



**Verified Carbon
Standard**

DISTRIBUTION AND INSTALLATION OF NEW ENERGY-EFFICIENT COOKSTOVES (ICS) IN LAOS



Project title	Distribution and Installation of New Energy-Efficient Cookstoves (ICS) in Laos
Project ID	5855
Crediting period	01-January-2026 to 31-December-2035 (both days included)
Original date of issue	12-December-2025
Most recent date of issue	12-December-2025
Version	1
VCS Standard Version	4.7
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1 PROJECT DETAILS

1.1 Summary Description of the Project

A summary description of the technologies/ measures to be implemented by the project.

The project distributes fuel-efficient improved cookstoves (ICS) in Lao PDR. The ICS disseminated through this project replaces the baseline practice of burning fuelwood in rudimentary cookstoves or in three-stone fires. Under this project, two ICS (Kudya and Georock) have been installed in eligible households throughout rural Lao PDR.

The ICS is more efficient and therefore requires less fuel than baseline practices. This reduces the reliance on partially unsustainable fuelwood, reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The introduction of ICS saves both fuel costs and time spent on firewood collection. Time/money saved can be used for other activities such as education, socializing, resting, or even home-based enterprises that generate additional income for households, all of which can be empowering. Reducing emissions by transition to the ICS also helps reduce the risk of disease (including respiratory, cardiovascular, and cognitive diseases) from exposure to household air pollution. As the ICS consumes less firewood, it helps reduce forest degradation. This reduction in demand for fuelwood allows forests to regenerate, protecting wildlife habitats and biodiversity.

Through this project, 200,000 ICS have been distributed in 100,000 households (two ICS in each household) in Lao PDR. PP may deploy additional ICS during the remaining crediting period; details of the additional deployment (if any) will be provided in respective monitoring period(s).

In this grouped project, each ICS constitutes a single project activity instance, in line with its definition stated in VCS Program Definitions version 4.5¹

The end user is informed in advance that the use of ICS generates carbon finance, which in turn is used to subsidise the price of ICS and project implementation costs.

The Location of the project

The project has been implemented in Lao PDR. The details of the project location are provided in Section 1.13.

An explanation of how the project is expected to generate GHG emission reductions or removals

The ICS substitutes the current practice of cooking on three stone/conventional stoves. The ICS is designed to burn wood more efficiently than three stone. The ICS transfers more thermal

¹ <https://verra.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/VCS-Program-Definitions-v4.5-FINAL-4.15.24.pdf>

energy to the pot than three stone where large portion of heat energy is lost to surroundings. The overall result is less fuelwood burned and consequently, lower greenhouse gas emissions.

A brief description of the scenario existing prior to the implementation of the project.

The baseline scenario is the continued use of partially non-renewable wood fuel over three stone/conventional stoves by the target population.

An estimate of annual average and total GHG emission reductions and removals.

The average annual GHG emission reduction from the project expected to be 106,828 tCO₂e/annum. Total GHG emission reduction from the project is expected to be 1,068,280 tCO₂e over the entire crediting period of 10 years.

1.2 Audit History

Audit type	Period	Program	Validation/verification body name	Number of years
<i>Validation/verification</i>	We plan to conduct the audit in 2026	VCS	To be decided	N/A

1.3 Sectoral Scope and Project Type

Sectoral scope²	03 – Energy Demand
Project activity type	Type: II – Energy efficiency improvement projects

1.4 Project Eligibility

1.4.1 General eligibility

The project activity involves the distribution of fuel-efficient ICS falls under the category of efficiency improvement in thermal applications. Therefore, it is eligible under the scope of VCS Standard 4.7.

VCS Scope		Justification
2.1.1	The scope of the VCS Program includes:	
1	The seven Kyoto Protocol greenhouse gases.	The project activity aims to reduce CO ₂ emission reduction is one of the GHG identified under Kyoto Protocol
2	Ozone-depleting substances (ODS).	Not applicable, project does not involve the use or destruction of ODS.

² Projects, activities, or methodologies may be developed under any of the 16 VCS sectoral scopes: <https://verra.org/programs/verified-carbon-standard/vcs-program-details/#sectoral-scopes>

3	Project activities supported by a methodology approved under the VCS Program through the methodology development and review process.	The project activity uses VCS approved methodology VM0050, v1.0.
4	Project activities supported by a methodology approved under an approved GHG program, unless explicitly excluded (see the Verra website for exclusions).	Not applicable, the project does not use a methodology approved under other approved GHG program.
5	Jurisdictional REDD+ programs and nested REDD+ projects as set out in the VCS Program document	Not applicable. The project does not involve REDD+ projects
2.1.2	The scope of the VCS Program excludes projects that can reasonably be assumed to have generated GHG emissions primarily for the purpose of their subsequent reduction, removal, or destruction.	The project activity has not been implemented to generate GHG emissions for the purpose of their subsequent reduction, removal or destruction. Hence criterion is met.
2.1.3	The VCS Program also excludes the project activities under the circumstances indicated in Table 1 of clause 2.1.3 of the VCS Standard version 4.7	The project is not listed in Table 1: Excluded Project Activities under section 2.1.3 of the VCS standard.

1.4.2 AFOLU project eligibility

As the project activity is non-AFOLU this section 1.4.2 is not applicable for the grouped project activity.

1.4.3 Transfer project eligibility

The project activity is not a transfer project seeking registration; hence, this section 1.4.3 is not applicable.

1.5 Project Design

Indicate if the project has been designed as:

- ☐ Single location or installation
- ☐ Multiple locations or project activity instances (but not a grouped project)
- ☒ Grouped project

1.5.1 Grouped project design

The project is a grouped project. In this grouped project, each ICS constitutes a single project activity instance, in line with the definition stated in VCS Program Definitions version 4.7.

