001
Obongi ¹⁰	3.24182	31.55193
Yumbe ¹¹	3.46506	31.24689
Koboko ¹²	3.4136	30.9599
Arua ¹³	3.03528	30.91083
Madi-Okollo ¹⁴	2.65417	31.14556
Nebbi ¹⁵	2.47917	31

⁸ Pader, Northern Region – Uganda. (n.d.). *Geodatos*. <https://www.geodatos.net/en/cities/pader?country=uganda>

⁹ <https://www.geodatos.net/en/coordinates/uganda/moyo?utm>

¹⁰ https://www.worldcitydb.com/obongi_99147134_city?utm

¹¹ <https://www.geodatos.net/en/coordinates/uganda/yumbe?utm>

¹² <https://www.geodatos.net/en/coordinates/uganda/koboko?utm>

¹³ <https://www.geodatos.net/en/coordinates/uganda/arua?utm>

¹⁴ <https://latitude.to/articles-by-country/ug/uganda/366936/okollo?utm>

¹⁵ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nebbi?utm>

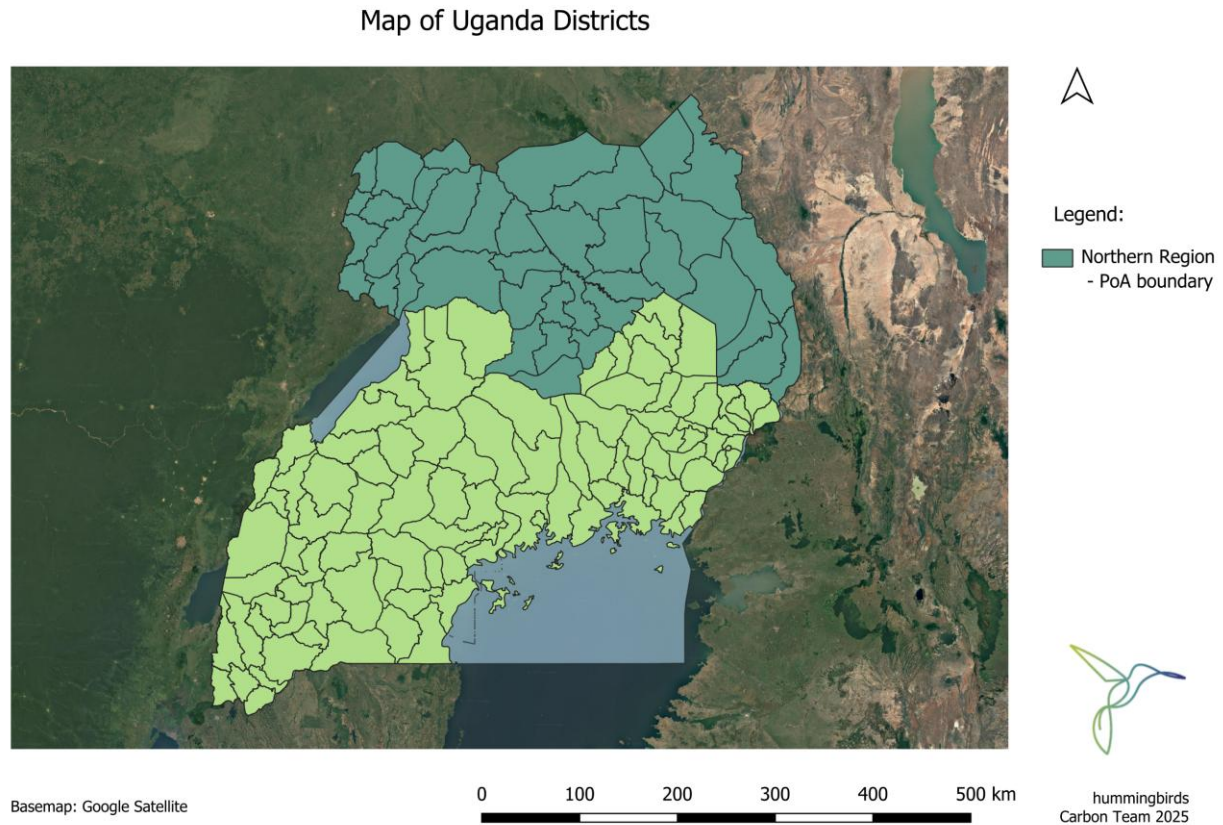


Figure 1: Map of Northern Uganda

A.3. Technologies/measures

Project activities under the programme consist of community service activities under the category of end-use energy efficiency projects. Hence the approved GS Community Services Activity Requirements are applicable. 'End-use energy efficiency' project activities are one of the pre-defined, eligible project types described in section 3.1.1 (b) of the GS Community Services Activity Requirements (version 1.2). Besides, the approved Impact Quantification Methodology (TPDDTEC Methodology) and appropriate version will be applied for all of the VPAs.

