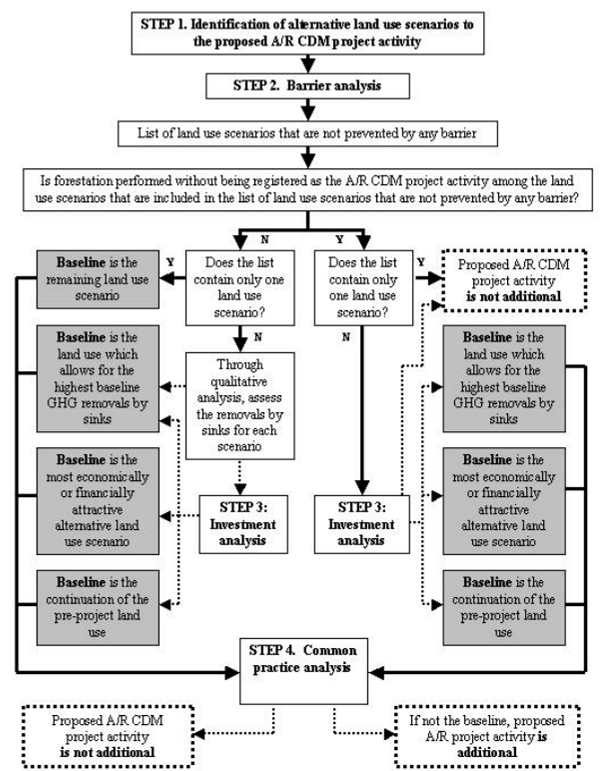
|  |
| --- |
| **Project Title** |
| ... |
| **Gold Standard ID** |
| … e.g. GS-0123 |

|  |
| --- |
| This template provides a simplified version of the criteria from the A/R CDM ‘Combined tool to identify the baseline scenario and demonstrate additionality in A/R CDM project activities’. The auditor may require additional information to fulfill all aspects of the tool. |



| STEP 1 **Identification of alternative land use scenarios to the proposed A/R CDM project activity** |
| --- |
| STEP 1a  **Identify credible alternative land use scenarios to the proposed CDM project activity**  *Extracted text from the A/R CDM tool:*  Identify realistic and credible land-use scenarios that would have occurred on the land within the proposed project boundary in the absence of the afforestation or reforestation project activity under the clean development mechanism (CDM).   The scenarios should be feasible for the project participants or similar project developers taking into account relevant national and/or sectoral policies and circumstances, such as historical land uses, practices and economic trends. The identified land use scenarios shall at least include: |
|  |
| Alternative Scenario 1 **Continuation of the pre-project land use** |
| … |
| Alternative Scenario 2 **Forestation of the land within the project boundary performed without being registered as  the A/R CDM project activity** |
| … |
| Alternative Scenario 3 - delete these cells if the scenario is: not applicable  **If applicable, forestation of at least a part of the land within the project boundary of the proposed A/R CDM project at a rate resulting from**   * **Legal requirements OR** * **Extrapolation of observed forestation activities in the geographical area with similar socio-economic and ecological conditions to the proposed A/R CDM project activity** |
| … |
| Alternative Scenario 4 - delete these cells if the scenario is: not applicable  **Title of an additional alternative scenario** |
| … |
| STEP 1b  **Consistency of credible alternative land use scenarios with enforced mandatory applicable**  **laws and regulations**  *Extracted text from the A/R CDM tool:*   * Demonstrate that all land use scenarios identified in the sub-step 1a: are in compliance with all mandatory applicable legal and regulatory requirements; * If an alternative does not comply with all mandatory applicable legislation and regulations then show that, based on an examination of current practice in the region in which the mandatory law or regulation applies, those applicable mandatory legal or regulatory requirements are systematically not enforced and that non-compliance with those requirements is widespread, i.e. prevalent on at least 30% of area of the smallest administrative unit that encompasses the project area; * Remove from the land use scenarios identified in the sub-step 1a, any land use scenarios which are not in compliance with applicable mandatory laws and regulations unless it can be shown these land use scenarios result from systematic lack of enforcement of applicable laws and regulations. |
|  |
| Alternative Scenario 1 **Continuation of the pre-project land use** |
| … |
| Alternative Scenario 2 **Forestation of the land within the project boundary performed without being registered as  the A/R CDM project activity** |
| … |
| Alternative Scenario 3 - delete these cells if the scenario is: not applicable  **If applicable, forestation of at least a part of the land within the project boundary of the proposed A/R CDM project at a rate resulting from**   * **Legal requirements OR** * **Extrapolation of observed forestation activities in the geographical area with similar socio-economic and ecological conditions to the proposed A/R CDM project activity** |
| … |
| Alternative Scenario 4 - delete these cells if the scenario is: not applicable  **Title of an additional alternative scenario** |
| … |