For the inclusion of new project activity instances, the project proponent (PP) shall ensure that it meets the eligibility criteria as per section 3.6.16 of VCS Standard Version 4.7 stated below:

No.	Criterion	Compliance Requirement	Method of Evaluation
1	Meet the applicability conditions set out in the methodology applied to the project	The project activity instance shall use VCS approved methodology- VM0050: “Energy Efficiency and Fuel-Switch Measures in Cookstoves”, version 1.0 and shall meet the applicability conditions set out in the methodology.	Details of how the new project activity instances meet the applicability conditions as per section 4 “applicability conditions” of VM0050 methodology is defined in section 3.2 of this document.
2	Use the technologies and measures specified in the project description	Project activity deploy Improved Cookstove (ICS) in the households by replacing traditional cookstove with an initial thermal efficiency of at least 25%.	Manufacturer’s specification shall be used for establishing minimum efficiency criteria in the first year of stove installation.
3	Apply the technologies or measures in the same manner as specified in the project description.	The ICSs will substitute the inefficient cooking techniques that are still adopted by the local communities. During the ICS delivery, information regarding biomass use as fuel and cooking baseline appliances will be collected and stored in a data management system in order to facilitate the following validation and verification processes.	The ICS has higher efficiency and better emission parameters than the baseline scenario. Evidence: Manufacturer's specification
4	Are subject to the baseline scenario determined in the project description for the specified project activity and geographic area.	Each project activity instance shall be located within the geographic boundary of Lao PDR as described in section 1.13; therefore, baseline scenario is the same described in section 3.4.	The project has the same baseline scenario defined in section 3.4 of this document, i.e., using traditional three-stone cookstoves for cooking in different regions of Lao PDR.

5	Have characteristics with respect to additionality that are consistent with the initial instances for the specified project activity and geographic area. For example, the new project activity instances have financial, technical and/or other parameters (such as the size/scale of the instances) consistent with the initial instances, or face the same investment, technological and/or other barriers as the initial instances.	All new project activity instances will use the activity method to demonstrate additionality. Step 1: Regulatory Surplus: There is no mandated government programme or policy in the host country of this project ensuring the distribution of new project activity instances. Step 2: Positive List – - The project activity introduces: Efficient biomass-fired cookstoves that replace inefficient biomass-fired cookstoves; a. Efficient, solely renewable biomass-fired cookstoves that replace fossil fuel-fired cookstoves; or b. Electric cookstoves that replace inefficient biomass-fired or fossil fuel-fired cookstoves. - The project activity installs or distributes improved cookstoves at zero cost to the end user and has no revenue source other than from the sale of verified carbon units (VCUs).	Step 1: There is no mandated government programme or policy in Lao PDR for this project ensuring the distribution of domestic fuel efficient cookstoves. The project is not mandated by any law, statute or other regulatory framework, or for UNFCCC non-Annex I countries, any systematically enforced law, statute or other regulatory framework. Step 2: Project activity satisfies criterion 1 and 2 of positive list. As the project fulfils the conditions under regulatory surplus & positive list, Hence, it is deemed additional. The project activity is additional and is described in section 3.5 of this document.
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1.6 Project Proponent

Organization name	Bridge Carbon SGT Asia Stoves Private Limited
Contact person	Dr. Donee Alexander
Title	Chief Carbon Officer
Address	6 Raffles Boulevard, Marina Square, #03-308, Singapore 039594
Telephone	+65 6808 1600

Email	Carbon@bridgecarbon.com
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1.7 Other Entities Involved in the Project

Organization name	C Dimension Digitech Limited
Role in the project	Project Proponent
Contact person	Dou Yonghua
Title	Senior Vice President in Technical Development
Address	Room 2801-2804, 28/F, Office Tower, Convention Plaza, 1 Harbour Road, Wanchai, HKSAR, China
Telephone	+86 186 2181 3919
Email	lucas.dou@treasurecarbon.com

1.8 Ownership

The project is owned by Bridge Carbon SGT Asia Stoves Private Limited.

Further, records of Consent letter / record of consent signed by end users (ICS owner) to the PP during the registration process includes the statutory clause that the "household hereby transfers and waives all and any rights in connection with greenhouse gas emission reductions or other environmental or social attributes generated by the installation and use of the improved cookstove to Bridge Carbon SGT Asia Stoves Private Limited acting as project manager on behalf, and for the benefit of its principals and we understand that Bridge Carbon SGT Asia Stoves Private Limited may, at any time, transfer those rights to one of its principals without further notice or consent."

This is in line with clause 5 of section 3.7.1. of VCS project standard version 04.7.

1.9 Project Start Date

Project start date	01-January-2026
Justification	As per VCS Standard version 4.7 section 3.8 "The project start date of a non-AFOLU project is the date on which the project began generating GHG emission reductions or carbon dioxide

removals”, Hence the date of commissioning of first ICS under the grouped project activity 01-January-2026 is the start date.

1.10 Project Crediting Period

Crediting period	☐ Seven years, twice renewable ☒ Ten years, fixed ☐ Other (state the selected crediting period and justify how it conforms with the VCS Program requirements)
Start and end date of first or fixed crediting period	01-January-2026 to 31-December-2035

1.11 Project Scale and Estimated GHG Emission Reductions or Removals

Indicate the estimated annual GHG emission reductions/removals (ERRs) of the project:

- ☒ < 300,000 tCO₂e/year (project)
☐ ≥ 300,000 tCO₂e/year (large project)

Calendar year of crediting period	Estimated GHG emission reductions or removals (tCO ₂ e)
01-January-2026 to 31-December-2026	115,538
01-January-2027 to 31-December-2027	115,538
01-January-2028 to 31-December-2028	115,538
01-January-2029 to 31-December-2029	115,538
01-January-2030 to 31-December-2030	115,538
01-January-2031 to 31-December-2031	115,538
01-January-2032 to 31-December-2032	109,659

01-January-2033 to 31-December-2033	99,062
01-January-2034 to 31-December-2034	88,464
01-January-2035 to 31-December-2035	77,867
Total estimated ERRs during the first or fixed crediting period	1,068,280
Total number of years	10
Average annual ERRs	106,828

1.12 Description of the Project Activity

The project distributes fuel efficient ICS to replace the baseline practice of burning wood in rudimentary cookstoves or three stone fires in eligible households in rural Lao PDR. Under this project two ICS namely Kudya and Georock are distributed under this project. Other ICS technologies are not completely ruled out and may be added based on the requirements of end users.

