



**The Gold Standard Water Benefit Standard**

**PoA PDD template (beta)**

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# 4 Key Programme Information

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| **Programme of Activities Title** |
| ... |
| **Registry ID** |
| ... |
| **Type of Certification** |
|  |
| ☐ Initial Certification ☐ Performance Certification |

For each item listed below, please provide a general description in the corresponding box describing the Programme of Activities (PoA) in general. Be aware that market specific terms may not be appropriate for the readers of this summary. Refer to any supporting documentation where necessary. The formatting requirements provided in the Requirements Document chapter 9must be followed.

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| (a) Names of component projects |
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| b) Methodology being used (if applicable for PoA) |
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| (c) Primary PoA activities |
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| (d) Boundary of the PoA to define the area of influence. Additional location(s) of the project areas (GPS coordinates of major project features) may be included as support. It is essential that the description is accurate as mistakes are easily made and could lead to double counting of certificates. It is encouraged that the projects are illustrated with coordinates on a map (e.g. www.googlemaps.com) |
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| (e) Name and size of watershed(s) |
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| (f) Organisations that are involved in the PoA (project participants) |
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| (g) Communities involved in the PoA |
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| (h) Name of water service provider, water source and predicted annual volume (m3) used (where applicable) |
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| (i) Time frame for the PoA (duration and crediting period) |
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| (j) Number of (predicted per year) WBCs based on scale of PoA |
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| (k) Financial structure (sources of capital expenditure and operational expenditure funds over project crediting period or project asset life cycle). |
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# 5 Baseline and Monitoring Methodology

## Methodology

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| Reference of Methodology |
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| Applicability of Methodology |
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| Establishment and Description of Baseline Scenario |
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| Demonstration of Financial Needs |
| ... |

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| Explanation of Methodological Choices |
| ... |

## Monitoring Plan

Data and Parameters to be monitored **on** site

*(Copy this table for each piece of data and parameter.)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Data / Parameter:** |  |
|  |  |
| Data unit: |  |
| Description: |  |
| Source of data: |  |
| Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied: |  |
| Monitoring frequency: |  |
| QA / QC procedures to be applied: |  |
| Purpose of data: |  |
| Additional comment: |  |

Data and Parameters to be monitored **off** site

*(Copy this table for each piece of data and parameter.)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Data / Parameter:** |  |
| Data unit: |  |
| Description: |  |
| Source of data: |  |
| Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied: |  |
| Monitoring frequency: |  |
| QA / QC procedures to be applied: |  |
| Purpose of data: |  |
| Additional comment: |  |

# 6 Sustainability Assessment

## 6.1 Watershed Risk Assessment

If the entire PoA is assessed, the following points need to be addressed in the risk assessment.