As per section 4.1.3 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements (version 2.1), the project types under this PoA are thus automatically eligible for GS certification. The detailed description on how each of the VPA meets the relevant eligibility criteria will be confirmed and described in detail in each VPA-DD by demonstrating that the eligibility criteria for inclusion of a VPA in the PoA, as described in the Section B.3 of this PoA-DD, are fulfilled.

Each of the VPAs implemented under this PoA meets the eligibility criteria as per section 3.1.1 of GS4GG Principles & Requirements (version 2.1) as per the following:

Type of Project: Projects under the programme will deploy improved cookstoves reducing fuel consumption for households, institutions and SMEs across the districts of the Uganda indicated in section A.2. The projects will always include physical action/implementation on the ground. Since projects under the programme fall under the approved 'Community Services Activity Requirements', they are automatically eligible for GS certification (see Principles & Requirements, 4 (a) 4.1.3.).

Location of Project: Projects under the programme will be located in the Northern Uganda Region as indicated in section A.2.

Project Area, Project Boundary and Scale: Projects under the programme will be located in Northern Uganda Region as indicated in section A.2. The projects will be certified as GS projects and will not be included in any other voluntary or compliance standards programme. There will not be any double counting of impacts at design and performance certification. The programme will apply the Gold Standard methodology 'Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption' (TPDDTEC) ver. 4.0, and there will be no aggregated micro-scale or small-scale threshold.

Host Country Requirements: Projects will be in compliance with applicable legal, environmental, ecological and social regulations in Uganda.

Contact Details: Details of the project developer organization including legal registration details have been provided at the time of opening the GS account.

Legal ownership: It will be demonstrated for each VPA that ownership of any products that are generated under GS certification (e.g. carbon credits) will be transferred from project beneficiaries (users of improved cookstoves) to the project developer/CME.

Other rights: This is expected not to be applicable to the programme and its project activities. If, however, for some reason it becomes applicable, the project developer will demonstrate uncontested legal rights and/or permissions concerning changes in use of other resources required to service the project.

Official Development Assistance (ODA) declaration: The project developer will ensure to submit the ODA declaration for each project activity at the time of Design Certification.

Eligibility Principles and Requirements: Projects under this programme will ensure to contribute to the Vision and Mission of the Gold standard and follow the Eligibility Principles and Requirements as outlined in section 4 of the 'Principles & Requirements' and in the 'Community Services Activity Requirements'.

The project activities under this PoA distribute efficient improved cookstoves to households, institutions and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). The use of efficient improved cookstoves allows households/institutions/SMEs to cook the same amount of food using less non-renewable biomass resulting in GHG emission reductions. Carbon credits are claimed for savings of non-renewable biomass through the use of efficient improved cookstoves.



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

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS TARGETED	MOST RELEVANT SDG TARGET	SDG IMPACT INDICATOR (SELECTED IN SDG TOOL)
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13 Climate Action (mandatory)	Target 13.2.1	GHG emission reductions
1 End poverty in all its forms everywhere	Target 1.4.1	Monetary savings related to the purchase of firewood
3 Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	Target 3.9.1	<u>Prevalence of smoke-related lung symptoms.</u>
7 Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	Target 7.1.2	Number of sold/distributed ICS in use
8 Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	Target 8.5.1	Total number of jobs created (employees' count and FTE)
4 Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	Target 4.4.1	Number of people receiving skill development training

5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	Target 5.4.1	<u>Daily</u> average time saving associated with fuel collection for cooking in the project scenario <u>Daily</u> average time saving associated with cooking in the project scenario.
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss	Target 15.1.1	Total non-renewable biomass saved

A.5. Coordinating/managing entity

The Coordinating and Managing Entity (CME) of the PoA and at the same time project participant is 'Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC)', based in Kampala, Uganda. ECC is the entity which communicates with the Gold Standard Secretariat. The contact details of ECC are provided in Appendix 1.