Technology/Measure

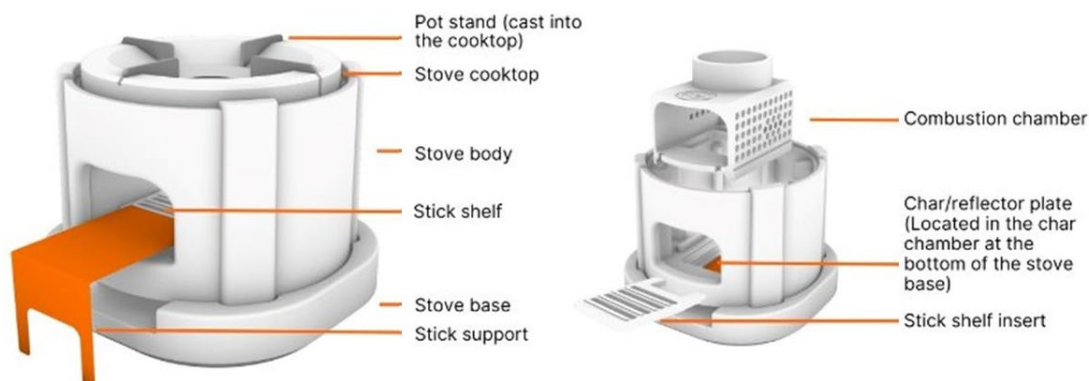
Metallic cookstoves (KUDYA):



Parameter	Description
Stove Name	Kudya Max v2.0
Fuel	Fuelwood

Dimensions (LxWxH)	380mm x 380mm x 270mm
Efficiency	>40%
Lifespan	5-10 years

Geopolymer stoves (GEOROCK):



Parameter	Description
Stove Name	Geopolymer (fire chamber pot rest)
Fuel	Fuelwood
Dimensions (LxWxH)	320mm x 320mm x 253mm
Efficiency	>40%
Lifespan	10 years

Maintenance including replacement of stove parts as well as stoves, will be carried out as required to ensure that the stoves remain operational and in good condition throughout the crediting period of 10 years.

Data collection of ICS end-user

The PP gathers necessary information to identify households using its ICS during the project. To facilitate this each ICS is assigned a unique serial number. This number is recorded during the registration process together with the following information (as appropriate and as available):

- Name of ICS user or head of the household
- Address / GPS of ICS household
- Phone number of ICS user or household, where available.
- Stove model
- Date of distribution/installation
- ICS serial number

- Retailer/distributor information

The information collected is stored in an electronic database that serves as the project database for monitoring and sampling.

1.13 Project Location

The project location is the geographical boundary of Lao PDR with coordinates 19°51'22.6" N latitude and 102°29.73' E longitude³

Below are the map of Lao PDR and geographical boundaries.



Laos map⁴

1.14 Conditions Prior to Project Initiation

³ <https://www.geodatos.net/en/coordinates/laos>

⁴ [Political Map of Laos | Laos Provinces Map](#)

The condition prior to project initiation is the continued use of partially non renewable wood fuel in rudimentary cookstoves or three stone /conventional stoves by the target population to meet similar thermal energy needs as provided by project cookstoves in absence of project activity.

1.15 Compliance with Laws, Statutes and Other Regulatory Frameworks

There are no laws and regulations governing the use of improved cookstoves in Lao PDR households. The project is a voluntary effort by the PP. A review is made on the main legislation such as:

Environmental Protection Law (2013 Ed.) (Law No. 29/NA of 2012)⁵:

“The Lao PDR Environmental Protection Law was first enacted in 1999 and significantly revised in 2012, becoming Law No. 29/NA. The law establishes principles and measures for environmental management, protection, and rehabilitation to ensure sustainable development, protect human health and natural resources, and mitigate pollution and climate change impacts.

Decree on Climate Change [Lao PDR, 2019]⁶: The decree determines the principles, regulations and measures on the management, monitoring and inspection of tasks related with climate change, to prevent, protect and decrease the potential impacts of climate change, with the aim to ensure the safety of lives, health, properties, environment, biodiversity, and infrastructure. This also includes the connection with regional and international stakeholders, to contribute to the socio-economic development towards the sustainability and green growth.

Laos adopted its Carbon Credit Decree on May 28, 2025⁷, establishing a legal framework for carbon markets to address climate change, promote socio-economic development, and attract international funding. The decree has been developed to ensure efficiency and effectiveness of carbon market activities while preventing fraud and ensuring that credits represent real emission reductions. This landmark regulation supports the country's climate goals and its integration into international carbon markets under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement”.

The project operates on a purely voluntary basis, with households choosing to participate without any legal obligation. Since there is no enforced law or statute mandating the use of efficient cookstoves. It is hereby confirmed that the proposed project is a voluntary coordinated action by PP.

1.16 Double Counting and Participation under Other GHG Programs

1.16.1 No Double Issuance

⁵ https://policy.asiapacificenergy.org/sites/default/files/Environmental-Protection-Law-2013%20Ed_English.pdf

⁶ lao-pdr-climate-change-decree-eo-321-21-oct-2019-eng.pdf

⁷ <https://gggi.org/lao-government-adopts-carbon-credit-decree/>

Is the project receiving or seeking credit for reductions and removals from a project activity under another GHG program?

☐ Yes ☒ No

1.16.2 Registration in Other GHG Programs

Has the project registered under any other GHG programs?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is the project active under the other program?

☐ Yes ☒ No

1.16.3 Projects Rejected by Other GHG Programs

Has the project been rejected by any other GHG programs?

☐ Yes ☒ No

1.17 Double Claiming, Other Forms of Credit, and Scope 3 Emissions

1.17.1 No Double Claiming with Emissions Trading Programs or Binding Emission Limits

Are project reductions and removals or project activities also included in an emissions trading program or binding emission limit?

☐ Yes ☒ No

1.17.2 No Double Claiming with Other Forms of Environmental Credit

Has the project activity sought, received, or is planning to receive credit from another GHG-related environmental credit system?

☐ Yes ☒ No

1.17.3 Supply Chain (Scope 3) Emissions

Do the project activities specified in Section 1.12 affect the emissions footprint of any product(s) (goods or services) that are part of a supply chain?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes:

Is the project proponent(s) or authorized representative a buyer or seller of the product(s) (goods or services) that are part of a supply chain?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes:

Has the project proponent(s) or authorized representative posted a public statement on their website saying, “Carbon credits may be issued through Verified Carbon Standard project [project ID] for the greenhouse gas emission reductions or removals associated with [project proponent or authorized representative organization name(s)] [name of product(s) whose emissions footprint is changed by the project activities].”

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.18 Sustainable Development Contributions

Before the implementation of the project, households in the project location used non-renewable biomass for cooking in rudimentary cookstoves or three-stone fire. The project distributes fuel-efficient ICS to replace baseline cookstoves in households in Lao PDR, reducing firewood consumption and personal exposure to indoor air pollution. People, primarily women and children, spend less time collecting firewood, reducing drudgery. The production and distribution of ICS have provided job opportunities to local people, increasing incomes. The project reduces forest degradation and GHG emissions as well. Bridge Carbon will contribute to several sustainable development goals (SDGs) described below.