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| --- | --- |
| 1.1 | Is the programme’s physical area of influence (e.g. basin, watershed) in a water stressed or water scarce region?  The programme is required to provide evidence of the over stress of the basin in which it operates and demonstrate that it’s consumption of water is negligible compared to the overall availability of water within the basin. |
| Answer | **Yes No** (delete not applicable answer) |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** [Aqueduct](http://www.wri.org/our-work/project/aqueduct)[,](http://atlas.gwsp.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=189&Itemid=68) [GWSP Digital water Atlas](http://atlas.gwsp.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=189&Itemid=68), [Water Risk Filter](http://waterriskfilter.panda.org/), [WBCSD Global Water Tool](http://www.wbcsd.org/work-program/sector-projects/water/global-water-tool.aspx) .  or other recognised tools  **Method:** An analysis of the water scarcity within the project’s physical area of influence (e.g. basin, watershed) and impacts assessed. |
| Monitoring | 3.5 years |
| Explanation of answer | Provide explanation to support answer including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 1.2 | Will the PoA exacerbate and therefore contribute to any negative impacts to the natural pattern of the watershed(s) such as high seasonal flow variability, flooding potential, lack of aquatic connectivity, drought, or climate change?  The risk of the programme negatively impacting the catchment shall be assessed and addressed to ensure its ongoing, long-term viability and impact on surrounding social economic and environmental assets. |
| Answer | **Yes No** (delete not applicable answer) |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Mapping tools, or other appropriate nationally recognised tools  **Methods:** Online tools, visual inspection, engineering or physical assessment. Use historical flow records, land use records, and verbal or written surveys with local agencies and residents. Examination of longitudinal and lateral conductivity to check connectivity of flows, including vertical connectivity (i.e. sufficient flows or dead zones). |
| Monitoring | **No** 3.5 years  **Yes** Annually |
| Explanation of answer | Provide explanation to support answer including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 1.3 | Does the PoA area and its 25 km radius contain largely intact or High Conservation Value  (HCV) ecosystems, landscapes , key biodiversity areas, or sites, e.g. Ramsar wetlands, World Heritage Areas, 'wilderness' areas, free-flowing rivers, unique or species-rich areas, threatened or endangered species, migratory species as defined by treaties and national authorities or areas of natural cultural significance?  If yes, the risk of the programme negatively impacting the catchment and risks impacting programme success shall be assessed and addressed to ensure its ongoing, long-term viability and impact on surrounding HCV and ecological assets. |
| Answer | **Yes No** (delete not applicable answer) |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Mapping tools such as [LEFT](https://left.zoo.ox.ac.uk:8443/left/welcome.html), [IUCN Red List](http://www.iucnredlist.org/) or other appropriate nationally recognised tools may be used or visual inspection.  **Method:** Online tools, visual inspection, engineering or physical assessment. Use historical data and verbal or written surveys with local residents. |
| Monitoring | **No** 3.5 years  **Yes** Annually |
| Explanation of answer | Provide explanation to support answer including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 1.4 | Is the PoA area of influence likely to undergo significant socio-economic or environmental change during the issuance period?  If yes, the risk of the programme negatively impacting the catchment and risks impacting programme success shall be assessed and addressed to ensure its ongoing, long-term viability and impact on surrounding social-economic and environmental assets. |
| Answer | **Yes No** (delete not applicable answer) |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Local government planning permits, media, travel warnings local residents, agencies government, UN agencies, economic reports, climatic shifts  **Method** : An assessment using the above tools shall be carried out |
| Monitoring | **No** 3.5 years  **Yes** Annually |
| Explanation of answer | Provide explanation to support answer including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 1.5 | Is the PoA area of influence likely to impact environmental water flows required to sustain freshwater and estuarine ecosystems and the human livelihoods and well-being that depend on these ecosystems?  The programme is required to ensure that daily flow variations (including the projects’ existing impacts) are less than 20%. |
| Answer | **Yes No** (delete not applicable answer) |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Historical records**,** ongoing monitoring and reporting through data logging of physical measurements, online sources, government data  **Methods**: Quantitative documentation of all sources and volumes of water abstractions. Use of weirs and gauges, flow meters, pump energy consumption, transpiration rates, government data |
| Monitoring | **No** 3.5 years  **Yes** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support answer including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

## 6.2 Sustainability Assessment

### Scoring

Each requirement is assessed according to the following criteria.

* **Negative (-)**: There is a risk that the project will negatively impact the requirement. Mitigation is required and will be monitored for the duration of the project.
* **Neutral (0)**: The project will not have any impact on the requirement. Mitigation is not required.
* **Positive (+)**: The project will positively impact the requirement and will be monitored for the duration of the project.
* **Enhance (E)**: The indicator is neutral, but can be improved over the lifetime of the project and become positive. Requires monitoring for the duration of the project.
* **Not Relevant (NR)**: The requirement is not relevant to the project methodology and/or design. Mitigation is not required.

Projects are required to score Positive or Enhance against at least six of the socio-economic indicators (categories 1-3) and at least six of the environmental indicators (categories 4-5).

A justification paragraph and reference source is required for each indicator, regardless of score. References can be an academic or non-academic source, such as a university research document, a feasibility study report, environmental impact assessment, relevant website, etc.

Monitoring begins following the initial certification

**Indicators**

Socio-economic sections: 1-3

Environmental sections: 4 -7

1. [Human rights and socio-economic situation](https://collaborase.com/standards/1199#HumanRights)
2. [Working conditions](https://collaborase.com/standards/1199#WorkingConditions)
3. [Food security](https://collaborase.com/standards/1199#FoodSecurity)
4. [Water quality](https://collaborase.com/standards/1199#WaterQuality)
5. [Other Pollutants](https://collaborase.com/standards/1199#AirQuality)

**1. Human rights and socio-economic condition**

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| --- | --- |
| 1.1 | Universal access to water resources and infrastructure are assured by the PoA. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | No discriminatory rights, tariffs, or access included in project designs, financial plans, or operations plans |
| Data sources and method | **Metrics**: Water rights, tariffs, access locations, others as defined in project methodologies **Data Sources**: PDD and other project documentation.  **Assessment Methods**: Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys |
| Monitoring frequency | Annual |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1.2 | Legal rights, customary rights, special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance of indigenous peoples and local communities are assured by the PoA. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | No transfer of control, involuntary relocation, or restricted access directed in PDD, policies and procedures, or operations plans. |
| Data sources and method | **Metrics**: Transfer of control from indigenous people and local communities to project owner; involuntary relocation; access to NTFPs or public areas.  **Sources**: Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods**: Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys |
| Monitoring frequency | Annual |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