A.6. Funding sources of PoA

The PoA is funded by private sources of the CME and its partners. No public funding has been used for the PoA development.

SECTION B. MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND INCLUSION CRITERIA

B.1. Management System

The CME uses a management system to ensure all VPA Implementers under the PoA implement, operate, and monitor their respective VPAs in an effective and verifiable manner. The management system covers the following aspects of the VPAs under the PoA:

- a) A clear definition of roles and responsibilities of personnel involved in the process of inclusion of VPAs, including a review of their competencies.
- b) Records of arrangement for training and capacity development for personnel.
- c) Procedures for technical review of inclusion of VPAs.
- d) Procedures to avoid double counting (e.g. to avoid the case of including a new VPA that has already been registered either as a GS project activity or as a VPA of another PoA).
- e) Records and documentation control processes for each VPA under the PoA including tracking stove identification numbers to ensure accurate monitoring and accountability.

Measures for continuous improvement of the PoA management system are implemented to enhance efficiency and data reliability for continuous improvements of the PoA management system.

The Management System is described below.

- a) A clear definition of roles and responsibilities of personnel involved in the process of inclusion of VPAs, including a review of their competencies**

The CME will ensure that all parties involved in the operation of the VPA (manufacturers, distributors, VPA Implementers, and end-users) are aware of and have agreed that their activity is being subscribed to the PoA. Awareness and agreement will be secured through informational material, community trainings, social media, and in contractual agreements. The CME will supply all contractual agreements and issue the Approval Letter for a VPA to be included and ensure that it meets all eligibility criteria of the PoA. The CME is intimately familiar with the eligibility criteria of the PoA and the latest guidelines and standards of the Gold Standard.

The CME's technical team reviews the description of the technology to be employed under the VPA. If the description is adequate, the technical team will recommend the VPA for inclusion to the CME's Executives.

The CME's team will review the monitoring plan of the VPA. If adequate, the team will recommend the VPA for inclusion to the CME's Executives. Each VPA implementer will collect and report, in addition to the requirements above, all required data to effectively monitor the emission reductions of each VPA in accordance with the monitoring plan detailed in the VPA-DD. The sales/distribution information is automatically recorded into the electronic database management system operated by the CME and reviewed by its technical team.

During monitoring of a VPA, the CME's will report the full-time equivalent appliances operating during the monitoring period to the VPA Implementer as drawn from the sales/distribution records in the electronic database management system.

For parameters to be sampled or surveys, the CME's will provide the VPA Implementer with the Unique Identification Numbers (UINs) of the appliances to be surveyed or sampled along with the survey guidelines if applicable. The VPA Implementer is required to adhere to the directions of the CME to ensure effective and accurate monitoring of each VPA.

Each VPA Implementer verifies that they have read, understood, and agree to comply with the requirements and guidelines of the CME managements system prior to inclusion of each VPA into the PoA.

b) Records of arrangement for training and capacity development for personnel

Upon inclusion of a VPA implemented by a VPA Implementer who has not already implemented a VPA under the PoA and whose entity is not supported by ECC in the implementation of the VPA, there will be a formal training conducted by the CME for the VPA Implementer. The training will be documented in the form of a training report and cover the main aspects of the implementation of VPAs under the PoA, including but not limited to the following:

- CME Management System
- Technological Requirements
- Sampling Plan
- Monitoring Methodology

A letter from the VPA Implementer confirming they have been trained and are capable of implementing the VPA will show completion of the training.

c) Procedures for technical review of inclusion of VPAs

The CME will check the compliance with each of the eligibility criteria to ensure that the VPA Implementer has met all those criteria required for inclusion under the PoA.

The CME will review the VPA Design Document and all appendixes to ensure the criteria for inclusion are met before requesting inclusion of the VPA. The CME will show that to the best of its knowledge that all criteria for inclusion have been met by issuing the VPA Implementer with a CME Approval letter.

d) Procedures to avoid double counting (e.g. to avoid the case of including a new VPA that has already been registered either as a CDM project activity or as a VPA of another PoA)

The ICS under each VPA of the PoA will avoid double accounting of emissions reductions through the Unique Identification Number (UIN). Each device under the PoA is

unquestionably assigned to a single PoA (in the instance there are other PoAs under the same methodology) and a single VPA under that PoA. The UIN will be clearly visible on the ICS throughout the life of the product as well as stored in the electronic data management system. If there is any doubt regarding the UIN of a product, it will be excluded from the PoA.

