



Gold Standard
for the Global Goals

TEMPLATE

KEY PROJECT INFORMATION & VPA DESIGN DOCUMENT (VPA PDD)

PUBLICATION DATE ~~XX/XX/14.04.2023~~04.05.2022

VERSION v. ~~2.0~~1

RELATED SUPPORT

- [Programme of Activity requirements](#)

- [TEMPLATE GUIDE ~~Key Project Information &~~ VPA Design Document v.2.~~1~~.1](#)

This document contains the following Sections

~~Key Project Information~~

~~Section A~~SECTION A – Description of project

~~Section B~~SECTION B - Application of approved Gold Standard Methodology (ies) and/or demonstration of SDG Contributions

~~Section C~~SECTION C – Duration and crediting period

~~Section D~~SECTION D – Summary of Safeguarding Principles and Gender Sensitive Assessment

~~Section E~~SECTION E – Summary of Local stakeholder consultation

~~Section F~~SECTION F - Eligibility and inclusion criteria for VPAs inclusion

Appendix 1 – Safeguarding Principles Assessment (mandatory)

~~Appendix 2- Contact information of VPA Implementer~~
~~Appendix 2 — Contact information of VPA Implementer~~
~~Appendix 2_ — Contact information of VPA Implementer~~ (mandatory)

Appendix 3 ~~—~~ LUF Additional Information (VPA specific)

~~Appendix 4 - Design Changes~~
~~Appendix 4 — Design Changes~~
~~Appendix 4 Summary of Approved Design Changes~~
~~Appendix 3 — Summary of Approved Design Changes (VPA specific)~~

KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

Type of VPA	<input type="checkbox"/> Real case VPA <input type="checkbox"/> Regular VPA
Scale of VPA Note that a VPA can be of one scale. Please select applicable scale accordingly.	<input type="checkbox"/> Microscale <input type="checkbox"/> Small scale <input type="checkbox"/> Large scale
Title of corresponding real case VPA (if applicable)	
GS ID of real case VPA (if applicable)	
GS ID of VPA	
Title of VPA	
Time of First Submission Date	
Date of Design Certification	
Version number of the VPA-DD	
Completion date of version	
Coordinating/managing entity	
VPA Implementer (s)	
Project Participants and any communities involved	
Host Country (ies)	
GS ID and Title of applicable Design Certified VPA	
GS ID and Title of applicable Performance Certified VPA	
Activity Requirements applied	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Services Activities <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy Activities <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Forestry Activities/Risks & Capacities <input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Other Requirements applied	
Methodology (ies) applied and version number	
Product Requirements applied	<input type="checkbox"/> GHG Emissions Reduction & Sequestration <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy Label <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
VPA Cycle:	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Retroactive

Land-use & Forest and Agriculture - Key Project Information¹

(delete below table if N/A)

Scope:	<input type="checkbox"/> Forestry <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture
Silvicultural system:	<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation (no use of timber) <input type="checkbox"/> Selective Harvesting <input type="checkbox"/> Rotation Forestry
Project Area (ha):	
Eligible Area (ha):	
10% Set Aside Conservation area (ha):	
Evidence that Project Area Boundary is clearly distinguishable in the field:	
Planting Area	
How many Modelling Units (MUs) are included in the eligible area:	

¹ Please refer to [Appendix 3](#) for detailed information on LUF projects

Summary of New Areas added (copy and insert as needed):	
Size (ha):	
Date Added	

Table 1 – Estimated Sustainable Development Contributions

Sustainable Development Goals Targeted	SDG Impact (defined in B.6)	Estimated Annual Average	Units or Products
13 Climate Action (mandatory)			
<u>SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS TARGETED</u>	<u>SDG IMPACT (DEFINED IN B.6.)</u>	<u>Latest ESTIMATED ANNUAL AVERAGE</u>	<u>UNITS OR PRODUCTS</u>
<u>13 Climate Action (mandatory)</u>			

SECTION A. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

A.1. Purpose and general description of project

>>

A.1.1. Eligibility of the VPA under approved PoA

>>

Table 2± Eligibility for VPA inclusion as per PoA requirements

NO.	ELIGIBILITY CRITERION	DESCRIPTION/ REQUIRED CONDITION	DESCRIPTION OF THE VPA IN RELATION TO THE CRITERIA, MEANS OF VERIFICATION AND SUPPORTING EVIDENCE FOR INCLUSION
1			
2			
3			
...			