**2. Working Conditions**

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| --- | --- |
| 2.1 | Workers shall be able to establish and join labour organizations. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | **Minimum**: There shall not be *forced labour*1*.* |
| Data sources and method | **Sources**: Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods**: Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 2.2 | Working agreements with all individual workers shall be implemented. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | **Minimum**: Workers and labour organizations shall be generally satisfied with their *working agreements.* These shall at minimum comprise:   1. working hours, AND 2. duties and tasks, AND 3. remuneration, AND 4. modalities on health insurance, AND 5. modalities on termination of the contract. |
| Data sources and method | **Sources**: Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods**: Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys positive |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 2.3 | The project will uphold the ILO Fundamental Conventions1 |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** ILO convention documents  **Methods:** LSC or separate workshops, interviews |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 2.4 | Workers shall be informed in a workshop about their rights according to the 8 ILO  Fundamental Conventions1. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** ILO convention documents  **Methods:** LSC or separate workshops, interviews |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 2.5 | There shall be no child labour1. Excepted are children for work on their families’ property as long as:   1. their compulsory schooling (minimum of 6 schooling years) is not hindered, AND 2. the tasks they perform do not harm their physical and mental development. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods:** Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys positive |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 2.6 | Workers below the age of 18 year shall not work during night hours. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods:** Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys positive |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 2.7 | Workers shall:   1. be compensated for their overtime, AND 2. not work in excess of 48 hours per week on a regular basis, AND 3. have an annual leave of at least 10 days per year, not including sick and casual leave. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods:** Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys positive |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 2.8 | A health insurance scheme for workers is provided. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods:** Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys positive |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 2.9 | The following forms of discrimination shall not be tolerated:   1. gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or any other basis, OR 2. physical and mental punishment and coercion, OR 3. sexual harassment |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods:** Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys positive |
| Monitoring frequency | Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 2.10 | The project owner should not be involved in corruption and shall comply with anti-corruption legislation where this exists. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods:** Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys positive |
| Monitoring frequency | Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 2.11 | The project owner shall publicise a commitment not to offer or receive bribes in money or any other form of corruption. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods:** Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys positive |
| Monitoring frequency | Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 2.12 | For workers there shall be:   1. provisions for first aid, AND 2. provisions for the safe transport of workers, AND 3. provisions for timely evacuation of workers to an adequately equipped medical facility in case of serious accident, AND 4. provisions for the safe transport, storage, handling and application of fertilisers and pesticides regarding human health and the environment, AND 5. if workers stay in camps for a longer period of time, measures shall be provided to ensure that conditions for accommodation and nutrition comply at least with those specified in the ILO Codes of Practice1*.* |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods:** Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys positive |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 2.13 | Workers shall have job-specific training to safely implement the project activities. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods:** Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys positive |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 2.14 | Workers shall appoint an individual to have overall responsibility for ‘Health & Safety’ at the worksite. This individual shall have demonstrated expertise, skills or experience in medical treatment. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods:** Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys positive |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 2.15 | Workers shall have safe protective equipment, tools and machinery appropriate for their work. *Hazardous work*2 shall not be carried out by people that have:   1. mental handicaps, AND 2. chronic, hepatic or renal diseases (work with heavy machinery excepted), AND 3. respiratory diseases, AND 4. are between 15 and 18 years old, AND 5. pregnant or nursing women |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods:** Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys positive |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| --- | --- |
| 2.16 | Workers handling pesticides, fertilizers or other harmful substances to human health on a regular basis are examined by a doctor once per year. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods:** Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys positive |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

**3. Food security**

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| --- | --- |
| 3.1 | Food security and human health of local community surrounding the area of influence shall not be negatively affected by the PoA. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Project planning, design, financial and operations plans.  **Methods:** Interviews with project owner and stakeholders; verbal or written surveys positive |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