SDG	Target	Indicator	Project Contributions – Justification
SDG 7 - Affordable and Clean Energy	7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable, and modern energy services.	7.1.2 Number of beneficiaries: Households.	The Distribution of ICS allows local communities to reduce their dependency on traditional cooking technology.
SDG 13 - Climate Action	13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies, and planning.	13.2.2 Total greenhouse gas emissions per year.	The Project is directly related to the target as it contributes towards avoidance of GHG emissions from replacing non-renewable biomass-based cooking.
SDG 15 - Life on Land	15.2 By 2030, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation,	15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management. Monitoring	ICS included in the project activity will reduce the consumption of non-renewable biomass in participant households and will contribute towards reducing forest degradation.

	restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.		
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1.19 Additional Information Relevant to the Project

1.19.1 Leakage Management

Where applicable, describe the leakage management plan and implementation of leakage and risk mitigation measures.

1.19.2 Commercially Sensitive Information

Indicate whether any commercially sensitive information has been excluded from the public version of the project description using Appendix 1, and briefly describe the items to which such information pertains. Provide justification for why the information is commercially sensitive and confirm that it is not otherwise publicly available.

Note - Information related to the determination of the baseline scenario, demonstration of additionality, and estimation and monitoring of GHG emission reductions and removals (including operational and capital expenditures) cannot be considered to be commercially sensitive and must be provided in the public versions of the project documents.

1.19.3 Further Information

Include any additional relevant legislative, technical, economic, sectoral, social, environmental, geographic, site-specific and/or temporal information that may have a bearing on the eligibility of the project, the GHG emission reductions or carbon dioxide removals, or the quantification of the project's reductions or removals.

2 SAFEGUARDS AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

2.1 Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation

2.1.1 Stakeholder Identification

Use the table below to describe the stakeholder identification process. Where the rows do not apply, provide justification in the cell in the table below.

Stakeholder Identification	<i>Describe the process(es) used to identify stakeholders likely impacted by the project. List the stakeholders identified.</i>
Legal or customary tenure/access rights	<i>Describe any legal or customary tenure/access rights to territories and resources, including collective and conflicting rights, held by stakeholders, Indigenous People (IPs), local communities (LCs), and customary rights holders.</i>
Stakeholder diversity and changes over time	<i>Describe the social, economic, and cultural diversity within stakeholder groups, the differences and interactions between the stakeholder groups, and any changes in the make-up of each group over time.</i>
Expected changes in well-being	<i>Describe the expected changes in well-being and other stakeholder characteristics relative to the baseline scenario, including changes to ecosystem services identified as important to stakeholders;</i>
Location of stakeholders	<i>Describe the location of stakeholders, IPs, LCs, and customary rights holders, and areas outside the project area that are predicted to be impacted by the project.</i>
Location of resources	<i>Describe the location of territories and resources which stakeholders own or to which they have customary access.</i>

2.1.2 Stakeholder Consultation and Ongoing Communication

Use the table below to describe the process for and the outcomes from the stakeholder consultation conducted prior to project initiation.

Date of stakeholder consultation	<i>DD-Month-YYYY</i>
Stakeholder engagement process	<i>Describe the process to engage stakeholders in a culturally appropriate manner (e.g., dates of announcements or meetings, language and gender sensitivity). Describe the process or methods used to document the outcomes.</i>

Consultation outcome	<i>Summarize the discussion around consent to project design and implementation, risks, costs and benefits of the project, all relevant laws and regulations covering workers' rights in the host country, the discussion of FPIC and the VCS validation and verification process.</i>
Ongoing communication	<i>Describe the mechanisms for ongoing communication with stakeholders.</i>
Stakeholder input	<i>Describe how due account was taken of all input received during the consultation. Include details on any updates to the project design or justify why updates were not necessary or appropriate.</i>

2.1.3 Free Prior and Informed Consent

Use the table below to describe the outcome of the FPIC process as part of the stakeholder consultation process.

Obtaining consent	<i>Describe and demonstrate how consent to implement the project activities was obtained from those concerned, including IPs, LCs, and customary rights holders, and a transparent agreement was reached. Describe any ongoing or unresolved conflicts and demonstrate that the project does not exacerbate nor influence the outcomes of unresolved conflicts.</i>
Outcome of FPIC	<i>Describe the outcome of the FPIC process, the transparent agreement, and the information disclosed prior to establishing a transparent agreement with those concerned, IPs, LCs, and customary rights holders. Provide assurance that the project has not encroached on land, relocated people without consent, and forced physical or economic displacement.</i>

2.1.4 Grievance Redress Procedure

Use the table below to describe the grievance redress procedures developed to resolve any conflicts which may arise between the project proponent and stakeholders.

Development process	<i>Describe the process used to develop the grievance redress procedure including processes for receiving, hearing, responding and attempting to resolve grievances within a reasonable time period, taking into account culturally appropriate conflict resolution methods.</i>
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Grievance redress procedure

Describe the grievance redress procedures developed with stakeholders.

2.1.5 Public Comments

Summarize any public comments submitted during the public comment period and any comments received after the public comment period. Demonstrate how due account was taken of all comments received. Include details on when the comments were received, and any updates to the project design or demonstrate the insignificance or irrelevance of comments.

Comments received	Actions taken
<i>Summary of comment received</i>	<i>Provide a summary of actions taken and any project design updates or justify why updates were not necessary or appropriate.</i>

2.2 Risks to Stakeholders and the Environment

2.2.1 Management Experience

Demonstrate that management teams have expertise or experience in implementing similar project activities and engaging communities. Where relevant experience is lacking, demonstrate how the project proponent has partnered with other organizations to support the project or have a recruitment strategy to fill the identified gaps.

2.2.2 Risk Assessment

Use the table below to describe the risk assessment and outcome of the potential risks to stakeholders and the environment. Describe the commensurate mitigation or preventative measure(s) in place to prevent or mitigate the risk. Where no risk is identified, write "No risk identified" in the first column, and provide justification in the second column. Add rows as needed.