A.1.2. Legal ownership of products generated by the VPA and legal rights to alter use of resources required to service the project

>>

A.2. Location of VPA

>>

A.3. Technologies and/or measures

>>

A.4. Scale of the VPA

>>

A.5. Funding sources of VPA

>>

SECTION B. APPLICATION OF APPROVED GOLD STANDARD METHODOLOGY (IES) AND/OR DEMONSTRATION OF SDG CONTRIBUTIONS

B.1. Reference of approved methodology (ies)

>>

B.2. Applicability of methodology (ies)

>>

B.3. VPA boundary

>>

Source	GHGs	Included?	Justification/Explanation
Baseline scenario	Source 1	CO ₂	
		CH ₄	
		N ₂ O	
		...	
	Source 2	CO ₂	
		CH ₄	
		N ₂ O	
		...	
	
	Project scenario	Source 1	CO ₂
CH ₄			
N ₂ O			
...			
Source 2		CO ₂	
		CH ₄	
		N ₂ O	
		...	
...		...	
...		...	
...	...		

B.4. Establishment and description of baseline scenario

>>

B.5. Demonstration of additionality

>>

Use this table for Automatic Additionality Only – delete if N/A

~~Specify the methodology, activity requirement or product requirement that establishes deemed additionality for the proposed project (including the version number and the specific paragraph, if applicable).~~

Specify the methodology, activity requirement or product requirement that establishes deemed additionality for the proposed project (including the version number and the specific paragraph, if applicable). Describe how the proposed VPA meets the criteria for deemed additionality.

Describe how the proposed VPA meets the criteria for deemed additionality.

>>

B.5.1. Prior Consideration

>>

B.5.2. Ongoing Financial Need

>>

B.6. Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) outcomes

Relevant Target/Indicator for each of the three SDGs

SDG IMPACT

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS TARGETED

MOST
RELEVANT
SDG TARGET

**INDICATOR (PROPOSED OR SDG
INDICATOR)**

B.6.1. Explanation of methodological choices/approaches for estimating the SDG Impact

>>

B.6.2. Data and parameters fixed ex ante

Copy the table for each piece of data and parameter; use headings to group parameter tables by SDG

SDG13

Data/parameter	
Unit	
Description	
Source of data	
Value(s) applied	
Choice of data or Measurement methods and procedures	
Purpose of data	
Additional comment	

(SDG n ...)

B.6.3. Ex ante estimation of SDG Impact

>>

B.6.4. Summary of ex ante estimates of each SDG outcome

YEAR	BASELINE ESTIMATE	PROJECT ESTIMATE	NET BENEFIT
Year 1			
Year 2			
Year 2			
Year 4			
Year 5			
Year n (delete if N/A)			
Total			

Total number of crediting years

Annual average over the crediting period

Total number of crediting years			
Annual average over the crediting period			

B.7. Monitoring plan

B.7.1. Data and parameters to be monitored

(Copy the table for each piece of data and parameter; use headings to group parameter tables by SDG)

SDG 13

Data / Parameter	
Unit	
Description	

Source of data	
Value(s) applied	
Measurement methods and procedures	
Monitoring frequency	
QA/QC procedures	
Purpose of data	
Additional comment	

(SDG n...)