**4. Water quality**

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| 4.1 | All potentially polluting substances, relevant to the water system of the area of influence, are identified. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | **Minimum**: The PD shall identify the following substances that are considered:   1. a hazardous to the Aquatic Environment (H-phrases), a main pollutant according to the [EC Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32000L0060). 2. [a priority substance or specific pollutant in river basin according to the EC Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC).](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32000L0060) 3. a pollutant by the local/ national legislation.   The PD shall identify and evaluate the eutrophication potential. |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Project planning, design, financial and operations plans, professional reports.  **Methods:** Professional assessment or physical identification of pollutants and destinations, water quality assessment, identification of nutrient sources (N,P)  A complete and up-to-date inventory of all applied substances, indicating the frequency and amount/ volume applied.  For each potentially polluting substance, an inventory and characterization of the type of pollution (i.e. point of non-point) and potential discharge destinations. |
| Monitoring frequency | **0/NR** 3.5 years  **+/-/E** Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

**5. Other Pollutants**

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| --- | --- |
| 5.1 | All sources of waste and *waste products* shall be identified and classified. *Waste products* include amongst others:   1. chemical wastes, AND 2. containers, AND 3. fuels and oils, AND 4. human waste, AND 5. rubbish (including metals, plastics, organic and paper products), AND 6. abandoned buildings, machinery or equipment |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Method:** Physical inspection |
| Monitoring frequency | Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 5.2 | Fertilizers shall be avoided, or their use shall be minimised and justified |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Method:** Physical inspection |
| Monitoring frequency | Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 5.3 | Chemical pesticides shall be avoided, or their use shall be minimised |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Method:** Physical inspection |
| Monitoring frequency | Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| 5.4 | Biological control agents3shall be avoided, or their use shall be minimised and justified. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Method:** Physical inspection |
| Monitoring frequency | Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

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| --- | --- |
| 5.5 | The PoA shall not impact negatively on indoor or outdoor air quality |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | As stated |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:**  **Method:** Physical inspection |
| Monitoring frequency | Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 5.6 | All greenhouse gas emissions shall be documented and identified |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** (delete all not applicable ratings) |
| Requirement | **Minimum**: When emissions are likely to exceed 10,000 tonnes of C02-equivalent per year, mitigation measures must be put in place |
| Data sources and method | **Sources:** Published GHG emissions factors, project operations plans, estimates of on-site combustion, estimates of purchased power  **Method:** Calculation of carbon footprint using scope 1 and scope 2 emissions. |
| Monitoring frequency | Annually |
| Explanation of rating | Provide explanation to support rating including sources and methods used, reasons for choice of sources and methods, estimation of impact, etc. |

1. [**ILO Fundamental Conventions:**](file:///C:\Users\Brendan\Google%20Drive\Water\final%20pdf%20exports\ILO%20Fundamental%20Conventions:) [**http://ilo.org/global/standards/introduction-to-international- labour standards/conventions-and-recommendations/lang--en/index.htm**](http://ilo.org/global/standards/introduction-to-international-%20%20labour%20standards/conventions-and-recommendations/lang--en/index.htm)
2. **Hazardous work is referring to types of work where pesticides, fertilisers and heavy machinery are involved**
3. **Biological control agents: (Source: FSC) Organisms used to eliminate or regulate the population of other organisms.**

## 6.3 Sustainability Monitoring Plan

1. All non-neutral indicators shall be monitored.
2. All mitigation measures identified in the Watershed Risk Assessment shall be monitored.
3. All mitigation measures put in place to ‘neutralise’ Sustainability indicators shall be monitored.
4. All measures put in place to address stakeholder concerns shall be monitored.

The table format for the ‘Sustainability Monitoring Plan’ is provided below. A separate table should be prepared in the PDD for each of the parameters to be monitored.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sustainability Monitoring ID | |  |
| Indicator for | |  |
| Mitigation measure | |  |
| Chosen parameter | |  |
| Current situation of parameter | |  |
| Estimation of baseline situation of parameter | |  |
| Target for parameter | |  |
| Monitoring | How will it be monitored and documented? |  |
| Who is responsible for monitoring and documentation? |  |
| When will it be monitored (duration and frequency)? |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Justification choices, data source and provision of references**  A justification paragraph and reference source is required for each indicator, regardless of score. References can be an academic or non-academic source, such as a university research document, a feasibility study report, environmental impact assessment, relevant website, etc. | |
| **Socio-Economic** |  |
| 1. Human rights and socio-economic situation | ... |
| 2. Working conditions | ... |
| 3. Food security | ... |
| **Environmental** |  |
| 4. Water quality | … |
| 5. Other pollutants | … |

## 6.4 Local Stakeholder Consultation (LSC)

**Design of physical meeting(s)**

|  |
| --- |
| **Agenda** |
| ...  Ensure that at least the following points are covered, but feel free to add more points as needed:   * Opening of the meeting * Explanation of the project; based on the content of the ‘Key Project Information’ * Discussion of continuous input and grievance mechanism * Questions for clarification about the project * Blind ‘Sustainability Assessment’ exercise * Discussion on monitoring the mitigation measures * Closure of the meeting |