The CME will check each UIN against the electronic database to ensure that no product with an identical UIN is listed under another VPA. If it is found that a product with an identical UIN is listed under another VPA, the emission reductions for the product will not be claimed and the product will be removed from the database to ensure emissions are not double counted in future monitoring. After any double counted products have been removed from the database, the random sample for sampling specific parameters will be drawn and sent to the VPA Implementer. The sampling frame consists of those ICS for which end-user data is available. The sampling frame consists of those ICS for which end-user data is available.

e) Records and documentation control process for each VPA under the PoA

The CME will operate and manage an electronic data management system that will store information on and track all efficient cooking technologies under the PoA. The system will contain the following information for device:

- Unique Identification number (UIN) of the ICS
- Model type of the ICS
- Date of shipment
- Name of distributor (if any)
- Date of distribution
- Warranty period
- Contact detail of end-user with GPS coordinates
- Track record of visits

Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC) will implement a 6-digit number format for the initial phase of stove distribution under the first VPA. This format may change for subsequent VPAs. .

The 6-digit format is explained as follows:

Machine Identifier	SKU Identifier	SN	SN	SN	SN
A	2	Y	Y	S	2

Each section on the UIN will identify the product as follows:

- The first character is based on the laser machine.
- The next unique identifier is based on the SKU (unique alphanumeric code assigned to a product) allowing us to identify a product with the Identification Number.
- The last four characters is a sequential alphanumeric sequence.
- These characters follow a particular sequence, guaranteeing the absence of repetition.

Examples for 6-digit UIN pattern:

A	B	C	D
			
A22224	B22224	C22224	D22224
A22225	B22225	C22225	D22225
A22226	B22226	C22226	D22226
A22227	B22227	C22227	D22227
A22228	B22228	C22228	D22228
A22229	B22229	C22229	D22229
A2222A	B2222A	C2222A	D2222A
A2222B	B2222B	C2222B	D2222B

Example for UIN: A22224

- "A" stands for identification of laser machine

- The first “2” stands for the identification of SKU.
- “2224”, the sequential numbers.

The data for the system will be updated and modified as required to allow for optimal performance of each VPA implementation and monitoring. All data will be stored for at least two (2) years after the expiry of the crediting period.

B.2. Application of methodologies

The applied methodology is the GS methodology ‘Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption’ (TPDDTEC), version 04.0¹⁶.

This is the latest version of the methodology at the time when writing this PoA-DD.

The GS cookstove usage rate guidelines¹⁷ will be followed.

B.2.1. Multiple technologies/measures

Not applicable. Since the PoA-DD does not apply any other technologies apart from efficient improved cookstoves.

B.3. Eligibility criteria for inclusion of a VPA in the PoA

ELIGIBILITY CRITERION	DESCRIPTION/ REQUIRED CONDITION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION/SUPPORTI NG EVIDENCE FOR INCLUSION

¹⁶ https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/standards/407_V4.0_EE_ICS_Reduced-Emissions-from-Cooking-and-Heating-TPDDTEC.pdf

¹⁷ <https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/407q-ee-ics-tpddtec-usage-guidelines/>

1	Geographical Boundary	ICS distributed ¹⁸ under any of the VPAs will be located in the area mentioned under section A.3 of the PoA-DD.	The VPA-DD will clearly describe the area where the VPA is being implemented.
2	Double-counting of project activity	All VPAs will be checked to prevent double counting and are not registered as a separate GS project activity, nor included as part of another registered GS (or other carbon standard) PoA nor that the project activity has been deregistered.	This condition will be checked through carbon standard registries (UNFCCC, GS and VERRA websites). Further, it will be confirmed by a letter signed by the VPA implementer.
3	Technology	Each VPA will implement improved biomass cook stoves.	Technology specification (manufacturer specifications)
4	Conditions to check the start date of the VPA through documentary evidence	The start date of a project activity is the date on which the first ICS has been distributed/delivered under the VPA. The start date of retroactive VPAs (with a start date prior to date of first submission of PoA) can be at the earliest 1 year prior to submission	The start date of each VPA will be defined in the VPA DD. The start date of the VPA will be checked by sales agreement, electronic sales record, proof of shipping or any equivalent for the first ICS distributed under the VPA.
5	Methodology	Each VPA will comply with the applicability criteria of the	The VPA-DD shall describe and justify how

¹⁸ 'Distributed' may include the free distribution of ICS, sale to full cost or subsidized cost.