	Risks identified	Mitigation or preventative measure(s) taken
Natural and human-induced risks to stakeholders' wellbeing		
Risks to stakeholder participation		
Working conditions		

Safety of women and girls		
Safety of minority and marginalized groups, including children		
Pollutants (air, noise, discharges to water, generation of waste, and release of hazardous materials and chemical pesticides and fertilizers)		

2.3 Respect for Human Rights and Equity

2.3.1 Labor and Work

Use the table below to identify and summarize the risks for rights related to labor and work. Describe the commensurate mitigation or preventative measure(s) in place to prevent or mitigate the risk. Where no risk is identified, write “No risk identified” in the first column, and provide justification in the second column. Add rows as needed.

	Risks identified ⁸	Mitigation or preventative measure(s) taken
Discrimination		
Sexual harassment		
Equal pay for equal work		
Gender equity in labor and work		
Forced labor		
Child labor		
Human trafficking		

⁸ The identified risks and commensurate mitigation or preventative measure(s) for forced labor, child labor, and human trafficking, must be inclusive of staff and contracted workers employed by third parties.

2.3.2 Human Rights

Use the table below to identify and summarize any risks related to recognizing, respecting, and promoting the protection of the rights of IPs, LCs, and customary rights holders in line with applicable international human rights law, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. Describe the commensurate mitigation or preventative measure(s) in place to prevent or mitigate the risk. Where no risk is identified, write “No risk identified” in the first column, and provide justification in the second column. Add rows as needed.

Risks identified	Mitigation or preventative measure(s) taken

2.3.3 Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage

Use the table below to identify and summarize any risks related to recognizing, respecting, and promoting the protection of the rights of IPs, LCs, and customary rights holders, and to preserving and protecting cultural heritage as part of project activities. Describe the commensurate mitigation or preventative measure(s) in place to prevent or mitigate the risk. Where no risk is identified, write “No risk identified” in the first column, and provide justification in the second column. Add rows as needed.

Risks identified	Mitigation(s) or preventative measure taken

2.3.4 Property Rights

Use the table below to identify and summarize any risks related to protecting and preserving the property rights of IPs, LCs, and customary rights holders, and to protecting legal or customary tenure/access rights to territories, property, and resources, including collective and/or conflicting rights, held by stakeholders. Describe the commensurate mitigation or preventative measure(s) in place to prevent or mitigate the risk. Where no risk is identified, write “No risk identified” in the first column, and provide justification in the second column. Add rows as needed.

Risks identified	Mitigation or preventative measure(s) taken

2.3.5 Benefit Sharing

Where the project impacts property rights as described in Section 2.4.4 above, use the table below to describe the project's benefit sharing agreement.

Process used to design the benefit sharing plan	<i>Describe the process used to develop the benefit-sharing agreement with the affected stakeholder groups.</i>
Summary of the benefit sharing plan	<i>Describe the benefit-sharing agreement. Where affected stakeholder groups wish to keep elements of the plan private, provide the full arrangement as a commercially sensitive document. The project proponent shall demonstrate that the community wishes to keep this information private.</i>
Approval and dissemination of benefit sharing plan	<i>Demonstrate that the benefit-sharing agreement was agreed up on by the affected stakeholder groups, and that the agreement was shared in a culturally appropriate manner. Demonstrate that the agreement is readily accessible should stakeholders wish to review the agreement.</i>

2.4 Ecosystem Health

Use the table below to identify and summarize any risks related to impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems, soil degradation and soil erosion, and water consumption and stress. Describe the commensurate mitigation or preventative measure(s) in place to prevent or mitigate the risk. Where no risk is identified, write "No risk identified" in the first column, and provide justification in the second column. Add rows as needed.

	Risks identified	Mitigation or preventative measure(s) taken
Impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems		
Soil degradation and soil erosion		
Water consumption and stress		

2.4.1 Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species

Is the project located in or adjacent to habitats for rare, threatened, or endangered species?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, list such species and habitats in the table below and provide evidence that the project will not adversely impact these areas.

Species and habitat	Demonstrate that the project will not adversely impact habitats and areas needed for habitat connectivity for rare, threatened, or endangered species.
Areas needed for habitat connectivity	Demonstrate that the project will not adversely impact areas needed for habitat connectivity.
...	...

Use the table below to identify and summarize any risks related to habitats for rare, threatened, and endangered species, and for areas for habitat connectivity. Describe the commensurate mitigation or preventative measure(s) in place to prevent or mitigate the risk. Where no risk is identified, write "No risk identified" in the first column, and provide justification in the second column. Add rows as needed.

	Risks identified	Mitigation or preventative measure(s) taken
Habitats for rare, threatened, and endangered species		
Areas for habitat connectivity		

2.4.2 Introduction of Species

Demonstrate, using the table below, that no invasive species will be used as part of project activities. Categorize each species as native, non-native, and indicate if the species is a monoculture. Where the species is non-native, include an explanation of possible adverse effects of its use and a description of how the project will mitigate such risks. For projects with no planting or species introduction, this section may be indicated as N/A.

Species introduced	Classification	Justification for use	Adverse effects and mitigation

Where invasive species exist in the project area, list such species in the table below and describe the commensurate mitigation measure(s) in place to prevent the spread or continued existence of invasive species.

Existing invasive species	Mitigation measures to prevent the spread or continued existence of invasive species

Use the table below to identify and summarize any risks related to invasive species. Describe the commensurate mitigation or preventative measure(s) in place to prevent or mitigate the risk. Where no risk is identified, write "No risk identified" in the first column, and provide justification in the second column. Add rows as needed.

	Risks identified	Mitigation or preventative measure(s) taken
Invasive species		

2.4.3 Ecosystem Conversion

ARR, ALM, WRC or ACoGS projects shall provide evidence that the project area was not cleared or drained of existing natural ecosystems, unless such clearing took place at least 10 years prior, or the dominant land cover was invasive.

Use the table below to identify and summarize any risks related to ecosystem conversion. Describe the commensurate mitigation or preventative measure(s) in place to prevent or mitigate the risk. Where no risk is identified, write "No risk identified" in the first column, and provide justification in the second column. Add rows as needed.