**Invitation tracking table**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category code** | **Organisation**  **(if relevant)** | **Name of invitee** | **Way of invitation** | **Date of invitation** | **Confirmation received? Y/N** |
| ... See definitions of the  WBS Requirements. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

|  |
| --- |
| **Describe your selection** |
| ...  Explain how you decided that the above organisations/individuals are relevant stakeholders to your project.  Also, please discuss how your invitation methods seek to include a broad range of stakeholders (e.g. gender, age, ethnicity). |

|  |
| --- |
| **Text of individual invitations** |
| ... |

|  |
| --- |
| **Description of other consultation methods used** |
| ...  If individuals or entities (e.g. NGOs) are unable to attend the physical meeting, please discuss other methods that were used to solicit their feedback/comments (e.g. questionnaires, phone calls, interviews etc). |

**Participants in physical meeting(s)**

|  |
| --- |
| **Reference ID to the original participants list** |
| ... |
| Additional comments:  … |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Participants list** |  |  |  |  |
| **Date and time** | ... |  |  |  |
| **Location** | ... |  |  |  |
| **Category Code** | **Name of participant, job/ position in the community** | **Male/Female** | **Signature** | **Organisation**  **(if relevant)** |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

**Evaluation forms**

|  |
| --- |
| **Reference ID to the original ‘evaluation forms’** |
| ... |
| Additional comments:  … |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Summarise the main comments in the table below (please translate into English if necessary).**  **Provide references to the individual ‘evaluation forms’.** | |
| What is your impression of the meeting? | … |
| What do you like about the project? | … |
| What do you not like about the project? | … |

|  |
| --- |
| **Pictures from physical meeting(s)** |
| ... |

**Outcome of consultation process**

|  |
| --- |
| **Minutes of physical meeting(s)** |
| ...  Ensure that you include a summary of the meeting, as well as all comments received. Also include an outline of the discussions on continuous input and grievance expression methods; comments, agreements or modifications suggested by stakeholders. |

|  |
| --- |
| **Minutes of other consultations** |
| ... |

## Assessment of all comments

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Stakeholder comment** | **Was comment taken into account (Y/N)** | **Explanation (Why? How?)** |
| ... | ... | ... |

|  |
| --- |
| Summary of alterations based on comments |
| ...  If stakeholder comments have been taken into account and any aspect of the project modified, then please discuss that here. |

**Sustainability Assessment**

Summary of Sustainable Development Assessment of the stakeholders - BLIND exercise:

1. **Human rights and socio-economic condition**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1.1 | Universal access to water resources and infrastructure are assured by project. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1.2 | Legal rights, customary rights, special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance of indigenous peoples and local communities are assured by the project. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

1. **Working Conditions**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.1 | Workers shall be able to establish and join labour organizations |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.2 | Working agreements with all individual workers shall be implemented |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.3 | The project will uphold the ILO Fundamental Conventions |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.4 | Workers shall be informed in a workshop about their rights according to the 8 *ILO*  *Fundamental Conventions* |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.5 | There shall be no *child labour.* Excepted are children for work on their families’ property as long as:   1. their compulsory schooling (minimum of 6 schooling years) is not hindered, AND 2. the tasks they perform do not harm their physical and mental development |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.6 | Workers below the age of 18 year shall not work during night hours. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.7 | Workers shall:   1. be compensated for their overtime, AND 2. not work in excess of 48 hours per week on a regular basis, AND 3. have an annual leave of at least 10 days per year, not including sick and casual leave. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.8 | A health insurance scheme for workers is provided |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.9 | The following forms of discrimination shall not be tolerated:   1. gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or any other basis, OR 2. physical and mental punishment and coercion, OR 3. sexual harassment. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.10 | The project owner should not be involved in corruption and shall comply with anticorruption legislation where this exists. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.11 | The project owner shall publicise a commitment not to offer or receive bribes in money or any other form of corruption. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.12 | For workers there shall be:   1. provisions for first aid, AND 2. provisions for the safe transport of workers, AND 3. provisions for timely evacuation of workers to an adequately equipped medical facility in case of serious accident, AND 4. provisions for the safe transport, storage, handling and application of fertilisers and pesticides regarding human health and the environment, AND 5. if workers stay in camps for a longer period of time, measures shall be provided to ensure that conditions for accommodation and nutrition comply at least with those specified in the *ILO Codes of Practice.* |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.13 | Workers shall have job-specific training to safely implement the project activities. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.14 | Workers shall appoint an individual to have overall responsibility for ‘Health & Safety’ at the worksite. This individual shall have demonstrated expertise, skills or experience in medical treatment. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.15 | Workers shall have safe protective equipment, tools and machinery appropriate for their work. *Hazardous work* shall not be carried out by people that have:   1. mental handicaps, AND 2. chronic, hepatic or renal diseases (work with heavy machinery excepted), AND (c) respiratory diseases, AND 3. are between 15 and 18 years old, AND 4. pregnant or nursing women. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.16 | Workers handling pesticides, fertilizers or other harmful substances to human health on a regular basis are examined by a doctor once per year. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