		applied methodology (TPDDTEC, version 04.0)	the applicability criteria of TPDDTEC are being met at VPA level.
6	Financial Additionality & Ongoing Financial Needs	Projects (VPAs) to be included under the PoA will be in compliance with item 1.1.3 of Annex B – positive list mentioned in the 'Community Services Activity Requirements' or located in LDC, SIDS, LLDC. A VPA will be solely composed of isolated units (efficient cookstoves) where the users of the technology/measure are household/SMEs/institutions and where each unit results in ≤ 600 MWh of energy savings per year. Hence, according to paragraph 4.1.9 of the 'Community Services Activity Requirements', a VPA, regardless of the host country in which the project activity is being implemented, is deemed additional and therefore is not required to prove financial additionality at the time of Design Certification; OR a VPA is located in an LDC, SIDS, LLDC.	Demonstration that the energy savings per year at a unit level (i.e. per ICS) are ≤ 600 MWh; OR that the VPA is located in an LDC, SIDS, LLDC.
7	Stakeholder inclusivity	Local stakeholder consultation is done at VPA level, as described in section F of the PoA-DD. Local stakeholder consultation report must be	Local stakeholder consultation report for the VPA or a group of VPAs.

		provided along with VPA-DD. A single Stakeholder consultation can be conducted for a group of VPAs as long as convincing justification is provided.	
8	Conditions related to environmental Impact Analysis	The VPA has to fulfil Uganda's requirements (if any) concerning environmental impact analysis.	The VPA-DD shall include the summary of the analysis and provide the references to documentation in case the EIA is required by the host country.
9	CME approval	Each VPA has a project implementer that is either the Coordinating/Managing Entity or another entity that has signed a contractual agreement with the CME. Those agreements include all rights and responsibilities of both parties, e.g. approval procedures by the CME, monitoring requirements, carbon credit rights transfer. This eligibility criterion is not relevant if the CME is the VPA implementer.	Signed letter by the CME demonstrating the approval of the VPA inclusion.
10	Transfer of carbon credit ownership	The transfer of carbon credit ownership all along the investment chain is clearly described and communicated to all project participants and end-users so that they are aware of giving up their rights on emission reductions. For technology producers and the	Description of the transfer of carbon credit ownership from end-users to entity to whom the rights are assigned to. Contractual agreements between technology producers, retailers/ distributors, VPA

		retailers of the improved technology, 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.	implementers and end-users. implementers and end-users.
11	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.	VPA implementer signs an ODA declaration confirming that there is no diversion of ODA.
12	Target Group and distribution mechanism	The VPA serves households, institutions or SMEs either in urban, peri-urban and/or rural areas, and distributes the cook stoves through adequate distribution channels.	The target group of the project activity and the distribution mechanism shall be described in the VPA-DD.
13	Conditions related to sampling requirements	The VPA complies with the sampling plan as outlined in the VPA-DD, section B.7.2	The VPA-DD outlines the sampling plan in section B.7.2 which is in line with GS sampling requirements. The VPA makes either part of a single sampling covering a group of VPAs or sampling is conducted separately at VPA level. In case of a grouped sampling approach, the

		CDM Project Standard for PoAs will be followed.
14	Double counting of emission reductions	Each VPA will implement a unique identification system for every efficient cooking unit distributed to avoid double counting of emission reductions. Description of the unique identification system and adherence to the CME Management System. Any multiple use of the same Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC) ICS will be conservatively excluded by each VPA.
15	Crediting Period	The duration of the crediting period of the VPA does not 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 ¹⁹ shall be provided in the VPA- DD.

¹⁹ In line with Community Services Activity Requirements (paragraph 4.1.5) the duration of crediting period of a VPA is 5 years which can be renewed maximum twice, i.e. in total a maximum issuance of 15 years

SECTION C. DEMONSTRATION OF ADDITIONALITY

The proposed PoA is a voluntary coordinated action by the CME. There is no mandatory law, policy or requirement in Uganda to foster the dissemination of improved cook stoves. Hence, this voluntary coordinated action would not be possible in the absence of this PoA and carbon revenues, due to the cost associated with the PoA development, implementation, management and monitoring.

The revenues from the sale of carbon credits are needed to:

- a) distribute improved cookstoves to a subsidized price affordable for end-users,
- b) scale up and expand the programme, thus reaching a wider range of end-users and generating more jobs,
- c) provide a reliable after-sales service,
- d) sensitize and raise awareness amongst end-users about climate change and global warming; the impacts of unsustainable biomass consumption and related health hazards; and the benefits and how to use the improved cookstoves.