| STEP 2 **Barrier Analysis** |
| --- |
| STEP 2  **Identification of barriers that would prevent the implementation of land use scenarios in STEP 1b** |
|  |
| Alternative Scenario 1 **Continuation of the pre-project land use** |
| … |
| Alternative Scenario 2 **Forestation of the land within the project boundary performed without being registered as  the A/R CDM project activity** |
| … |
| Alternative Scenario 3 - delete these cells if the scenario is: not applicable or ‘NOT feasible’  **If applicable, forestation of at least a part of the land within the project boundary of the proposed A/R CDM project at a rate resulting from**   * **Legal requirements OR** * **Extrapolation of observed forestation activities in the geographical area with similar socio-economic and ecological conditions to the proposed A/R CDM project activity** |
| … |
| Alternative Scenario 4 - delete these cells if the scenario is: not applicable or ‘NOT feasible’  **Title of an additional alternative scenario** |
| … |
| **Final result** The determined baseline scenario is scenario **X** |
| Here, some barriers which can be selected from. Give clear evidence to these barriers in your description.  Delete this cell after you have used it for your STEP 2.     * + Investment barriers, other than insufficient financial returns as analyzed in Step 3, inter alia:     - Similar activities have only been implemented with grants or other non-commercial finance terms. In this context similar activities are defined as activities of a similar scale that take place in a comparable environment with respect to regulatory framework and are undertaken in the relevant geographical area;     - No private capital is available from domestic or international capital markets due to real or perceived risks associated with investments in the country where the A/R project activity is to be implemented, as demonstrated by the credit rating of the country or other country investment reports of reputed origin;     - Debt funding is not available for the land-use scenarios;     - Lack of access to credit.   + Institutional barriers, inter alia:     - Risk related to changes in government policies or laws;     - Lack of enforcement of land-use-related legislation.   + Technological barriers, inter alia:     - Lack of access to necessary materials, for example planting materials;     - Lack of infrastructure for implementation of the technology.   + Barriers related to local tradition, inter alia:     - Traditional knowledge or lack thereof, laws and customs, market conditions and practices;     - Traditional equipment and technology.   + Barriers due to prevailing practice, inter alia:     - The land use scenario is the “first of its kind”: No activity of this type is currently operational in the host country or region.   + Barriers due to local ecological conditions, inter alia:     - Degraded soil (e.g. water/wind erosion, salination, etc.);     - Catastrophic natural and / or human-induced events (e.g. land slides, fire, etc);     - Unfavorable meteorological conditions (e.g. early/late frost, drought);     - Pervasive opportunistic species preventing land use (e.g. grasses, weeds);     - Unfavorable course of ecological succession;     - Biotic pressure in terms of grazing, fodder collection, etc.   + Barriers due to social conditions, inter alia:     - Demographic pressure on the land (e.g. increased demand on land due to population growth);     - Social conflict among interest groups in the region where the project takes place;     - Widespread illegal practices (e.g. illegal grazing, non-timber product extraction and tree felling);     - Lack of skilled and/or properly trained labor force;     - Lack of organization of local communities.   + Barriers relating to land tenure, ownership, inheritance, and property rights, inter alia:     - Communal land ownership with a hierarchy of rights for different stakeholders limits the incentives to undertake the land-use scenarios;     - Lack of suitable land tenure legislation and regulation to support the security of tenure;     - Absence of clearly defined and regulated property rights in relation to natural resource products and services     - Formal and informal tenure systems that increase the risks of fragmentation of land holdings;     - Possibilities of large price risk due to the fluctuations in the prices of products over the project period in the absence of efficient markets and insurance mechanisms;     - Barriers relating to markets, transport and storage;     - Unregulated and informal markets for products and services prevent the transmission of effective information to project participants;     - Remoteness of land area and undeveloped road and infrastructure incur large transportation expenditures, thus eroding the competitiveness and profitability of products from the land use;     - Possibilities of large price risk due to the fluctuations in the prices products over the project period in the absence of efficient markets and insurance mechanisms;     - Absence of facilities to convert, store and add value to products resulting from land use limits the possibilities to capture rents from the land use scenario |

| STEP 3 **Investment Analysis** |
| --- |
| STEP 3a /3b / 3c **Determine appropriate analysis method** |
| (**x**) Option I - Simple Cost Analysis  (**x**) Option II - Investment Comparison Analysis  (**x**) Option III - Benchmark Analysis  is applied to demonstrate the additionality of the project activity.  … |
| STEP 3d  **Sensitivity analysis** |
| … |

| STEP 4 **Common practice analysis** |
| --- |
| *Extracted text from the A/R CDM tool:*  Provide an analysis to which extent similar forestation activities to the one proposed as the A/R CDM project activity have been implemented previously or are currently underway. Similar forestation activities are defined as that which are of similar scale, take place in a comparable environment, inter alia, with respect to the regulatory framework and are undertaken in the relevant geographical area, subject to further guidance by the underlying methodology. … Provide documented evidence and, where relevant, quantitative information. …  If forestation activities similar to the proposed A/R CDM project activity are identified, then compare the proposed project activity to the other similar forestation activities and assess whether there are essential distinctions between them. Essential distinctions may include a fundamental and verifiable change in circumstances under which the proposed A/R CDM project activity will be implemented when compared to circumstances under which similar forestations were carried out.  For example, barriers may exist, or promotional policies may have ended. If certain benefits rendered the similar forestation activities financially attractive (e.g., subsidies or other financial flows) explain, why the proposed A/R CDM project activity cannot use the benefits. If applicable, explain why the similar forestation activities did not face barriers to which the proposed A/R CDM project activity is subject. |
| … |