1. **Food security**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 3.1 | Food security and human health of *local communities* surrounding the project shall not be negatively affected by the project activities. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

1. **Water quality**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 4.1 | All potentially polluting substances, relevant to the water system of the area of influence, are identified. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 4.2 | All discharge points relevant to the project are known with respect to:   1. location, AND 2. environmental sensitivity, AND 3. socio-economic importance. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

1. **Air quality**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 5.1 | All sources of waste and *waste products* shall be identified and classified. *Waste products* include amongst others:   1. chemical wastes, AND 2. containers, AND 3. fuels and oils, AND 4. human waste, AND 5. rubbish (including metals, plastics, organic and paper products), AND (f) abandoned buildings, machinery or equipment. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 5.2 | Fertilizers shall be avoided, or their use shall be minimised and justified. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 5.3 | Chemical pesticides shall be avoided, or their use shall be minimised. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 5.4 | Biological control agents shall be avoided, or their use shall be minimised and justified. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 5.5 | The project shall not impact negatively on indoor or outdoor air quality. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 5.6 | All greenhouse gas emissions shall be documented and identified. |
| Rating | **- 0 + E NR** |
| Mitigation measure |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Comments accompanying the BLIND exercise** |
| … |

|  |
| --- |
| **Main differences** |
| ...  Give an analysis of the differences between own sustainable development assessment and the one resulting from the blind exercise with the stakeholders. Explain how both were consolidated. |

**Sustainability Monitoring Plan**

|  |
| --- |
| **Discussion on Sustainability Monitoring Plan** |
| ...  Discuss stakeholders’ ideas on monitoring indicators of the Sustainable Development Assessment. Do people have ideas on how this could be done in a cost effective way? Are there ways in which stakeholders can participate in the monitoring? |

**Discussion on continuous Input and Grievance Mechanism**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Discussion on Sustainability Monitoring Plan**  Discuss the continuous Input and Grievance Mechanism expression method and details, as discussed with local stakeholders. | | |
|  | **Method chosen**  **(include all known details e.g. location of book, phone, number, identity of mediator)** | **Justification** |
| **Continuous Input and**  **Grievance Expression** | … | … |
| **Process Book** |  |  |
| **Telephone access** | … | … |
| **Internet/email access** | … | … |
| **Nominated Independent**  **Mediator (optional)** | … | … |

## Stakeholder feedback round

|  |
| --- |
| **Description of the design of the stakeholder feedback round** |
| ... |

**6.5 List of Input and Grievances**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Comment** | **Action requested from project owner** | **Response from project owner** | **Person designated with responsibility by project owner** | **Issue resolved?** |
|  | Explanation of problem or comment. | What would the stakeholder like to see change/stay the same. | Explanation from the project of what they will do in response to the comment. This may be an explanation as to why the project is unable to respond/does not see the problem as necessary to address. | Identification of who will take responsibility for responding AND monitoring of the issue. | This could be confirmation from the person who made the complaint, or the project. |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

## 6.6 Legal Rights

Project Participants and Secured Water Titles

|  |
| --- |
| **a) Entity that owns the water user rights** |
| ☐ N/A, water user rights are not relevant to the project OR this entity is also the project owner. |
| If (a) is not the project owner, the persons or legal entities that is (a) shall endorse the expected project being undertaken by the project owner through an agreement that aligns with the duration of the crediting period.  … |
| Legal entity:  Name of the organization  Street  Postal code, City  Country  Contact person:  First name, Last name  Position  Mobile phone  Email |
| Provide the entity’s legal registration number below and attach any documentation by the governing jurisdiction that proves that the entity is in good standing. |
| … |
| Define the rights of this entity: |
| ☐ Authority to instruct the Gold Standard Secretariat. |
| ☐ Authority to request or communicate the addition or edits of project participants (e.g. voluntary withdrawal of project participants, updates of contact details, etc.). |
| ☐ Authority to receive all information from The Gold Standard Secretariat on matters related to the project. |