B.7.2. Sampling plan

>>

B.7.3. Other elements of monitoring plan

>>

SECTION C. DURATION AND CREDITING PERIOD

C.1. Duration of project

C.1.1. Start date of VPA

>>

C.1.2. Expected operational lifetime of VPA

>>

C.2. Crediting period of project

C.2.1. Start date of crediting period

>>

C.2.2. Total length of crediting period

>>

SECTION D. SUMMARY OF SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES AND GENDER SENSITIVE ASSESSMENT

D.1. Safeguarding Principles that will be monitored

A completed Safeguarding Principles Assessment is in [Appendix 1](#), ongoing monitoring is summarised below.

PRINCIPLES	MITIGATION MEASURES ADDED TO THE MONITORING PLAN
------------	--

Principle x.y

D.2. Assessment that project complies with GS4GG Gender Sensitive requirements

~~Question 1— Explain how the project reflects the key issues and requirements of Gender Sensitive design and implementation as outlined in the Gender Policy?~~

Question 1 - Explain how the project reflects the key issues and requirements of Gender Sensitive design and implementation as outlined in the Gender Policy?

Question 2 - Explain how the project aligns with existing country policies, strategies and best practices

Question 3 - Is an Expert required for the Gender Safeguarding Principles & Requirements?

Question 4 - Is an Expert required to assist with Gender issues at the Stakeholder Consultation?

SECTION E. SUMMARY OF LOCAL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

The below is a summary of the 2 step GS4GG Consultation for monitoring purposes. Please refer to the separate Stakeholder Consultation Report for a complete report on the initial consultation and stakeholder feedback round.

E.1. Summary of stakeholder mitigation measures

>>

E.2. Final continuous input / grievance mechanism

METHOD	INCLUDE ALL DETAILS OF CHOSEN METHOD (S) SO THAT THEY MAY BE UNDERSTOOD AND, WHERE RELEVANT, USED BY READERS.
Continuous Input / Grievance Expression	
Process Book (mandatory)	
GS Contact (mandatory)	help@goldstandard.org
Other	

SECTION F. Eligibility and inclusion criteria for VPAs inclusion

>>

The below table shall be completed for all VPAs.

The CME shall provide clear description on how eligibility criteria set at real case VPAs are complied with for each real case and regular VPAs submitted for inclusion.

The CME shall not change the eligibility criteria and required condition set at real case VPAs. At the time of inclusion of regular VPAs, the CME shall only describe how the regular VPAs comply with the eligibility criterion.

NO.	ELIGIBILITY CRITERION	DESCRIPTION/ REQUIRED CONDITION	DESCRIPTION OF THE VPA IN RELATION TO THE CRITERIA, MEANS OF VERIFICATION/SUPPORTI NG EVIDENCE FOR INCLUSION
1			
2			
3			
...			

APPENDIX 1 - SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES ASSESSMENT

Complete the Assessment below and copy all Mitigation Measures for each Principle into [SECTION D](#) above. Please refer to the instructions in the [Guide to Completing](#) this Form below.

Assessment Questions/ Requirements	Justification of Relevance (Yes/potentially/no)	How Project will achieve Requirements through design, management or risk mitigation.	Mitigation Measures added to the Monitoring Plan (if required)
Principle 1. Human Rights			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Project Developer and the Project shall respect internationally proclaimed human rights and shall not be complicit in violence or human rights abuses of any kind as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 2. The Project shall not discriminate with regards to participation and inclusion 			
Principle 2. Gender Equality			

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Project shall not directly or indirectly lead to/contribute to adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women 2. Projects shall apply the principles of nondiscrimination, equal treatment, and equal pay for equal work 3. The Project shall refer to the country’s national gender strategy or equivalent national commitment to aid in assessing gender risks 4. (where required) Summary of opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder(s) 			
Principle 3. Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Project shall avoid community exposure to increased health risks and shall not adversely affect the health of the 			