	Risks identified	Mitigation or preventative measure(s) taken
Ecosystem conversion		

3 APPLICATION OF METHODOLOGY

3.1 Title and Reference of Methodology

Type (methodology, tool or module).	Reference ID, if applicable	Title	Version

Methodology	VM0050 ⁹	Energy Efficiency and Fuel-Switch Measure in Cookstove.	1.0
Tool	Tool 33 ¹⁰	Default values for common parameters	03.0
Module	Sampling Standard ¹¹	Sampling and Surveys for CDM project activities and programmes of activities	9.0
Module	Sampling Guideline ¹²	Guideline: Sampling and surveys for CDM project activities and programmes of activities	4.0
Correction and Clarifications	Correction and Clarifications ¹³	Correction and Clarifications to VM0050 Energy Efficiency and Fuel-switch Measures in Cookstoves	1.0

3.2 Applicability of Methodology

Methodology ID	Applicability condition	Justification of compliance
VM0050	The project activity corresponds to: a) Replacement of non-renewable biomass (e.g., firewood, charcoal)-fired cookstoves with any of the following: i. More efficient project devices that use the same fuel as in the baseline; ii. Efficient project devices fired by renewable biomass or bioethanol; iii. Efficient project devices fired by liquefied petroleum gas (LPG); or iv. Electric-powered project devices. b) Replacement of solid or liquid fossil fuel (e.g., coal, kerosene)-fired cookstoves with any of the following:	a) The project distributes fuel-efficient ICS to replace the baseline practice of burning wood in rudimentary cookstoves or three-stone fires in eligible households throughout rural Lao PDR. Hence, the condition of item a) (i) is applicable. b) This condition is not applicable

⁹ <https://verra.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/VM0050-EE-and-Fuel-Switch-Measures-in-Cookstoves-v1.0.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/PAMethodologies/tools/am-tool-33-v3.pdf>

¹¹ https://cdm.unfccc.int/sunsetcms/storage/contents/stored-file-20210531160756223/Meth_Stan05.pdf

¹² https://cdm.unfccc.int/sunsetcms/storage/contents/stored-file-20151023152925068/Meth_GC48_%28ver04.0%29.pdf

¹³ https://verra.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/CC_VM0050_v1.0_Feb2025.pdf

	i. Efficient project devices fired by renewable biomass or bioethanol; ii. Efficient project devices fired by LPG; or iii. Electric-powered project devices.	
VM0050	Project devices are used in households, communities, institutions, or small or medium enterprises (SMEs), collectively referred to in this methodology as the “target population.”	Project devices are used in households; hence this condition is applicable.
	Use of renewable biomass	
VM0050	Where renewable biomass is used, it is exclusively renewable and qualifies as one of the following: a. A by-product, residue, or waste stream from agriculture, forestry, and related industries; or b. Originating from dedicated plantations that comply with all relevant applicability conditions in the most recent version of CDM TOOL16.	This criterion is not applicable as project activity is not using renewable biomass.
VM0050	Where biomass residues are used, they would have been left to decay or burned without energy recovery before implementation of the project activity, and their use does not involve a decrease in carbon pools – in particular of dead wood, litter, or soil organic carbon – on the land areas from which the biomass residues originate.	This criterion is not applicable as project activity is using non-renewable biomass and not a biomass residue.
VM0050	Where biomass residues from a production process are used, project implementation does not result in an increase in the processing capacity	This criterion is not applicable as project activity is using non-renewable biomass.

	of raw input or any other substantial changes (e.g., product change) in this process.	
VM0050	Where more than one type of renewable biomass is used, each of the biomass types used complies with the applicability conditions.	This criterion is not applicable as project activity is using non-renewable biomass.
VM0050	Where project activities introduce renewable biomass as charcoal, it is renewable charcoal produced by efficient charcoal production processes (e.g., retort sedentary kilns, improved sedentary kilns, Casamance kilns). Methane produced during the charcoaling process is captured and destroyed or combusted for energy purposes.	This criterion is not applicable as project activity is using non-renewable biomass.
	Cookstove characteristics and use	
VM0050	Project devices using renewable biomass (fuel-switch) or non-renewable biomass (improved efficiency) are single-pot, multi-pot portable, or in-situ cookstoves with an initial thermal efficiency of at least 25%.	All ICS proposed are single pot stoves using fuelwood with a thermal efficiency of least 25%.
VM0050	Project devices using LPG or bioethanol are single-pot, multi-pot portable, or in-situ cookstoves with an initial thermal efficiency of at least 30%.	This condition is not applicable as project activity is ICS using non-renewable biomass.
VM0050	Electric project devices meet the maximum risk factor score of 15 on the Cookstove Durability Protocol and have the following minimum thermal efficiency: a. Hot plates and electric hobs: 40%	This condition is not applicable as project activity is ICS using non-renewable biomass.

	b. Induction stoves and other electric stoves: 70%	
VM0050	Project devices using LPG comply with all of the following conditions: a. The baseline fuel either includes non-renewable biomass or is a more carbon-intensive fossil fuel b. The project has a provision for metering LPG supplied to each consumer at the LPG filling station, in order to determine household LPG consumption; and c. The project does not seek to issue any carbon credits for periods after 31 December 2045.	This condition is not applicable as project activity is ICS using non-renewable biomass.
VM0050	Electric project devices use the following electricity sources: a. Decentralized renewable energy systems: Decentralized energy systems using fossil fuels are not eligible, except for backup generators that supply less than 1% of the annual electricity of the decentralized renewable energy system. b. Self-generated renewable electricity (with a maximum of 20% electricity from non-renewable sources for backup); or c. National or regional electricity grid.	This condition is not applicable as project activity is ICS using non-renewable biomass.
VM0050	The project proponent designs incentive mechanisms to reduce the use of inefficient baseline devices and practices that can be replaced by the project devices and describes these mechanisms in the project description.	Each household receives a primary and secondary ICS free of cost. The mechanisms are implemented by the project proponent and includes trainings sessions. The training covers use and lessons on health and environmental awareness.