|  |
| --- |
| **(b) Entity that owns the WBC rights** |
| ☐ N/A, this entity is also the project owner. |
| If (b) is not the project owner, the persons or legal entities that is (b) shall endorse the expected project being undertaken by the project owner through an agreement that aligns with the duration of the crediting period  … |
| **Legal entity:**  Name of the organization  Street  Postal code, City  Country  **Contact person:**  First name, Last name  Position  Mobile phone  Email |
| Provide the entity’s legal registration number below and attach any documentation by the governing jurisdiction that proves that the entity is in good standing. |
| … |
| **Define the rights of this entity:** |
| ☐ Authority to instruct the Gold Standard Secretariat. |
| ☐ Authority to request or communicate the addition or edits of project participants (e.g. voluntary withdrawal of project participants, updates of contact details, etc.). |
| ☐ Authority to receive all information from The Gold Standard Secretariat on matters related to the project. |

|  |
| --- |
| **(c) Entity that holds an uncontested legal water title for the area within the project boundary** |
| ☐ N/A, this entity is also the project owner. |
| If (c) is not the project owner, the persons or legal entities that is (b) shall endorse the expected project being undertaken by the project owner through an agreement that aligns with the duration of the crediting period.  … |
| **Legal entity:**  Name of the organization  Street  Postal code, City  Country  **Contact person:**  First name, Last name  Position  Mobile phone  Email |
| Entity's legal registration number and documentation by the governing jurisdiction that proves that the entity is in good standing. |
| … |
| **Define the rights of this entity:** |
| ☐ Authority to instruct the Gold Standard Secretariat. |
| ☐ Authority to request or communicate the addition or edits of project participants (e.g. voluntary withdrawal of project participants, updates of contact details, etc.). |
| ☐ Authority to receive all information from The Gold Standard Secretariat on matters related to the project. |

|  |
| --- |
| **(d)**  **Entity that holds all necessary permits to implement the project (water usage permits, infrastructure permits etc.)** |
| ☐ N/A, this entity is also the project owner. |
| If (d) is not the project owner, the persons or legal entities that is (d) shall endorse the expected project being undertaken by the project owner through an agreement that aligns with the duration of the crediting period  … |
| **Legal entity:**  Name of the organization  Street  Postal code, City  Country  **Contact person:**  First name, Last name  Position  Mobile phone  Email |
| Entity's legal registration number and documentation by the governing jurisdiction that proves that the entity is in good standing. |
| … |
| **Define the rights of this entity:** |
| ☐ Authority to instruct The Gold Standard Secretariat. |
| ☐ Authority to request or communicate the addition or edits of project participants (e.g. voluntary withdrawal of project participants, updates of contact details, etc.). |
| ☐ Authority to receive all information from The Gold Standard Secretariat on matters related to the project. |

|  |
| --- |
| **(e)**  **Entity that participates in the financing of the project** |
| ☐ N/A, this entity is also the project owner. |
| If (e) is not the project owner, the persons or legal entities that is (e) shall endorse the expected project being undertaken by the project owner through an agreement that aligns with the duration of the crediting period  … |
| **Legal entity:**  Name of the organization  Street  Postal code, City  Country  **Contact person:**  First name, Last name  Position  Mobile phone  Email |
| Entity's legal registration number and documentation by the governing jurisdiction that proves that the entity is in good standing. |
| … |
| **Define the rights of this entity:** |
| ☐ Authority to instruct The Gold Standard Secretariat. |
| ☐ Authority to request or communicate the addition or edits of project participants (e.g. voluntary withdrawal of project participants, updates of contact details, etc.). |
| ☐ Authority to receive all information from The Gold Standard Secretariat on matters related to the project. |

**Project Representatives**

Copy this box if necessary.

|  |
| --- |
| **Other project participant** |
| **Legal entity:**  Name of the organization  Street  Postal code, City Country  **Contact person:** |
| First name, Last name  Position  Mobile phone  Email |
| **Role of this project participant** |
| … e.g. project consultant |
| **Define the rights of this entity:** |
| ☐ Authority to instruct The Gold Standard Secretariat. |
| ☐ Authority to request or communicate the addition or edits of project participants (e.g. voluntary withdrawal of project participants, updates of contact details, etc.). |
| ☐ Authority to receive all information from The Gold Standard Secretariat on matters related to the project. |