workers and the community			
Principle 4.1 Sites of Cultural and Historical Heritage			
Does the Project Area include sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture?			
>>			
Principle 4.2 Forced Eviction and Displacement			
Does the Project require or cause the physical or economic relocation of peoples (temporary or permanent, full or partial)?			
>>			
Principle 4.3 Land Tenure and Other Rights			
a. Does the Project require any change, or have any uncertainties related to land tenure arrangements and/or access rights, usage rights or land ownership? b. For Projects involving land use tenure, are there any			

uncertainties with regards to land tenure, access rights, usage rights or land ownership?			
>>			
Principle 4.4 - Indigenous people			
Are indigenous peoples present in or within the area of influence of the Project and/or is the Project located on land/territory claimed by indigenous peoples?			
>>			
Principle 5. Corruption			
1. The Project shall not involve, be complicit in or inadvertently contribute to or reinforce corruption or corrupt Projects			
Principle 6.1 Labour Rights			
1. The Project Developer shall ensure that all employment is in compliance with national labour occupational			

<p>health and safety laws and with the principles and standards embodied in the ILO fundamental conventions</p> <p>2. Workers shall be able to establish and join labour organisations</p> <p>3. Working agreements with all individual workers shall be documented and implemented and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Working hours (must not exceed 48 hours per week on a regular basis), AND b) Duties and tasks, AND c) Remuneration (must include provision for payment of overtime), AND d) Modalities on health insurance, AND e) Modalities on termination of the contract with provision 			
---	--	--	--

<p>for voluntary resignation by employee, AND</p> <p>f) Provision for annual leave of not less than 10 days per year, not including sick and casual leave.</p> <p>4. No child labour is allowed (Exceptions for children working on their families' property requires an Expert Stakeholder opinion)</p> <p>5. The Project Developer shall ensure the use of appropriate equipment, training of workers, documentation and reporting of accidents and incidents, and emergency preparedness and response measures</p>			
<p>Principle 6.2 Negative Economic Consequences</p>			
<p>1. Does the project cause negative economic consequences during</p>			

and after project implementation?			
>>			
Principle 7.1 Emissions			
Will the Project increase greenhouse gas emissions over the Baseline Scenario?			
>>			
Principle 7.2 Energy Supply			
Will the Project use energy from a local grid or power supply (i.e., not connected to a national or regional grid) or fuel resource (such as wood, biomass) that provides for other local users?			
>>			
Principle 8.1 Impact on Natural Water Patterns/Flows			
Will the Project affect the natural or pre-existing pattern of watercourses, ground-water and/or the watershed(s) such as high seasonal flow variability, flooding potential,			

lack of aquatic connectivity or water scarcity?			
>>			
Principle 8.2 Erosion and/or Water Body Instability			
a. Could the Project directly or indirectly cause additional erosion and/or water body instability or disrupt the natural pattern of erosion? b. Is the Project’s area of influence susceptible to excessive erosion and/or water body instability?			
>>			
Principle 9.1 Landscape Modification and Soil			
Does the Project involve the use of land and soil for production of crops or other products?			
>>			
Principle 9.2 Vulnerability to Natural Disaster			
Will the Project be susceptible to or lead to increased vulnerability to wind,			

earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding, drought or other extreme climatic conditions?			
>>			
Principle 9.3 Genetic Resources			
Could the Project be negatively impacted by or involve genetically modified organisms or GMOs (e.g., contamination, collection and/or harvesting, commercial development, or take place in facilities or farms that include GMOs in their processes and production)?			
>>			
Principle 9.4 Release of pollutants			
Could the Project potentially result in the release of pollutants to the environment?			
>>			
Principle 9.5 Hazardous and Non-hazardous Waste			
Will the Project involve the manufacture, trade, release, and/ or use of hazardous and			

non-hazardous chemicals and/or materials?			
>>			
Principle 9.6 Pesticides & Fertilisers			
Will the Project involve the application of pesticides and/or fertilisers?			
>>			
Principle 9.7 Harvesting of Forests			
Will the Project involve the harvesting of forests?			
>>			
Principle 9.8 Food			
Does the Project modify the quantity or nutritional quality of food available such as through crop regime alteration or export or economic incentives?			
>>			
Principle 9.9 Animal husbandry			
Will the Project involve animal husbandry?			