VM0050	Where a project device has ended its technical life, the project proponent either replaces it with a comparable or better project device or retrofits its essential components to continue meeting the minimum service level requirements (i.e., thermal energy generation), otherwise no further emission reductions may be claimed for the project device.	Maintenance, including replacement of stove parts as well as stoves is carried out as required to ensure that stoves remain operational and in good condition throughout the crediting period of 10 years.
	Avoiding harm and double counting	
VM0050	Project proponents implement a method for the distribution and identification of project devices that avoids double counting of emission reductions by other mitigation actions and includes unique product identification on the stove itself at the time of distribution/sale (e.g., program logo, alpha/numeric ID, and end-user location, such as geographic coordinates, complete address information).	The proposed method of distribution will be door to door installations and/or through community events. Each ICS to be distributed/installed under this project activity will be marked with a unique identification number (combination of alpha numeric code) in addition to details of date of distribution, end user location and GPS coordinates. All data are stored in Bridge Carbon's in-house carbon management database.
VM0050	The project complies with any national, sub-national, or local regulations or guidance for the installation, commercialization, distribution, and use of improved cookstoves and/or fuel supply and use for the target population. National, regional, and local regulatory frameworks for the provision of the type of thermal energy services provided by the project activity must be documented.	There are no laws and regulations governing the use of improved cookstoves in Lao PDR households. The project is a voluntary effort by the project proponent.
VM0050	Where project activities reduce emissions from non-renewable biomass, including firewood and	This condition is not applicable as cookstoves will not be distributed to areas where REDD+ projects are

	charcoal, the risk of double counting is assessed on a national basis by evaluating at validation and crediting period renewal whether there are REDD+ projects or jurisdictional REDD+ programs whose project boundary overlaps with the expected fuel source area of the project. The project proponent must report on the findings of this assessment for informational purposes in the project description.	executed, and the expected fuel source area of the project is not in conflict with such initiatives. Therefore, the risk of double counting is not relevant in this case.
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3.3 Project Boundary

Define the project boundary and identify the relevant GHG sources, sinks and reservoirs for the project and baseline scenarios (including leakage if applicable). Add rows as needed.

Source		Gas	Included?	Justification/Explanation
Baseline	Source 1	CO ₂		
		CH ₄		
		N ₂ O		
		Other		
	Source 2	CO ₂		
		CH ₄		
		N ₂ O		
		Other		
Project	Source 1	CO ₂		
		CH ₄		
		N ₂ O		
		Other		
	Source 2	CO ₂		

Source	Gas	Included?	Justification/Explanation
	CH ₄		
	N ₂ O		
	Other		

Provide a diagram or map of the project boundary, showing clearly the physical locations of the various installations or management activities taking place as part of the project activity based on the description provided in Section 1.12 (Description of the Project Activity) above.

For non-AFOLU projects, include in the diagram the equipment, systems and flows of mass and energy. Include the GHG emission sources identified in the project boundary.

For AFOLU projects, include in the diagram or map the locations of where the various measures are taking place, any reference areas and leakage belts.

3.4 Baseline Scenario

Identify and justify the baseline scenario, in accordance with the procedure set out in the applied methodology and any relevant tools. Where the procedure in the applied methodology involves several steps, describe how each step is applied and clearly document the outcome of each step.

Explain and justify key assumptions, rationale, and methodological choices. Provide all relevant references.

3.5 Additionality

Demonstrate and assess the additionality of the project, in accordance with the applied methodology and any relevant tools, taking into account the following additionality methods:

3.5.1 Regulatory Surplus

Is the project located in an UNFCCC Annex 1 or Non-Annex 1 country?

☐ Annex 1 country ☐ Non-Annex 1 country

Are the project activities mandated by any law, statute, or other regulatory framework?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If the project is located inside a Non-Annex 1 country and the project activities are mandated by a law, statute, or other regulatory framework, are such laws, statutes, or regulatory frameworks systematically enforced?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, describe which mandated laws, statutes, or other regulatory frameworks require project activities and provide evidence of systematic non-enforcement to demonstrate regulatory surplus.

3.5.2 Additionality Methods

- *Where a project method is applied to demonstrate additionality and the procedure in the applied methodology or tool involves several steps, describe how each step is applied and clearly document the outcome of each step. Indicate clearly the method selected to demonstrate additionality (e.g., investment analysis or barrier analysis in the case of the CDM Tool for the demonstration and assessment of additionality). Where barrier analysis, or equivalent, is used to demonstrate additionality, only include the most relevant barriers. Justify the credibility of the barriers with key facts and/or assumptions and the rationale. Provide all relevant references.*
- *Where a performance method is applied to demonstrate additionality, demonstrate that performance can be achieved to a level at least equivalent to the performance benchmark metric.*
- *Where the methodology applies an activity method for the demonstration of additionality, include a statement that notes that conformance with the positive list is demonstrated in the Applicability of Methodology section above.*
- *Provide sufficient information (including all relevant data and parameters, with sources) so that a reader can reproduce the additionality analysis and obtain the same results.*

3.6 Methodology Deviations

Describe and justify any methodology deviations applied, including any previous deviations. Include evidence to demonstrate the following:

- *The deviation will not negatively impact the conservativeness of the quantification of GHG emission reductions or removals.*
- *The deviation relates only to the criteria and procedures for monitoring or measurement and does not relate to any other part of the methodology.*

4 QUANTIFICATION OF ESTIMATED GHG EMISSION REDUCTIONS AND REMOVALS

4.1 Baseline Emissions

Describe the procedure for quantification of baseline emissions and/or carbon stock changes in accordance with the applied methodology. Baseline emissions may be negative where carbon stock increases (sinks) exceed baseline emissions. Specify the reductions and removals separately where the applied methodology provides procedures and equations to do so. Include all relevant equations here and provide sufficient information to allow the reader to reproduce the calculations. Explain and justify all relevant methodological choices (e.g., with respect to selection of emission factors and default values). Include all calculations in the emission reduction and removal calculation spreadsheet.

4.2 Project Emissions

Describe the procedure for quantification of project emissions and/or carbon stock changes in accordance with the applied methodology. Project emissions may be negative where carbon stock increases (sinks) exceed project emissions. Specify the reductions and removals separately where the applied methodology provides procedures and equations to do so. Include all relevant equations here and provide sufficient information to allow the reader to reproduce the calculations. Explain and justify all relevant methodological choices (e.g., with respect to selection of emission factors and default values). Include all calculations in the emission reduction and removal calculation spreadsheet.

4.3 Leakage Emissions

Describe the procedure for quantification of leakage emissions in accordance with the applied methodology. Specify the reductions and removals separately where the applied methodology provides procedures and equations to do so. Include all relevant equations here and provide sufficient information to allow the reader to reproduce the calculations. Explain and justify all relevant methodological choices (e.g., with respect to selection of emission factors and default values). Include all calculations in the emission reduction and removal calculation spreadsheet.

4.4 Estimated GHG Emission Reductions and Carbon Dioxide Removals

Describe the procedure for the quantification of estimated GHG emission reductions (reductions) and carbon dioxide removals (removals). Include all relevant equations.