The PoA would not have been developed without carbon credit revenues.

A VPA to be included under the PoA will be in compliance with item 1.1.3 of Annex B – positive list mentioned in the 'Community Services Activity Requirements' or the VPA is located in an LDC, SIDS, LLDC (as per 'Community Services Activity Requirements', 4.1.9, (b)).

A VPA will be solely composed of isolated units (efficient cookstoves) where the users of the technology/measure are households/institutions/SMEs and where each unit results in ≤ 600 MWh of energy savings per year.

Hence, according to paragraph 4.1.9 of the 'Community Services Activity Requirements', a VPA, regardless of the host country in which the project activity is being implemented, is deemed additional and therefore is not required to prove financial

additionality at the time of Design Certification; or the VPA is located in an LDC, SIDS, LLDC.

SECTION D. DURATION OF PoA

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

10/01/2026

This is the date when the PoA design consultation report was submitted to Gold Standard for review.

D.2. Duration of the PoA

Expected date of registration

02/02/2026, 20 years, 240 months.

SECTION E. OUTCOME OF PoA LEVEL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

E.1. Summary of stakeholder consultation at PoA Level

The stakeholder consultation at PoA Level was conducted on 16 August 2024 to 17th September 2024 (30 days). The detailed Design Consultation report has been submitted to GS.

E.2. Consideration of stakeholder comments received

No comments were received.

E.3. Final Continuous Input / Grievance Mechanism at PoA Level

Not applicable, since continuous input / grievance mechanism is implemented at VPA level.

METHOD	INCLUDE ALL DETAILS OF CHOSEN METHOD (S) SO THAT THEY MAY BE UNDERSTOOD AND, WHERE RELEVANT, USED BY READERS.
Continuous Input / Grievance Expression Process Book (mandatory)	Equatoria Clean Cooking Office: 14 Hannington road, Kampala, Uganda P.O. Box 74798
GS Contact (mandatory)	help@goldstandard.org
Other	Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC) Uganda Customer Care Line: +256790604618 Email address: info@equatoriacleancooking.com

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	Equatoria Clean Cooking Ltd (ECC)
Street/P.O. Box	14 Hannington road, Kampala, Uganda P.O. Box 74798
Building	
City	Kampala
State/Region	Uganda
Postcode	P.O. Box 74798
Country	Uganda
Telephone	+256790604618
E-mail	info@equatoriacleancooking.com
Website	https://wordpress.equatoriacleancooking.com/
Contact person	Peter Skov
Title	CEO
Salutation	Mr.
Last name	Skov
Middle name	

APPENDIX 2 - DESIGN CHANGES

A2.1. Details of proposed or actual design change

N/A

A2.2. Describe the Impacts of design change on the following

a. Additionality

N/A

b. Applicability of methodology and other methodological regulatory documents with which the project activity has been certified

N/A

c. Compliance with the monitoring plan of the applied methodology

N/A

d. Level of accuracy and completeness in the monitoring of the project activity compared with the requirements contained in the registered monitoring plan

N/A

e. Scale of the project activity

N/A

f. Stakeholder consultation

N/A

g. Sustainable development criteria

N/A

h. Safeguarding assessment

N/A

i. Compliance with applicable legislation

N/A

Revision History

Version	Date	Remarks
2.2	14 April 2023	Integrated the design change memo as annex of the document. Editorial changes
2.1	31 May 2022	Editorial changes and revisions
2.0	04 May 2022	Key Project Information table revised to cater for the following information: - Scale of PoA - Title and GS ID of all real case VPAs included in the PoA A new Management System section included Safeguarding Principles Assessment section removed Outcome of PoA Level Stakeholder Consultation section revised in the following manner: - Justification for Stakeholder Consultation at PoA Level Only section removed A new Consideration of Stakeholder Comments Received section added
1.1	14 October 2020	Hyperlinked section summary to enable quick access to key sections Improved clarity on Key Project Information Inclusion criteria table added Clarification on POA level LSC and Safeguard Principles Assessment Improved Clarity on SDG contribution/SDG Impact term used throughout Clarity on Stakeholder Consultation information required Provision of an accompanying Guide to help the user understand detailed rules and requirements
1.0	10 July 2017	Initial adoption