>>			
Principle 9.10 High Conservation Value Areas and Critical Habitats			
Does the Project physically affect or alter largely intact or High Conservation Value (HCV) ecosystems, critical habitats, landscapes, key biodiversity areas or sites identified?			
>>			
Principle 9.11 Endangered Species			
a. Are there any endangered species identified as potentially being present within the Project boundary (including those that may route through the area)? b. Does the Project potentially impact other areas where endangered species may be present through transboundary affects?			
>>			

APPENDIX 2- CONTACT INFORMATION OF VPA IMPLEMENTER

Organization name	
Registration number with relevant authority	
Street/P.O. Box	
Building	
City	
State/Region	
Postcode	
Country	
Telephone	
E-mail	
Website	
Contact person	
Title	
Salutation	
Last name	
Middle name	
First name	
Department	
Mobile	
Direct tel.	
Personal e-mail	

APPENDIX 3- LUF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Risk of change to the Project Area during Project Certification Period:	
Risk of change to the Project activities during Project Certification Period:	
Land-use history and current status of Project Area:	
Socio-Economic history:	
Forest management applied (past and future)	
Forest characteristics (including main tree species planted)	
Main social impacts (risks and benefits)	
Main environmental impacts (risks and benefits)	
Financial structure	
Infrastructure (roads/houses etc):	
Water bodies:	
Sites with special significance for indigenous people and local communities - resulting from the Stakeholder Consultation:	
Where indigenous people and local communities are situated:	
Where indigenous people and local communities have legal rights, customary rights or sites with special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance:	

APPENDIX 4 - SUMMARY OF APPROVED DESIGN CHANGES

A4.1. Details of proposed or actual design change

>>

A4.2. Describe the Impacts of Design Change on the following

a. Additionality

>>

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

>>

c. Compliance with the monitoring plan of the applied methodology

>>

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

>>

e. Scale of the project activity

>>

f. Stakeholder consultation

>>

g. Sustainable development criteria

>>

h. Safeguarding Assessment

>>

i. Compliance with applicable legislation ~~Legislation~~

>> Please refer to Design Changes Requirements for more information on procedures governing Design Changes

Revision History

Version	Date	Remarks
2.1	Xx-YYY-2023-14 April 2023	Integrated the dDesign cChange mMemo as aAnnex of the Design document.
2.0	4 May 2022	
1.1	7 October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hyperlinked section summary to enable quick access to key sections Improved clarity on Key Project Information Inclusion criteria table added Gender sensitive requirements added Prior consideration (1 yr rule) and Ongoing Financial Need added Safeguard Principles Assessment as annex and a new section to include applicable safeguards for clarity Improved Clarity on SDG contribution/SDG Impact term used throughout Clarity on Stakeholder Consultation information required Provision of an accompanying Guide to help the user understand detailed rules and requirements
1.0	10 July 2017	Initial adoption

Filename: T-PreReview_V2.1-TC-VPA-Design-Document.docx
Directory: /Users/goldstandard/Library/Containers/com.microsoft.Word
/Data/Documents
Template: /Users/goldstandard/Library/Group
Containers/UBF8T346G9.Office/User
Content.localized/Templates.localized/Normal.dotm
Title: TEMPLATE- V2.1 VPA Design Document
Subject:
Author: Gold Standard
Keywords:
Comments:
Creation Date: 16/04/2023 15:26:00
Change Number: 4
Last Saved On: 16/04/2023 15:45:00
Last Saved By: Ema Cima
Total Editing Time: 3 Minutes
Last Printed On: 16/04/2023 15:46:00
As of Last Complete Printing
Number of Pages: 31
Number of Words: 3'100 (approx.)
Number of Characters: 17'426 (approx.)