For data and parameters monitored, use the estimated data/parameter values provided in Section 5.2 below. Document how each equation is applied in a manner that enables the reader to reproduce the calculations. Provide calculations for all key equations to allow the reader to reproduce the annual calculations for estimated reductions or removals. Specify the reductions and removals separately where the applied methodology provides procedures and equations to do so. Include all of the above in the emission reduction and removal calculation spreadsheet.

Complete the tables below by vintage period (calendar year). Note that the baseline or project emissions subtotals may be negative where sinks exceed emissions. Only specify the estimated VCUs for reductions and removals separately where the applied methodology provides procedures and equations to do so.

For projects that are not required to assess permanence risk, complete the table below for the project crediting period:

Vintage period	Estimated baseline emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Estimated project emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Estimated leakage emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Estimated reduction VCUs (tCO ₂ e)	Estimated removal VCUs (tCO ₂ e)	Estimated total VCUs (tCO ₂ e)
DD-MMM-YYYY to 31-Dec-YYYY	Example: 50,000	Example: 20,000	Example: 10,000	Example: 10,000	Example: 10,000	Example: 20,000
01-Jan-YYYY to 31-Dec-YYYY						
01-Jan-YYYY to DD-MMM-YYYY						
Total						

For projects required to assess permanence risk:

i) Provide the requested information using the table below:

State the non-permanence risk rating (%)	Example: 20%
Has the non-permanence risk report been attached as either an appendix or a separate document?	☐ Yes ☐ No
For ARR and IFM projects with harvesting, state, in tCO ₂ e, the Long-term Average (LTA).	
Has the LTA been updated based on monitored data, if applicable?	☐ Yes ☐ No If no, provide justification.
State, in tCO ₂ e, the expected total GHG benefit to date.	
Is the number of GHG credits issued below the LTA?	☐ Yes ☐ No If no, provide justification.

ii) Complete the table below for the project crediting period. Note that the buffer pool allocation is split proportionally between the estimated reductions and removals. (For example, if a

project is estimated to achieve 20,000 tCO₂e removals and 80,000 tCO₂e reductions and has a buffer contribution of 20%, or 20,000, the estimated removal VCU's would be 16,000 and reduction VCU's would be 64,000).

Vintage period	Estimated baseline emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Estimated project emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Estimated leakage emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Estimated buffer pool allocation (tCO ₂ e)	Estimated reduction VCU's (tCO ₂ e)	Estimated removal VCU's (tCO ₂ e)	Estimated total VCU issuance (tCO ₂ e)
DD- MMM- YYYY to 31-Dec- YYYY	Example: 50,000	Example: 20,000	Example: 10,000	Example: 4,000	Example: 8,000	Example: 8,000	Example: 16,000
01-Jan- YYYY to 31-Dec- YYYY							
01-Jan- YYYY to DD- MMM- YYYY							
Total							

5 MONITORING

5.1 Data and Parameters Available at Validation

Complete the table below for all data and parameters that are determined or available at validation and remain fixed throughout the project crediting period (copy the table as necessary for each data/parameter). The values provided are used to quantify the estimated reductions and removals for the project crediting period in Section 4 above. Data and parameters to be monitored during the operation of the project are included in Section 5.2 (Data and Parameters Monitored) below.

Data / Parameter	
Data unit	Indicate the unit of measure
Description	Provide a brief description of the data/parameter
Source of data	Indicate the source(s) of data

Value applied	<i>Provide the value applied</i>
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	<i>Justify the choice of data source, providing references where applicable. Where values are based on measurement, include a description of the measurement methods and procedures applied (e.g., what standards or protocols have been followed), indicate the responsible person/entity that undertook the measurement, the date of the measurement and the measurement results. More detailed information may be provided in an appendix.</i>
Purpose of data	<i>Indicate one of the following:</i> <i>Determination of baseline scenario (AFOLU projects only)</i> <i>Calculation of baseline emissions</i> <i>Calculation of project emissions</i> <i>Calculation of leakage</i>
Comments	<i>Provide any additional comments</i>

5.2 Data and Parameters Monitored

Complete the table below for all data and parameters that will be monitored during the project crediting period (copy the table as necessary for each data/parameter). The values provided are used to quantify the estimated reductions and removals for the project crediting period in Section 4 above.

Data / Parameter	
Data unit	<i>Indicate the unit of measure</i>
Description	<i>Provide a brief description of the data/parameter</i>
Source of data	<i>Indicate the source(s) of data</i>
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied	<i>Specify the measurement methods and procedures, any standards or protocols to be followed, and the person/entity responsible for the measurement. Include any relevant information regarding the accuracy of the measurements (e.g., accuracy associated with meter equipment or laboratory tests).</i>
Frequency of monitoring/recording	<i>Specify measurement and recording frequency</i>
Value applied	<i>Provide an estimated value for the data/parameter</i>
Monitoring equipment	<i>Identify equipment used to monitor the data/parameter including type, accuracy class, and serial number of equipment, as appropriate.</i>

QA/QC procedures to be applied	<i>Describe the quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) procedures to be applied, including the calibration procedures where applicable.</i>
Purpose of data	<i>Indicate one of the following:</i> • <i>Calculation of baseline emissions</i> • <i>Calculation of project emissions</i> • <i>Calculation of leakage</i>
Calculation method	<i>Where relevant, provide the calculation method, including any equations, used to establish the data/parameter.</i>
Comments	<i>Provide any additional comments</i>

5.3 Monitoring Plan

Describe the process and schedule for obtaining, recording, compiling and analyzing the monitored data and parameters set out in Section 5.2 (Data and Parameters Monitored) above.

Include details on the following:

- *The methods for measuring, recording, storing, aggregating, collating and reporting on monitored data and parameters. Where relevant, include the procedures for calibrating monitoring equipment.*
- *The organizational structure, responsibilities and competencies of the personnel that will be carrying out monitoring activities.*
- *The procedures for internal auditing and QA/QC.*
- *The procedures for handling non-conformances with the validated monitoring plan.*
- *Any sampling approaches used, including target precision levels, sample sizes, sample site locations, stratification, frequency of measurement and QA/QC procedures.*

Where appropriate, include line diagrams to display the GHG data collection and management system.

APPENDIX 1: COMMERCIALLY SENSITIVE INFORMATION

Use the table below to describe the commercially sensitive information included in the project description to be excluded in the public version.

Section	Information	Justification

APPENDIX X: <TITLE OF APPENDIX>

Use appendices for supporting information. Delete this appendix (title and instructions) where no appendix is required.