# 7 Financial Needs Assessment

**Track 1 Positive List**

|  |
| --- |
| **Demonstration of project compliance with the Positive List Criteria** |
| **Listed Item** |
|  |
| Please provide justification of the appropriateness of the listed item to the project. Documentation should be provided where appropriate  **…** |

**Track 2 Financial Needs Assessment**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Does the project comply with Positive List criteria?** | **☐ Yes (Track 2 may then be omitted)**  **☐ No (Track 2 shall be completed)** |
| ☐ Baseline and Alternative Conditions | ☐ Legal Screen |
| ☐ Barrier Analysis | ☐ Investment Analysis |
| ☐ Sensitivity Analysis | ☐ Common Practice Analysis |
| **Step 1 - Identify Baseline Conditions**  Describe baseline conditions prior to project implementation | |
| **Step 2 - Identify Alternatives**  Identify alternatives to the proposed project that would provide a level of service reasonably equivalent to the project | |
| **Step 3 - Assess Local Legal Requirements**  Identify any legal mandates or regulations requiring implementation of the project  Identify any legal regulations that would prevent continuation of baseline conditions  Identify new regulations or reasonably expected legislation requiring project implementation or continuation of the baseline | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Step 4 - Assess Barriers to the Project**  Assess and describe materiality, generality, and relevance to the project | |
| ☐Investment | Assess and describe material, generality, and relevance to the project |
| ☐ Institutional | Assess and describe material, generality, and relevance to the project |
| ☐ Technological | Assess and describe material, generality, and relevance to the project |
| ☐ Local Tradition | Assess and describe material, generality, and relevance to the project |
| ☐ Prevailing Practice | Assess and describe material, generality, and relevance to the project |
| ☐ Local Ecological  Conditions | Assess and describe material, generality, and relevance to the project |
| ☐ Local Social Conditions | Assess and describe material, generality, and relevance to the project |
| ☐ Land Tenure, Ownership,  Inheritance, and Rights | Assess and describe material, generality, and relevance to the project |
| **Step 5 - Analyse the Financial Feasibility of the Project with and without WBC Revenue**  Demonstrate financial feasibility using one of the following analysis methods | |
| ☐ Simple Cost Analysis | If the project is expected to generate no revenues except for WBC revenue |
| ☐ Investment Benchmark  Analysis | If the project is expected to utilize operating or capital grant revenues and/or will generate other operating revenues (e.g. product sales, tariffs) |
| **Step 6 - Conduct Common Practice Test**  Demonstrate that the project claiming financial need under Track 2 is not common practice in the project locality, region or country where it is proposed to be located. | |

# 8 Terms and conditions

**Terms & Conditions and Cover Letter**

Declaration of correct project information

I hereby certify and declare that, to the best of my knowledge, the project complies with all project documentation submitted to The Gold Standard. I understand and agree that The Gold Standard may request an independent audit of compliance with The Gold Standard Requirements at any time. I further understand and agree that The Gold Standard may reject the project and, in its discretion, announce the rejection or revocation of the project if any of The Gold Standard Requirements are violated or if information provided to The Gold Standard in connection with the project is at any time false or inaccurate. The Gold Standard may also, in its sole discretion, take any action against a project for noncompliance with The Gold Standard Requirements.

**Declaration of compliance with local laws**

I hereby certify and declare that, to the best of my knowledge, the above referenced project has complied and is in conformance with all federal, state, and local regulations and standards that govern and are applicable to this project.

**Warranties**

I have read and I understand The Gold Standard Requirements and guidelines and The Gold Standard Terms & Conditions. I warrant that the above-referenced project complies with The Gold Standard Requirements and guidelines and The Gold Standard Terms & Conditions.

**Fees**

I further acknowledge and agree that the entity signing this document shall pay any and all fees associated with this project.

**Issuance of Water Benefits Certificates**

By way of this Cover Letter, I am instructing The Gold Standard to issue the Water Benefits Certificates resulting from this project to The Gold Standard Registry account of the project developer named below.

**Indemnification**

The entity signing this document, both jointly or individually as permitted by law, will indemnify and hold The Gold Standard harmless for any loss, cost or damage incurred by The Gold Standard in the event any statement, representation or warranty provided herein is false or incorrect.

**Governing Law**

The laws of Switzerland govern this Cover Letter.

**Signature**

I have the authority to make the representations contained in this Cover Letter on the date first written below.

|  |
| --- |
| **Project owner** |
| **Legal entity:**  Name of the organization  Street  Postal code, City Country  **Contact person:**  First name, Last name  Position  Mobile phone  Email |
| **Place, Date and Signature** |
| … |