



**Verified Carbon  
Standard**  
A VERRA STANDARD

# VCS PROJECT DESCRIPTION TEMPLATE

This template is for the design of projects using the VCS Program.

## Instructions for completing the project description

**FILE NAME:** Use the following format for the file name of the completed document:

- For projects requesting pipeline listing: VCS PD DRAFT ProjectID DDMMYYYY
- For projects requesting registration approval: VCS PD ProjectID DDMMYYYY

'DDMMYYYY' should be the original date of issue as reported on the title page. If revised documents are submitted, add 'track' to the end of the file name and update DDMMYYYY to the most recent date of issue.

**FILE TYPE:** Submit the document as a non-editable PDF.

**TITLE PAGE FORMATTING:** This document may feature the project title and project proponent's or preparers' logo using size 24, regular (non-italic) Century Gothic font. Fill in and complete each row of the table using size 10.5, black, regular (non-italic) Arial or Franklin Gothic Book font.

**GENERAL FORMATTING:** Complete all sections using size 10.5, black, regular (non-italic) Arial or Franklin Gothic Book font.

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:** Specific instructions for completing each section of the project description template are located under the section headings in this template. Instructions relate back to the rules and requirements set out in the *VCS Standard* and accompanying VCS Program documents. The preparer will need to refer to these documents to complete the template.

**Note:** The instructions in this template are to serve as a guide and do not necessarily represent an exhaustive list of the information the preparer must provide under each section of the template.

Where a section is not applicable, explain why the section is not applicable (i.e., do not delete the section from the final document and do not only write "not applicable").

Delete all instructions, including this introductory text, from the final document.



# Verified Carbon Standard

## PROJECT TITLE

Logo (optional)

<b>Project title</b>	<i>Name of the project</i>
<b>Project ID</b>	<i>Verra Project ID</i>
<b>Crediting period</b>	<i>DD-Month-YYYY to DD-Month-YYYY</i>
<b>Original date of issue</b>	<i>For pipeline listing, DD-Month-YYYY is the date of submission</i> <i>For registration, DD-Month-YYYY is the date the project description was completed following the completion of the audit</i>
<b>Most recent date of issue</b>	<i>DD-Month-YYYY is the date on which the document was most recently submitted</i>
<b>Version</b>	<i>Version number of this document</i>
<b>VCS Standard Version</b>	<i>Version number of the VCS Standard used by the project</i>
<b>Prepared by</b>	<i>Individual and organization that prepared this document</i>

This is not the current version of this VCS program document. The current version is at:  
<https://verra.org/programs/verified-carbon-standard/vcs-program-details/>.

# CONTENTS

---

<b>1</b>	<b>PROJECT DETAILS.....</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1	Summary Description of the Project .....	5
1.2	Audit History.....	5
1.3	Sectoral Scope and Project Type .....	5
1.4	Project Eligibility .....	6
1.5	Project Design .....	6
1.6	Project Proponent .....	7
1.7	Other Entities Involved in the Project .....	7
1.8	Ownership.....	7
1.9	Project Start Date .....	8
1.10	Project Crediting Period .....	8
1.11	Project Scale and Estimated GHG Emission Reductions or Removals .....	8
1.12	Description of the Project Activity .....	9
1.13	Project Location .....	9
1.14	Conditions Prior to Project Initiation .....	9
1.15	Compliance with Laws, Statutes and Other Regulatory Frameworks .....	10
1.16	Double Counting and Participation under Other GHG Programs .....	10
1.17	Double Claiming, Other Forms of Credit, and Scope 3 Emissions.....	11
1.18	Sustainable Development Contributions .....	12
1.19	Additional Information Relevant to the Project .....	12
<b>2</b>	<b>SAFEGUARDS AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT .....</b>	<b>13</b>
2.1	Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation.....	13
2.2	Risks to Stakeholders and the Environment.....	15
2.3	Respect for Human Rights and Equity .....	16
2.4	Ecosystem Health .....	17
<b>3</b>	<b>APPLICATION OF METHODOLOGY.....</b>	<b>19</b>
3.1	Title and Reference of Methodology .....	19
3.2	Applicability of Methodology .....	19
3.3	Project Boundary .....	19
3.4	Baseline Scenario .....	20

3.5	Additionality .....	21
3.6	Methodology Deviations .....	22
<b>4</b>	<b>QUANTIFICATION OF ESTIMATED GHG EMISSION REDUCTIONS AND REMOVALS.....</b>	<b>22</b>
4.1	Baseline Emissions .....	22
4.2	Project Emissions .....	22
4.3	Leakage Emissions .....	22
4.4	Estimated GHG Emission Reductions and Carbon Dioxide Removals.....	23
<b>5</b>	<b>MONITORING .....</b>	<b>25</b>
5.1	Data and Parameters Available at Validation .....	25
5.2	Data and Parameters Monitored.....	25
5.3	Monitoring Plan.....	26
	<b>APPENDIX 1: COMMERCIALLY SENSITIVE INFORMATION.....</b>	<b>28</b>
	<b>APPENDIX X: &lt;TITLE OF APPENDIX&gt; .....</b>	<b>29</b>

This is not the current version of this VCS Program document. The current version is at:  
<https://verra.org/programs/verified-carbon-standard/vcs-program-details/>.

# 1 PROJECT DETAILS

## 1.1 Summary Description of the Project

Provide a summary description of the project to enable an understanding of the nature of the project and its implementation, including the following (no more than one page):

- A summary description of the technologies/measures to be implemented by the project.
- The location of the project.
- An explanation of how the project is expected to generate GHG emission reductions or carbon dioxide removals.
- A brief description of the scenario existing prior to the implementation of the project.
- An estimate of annual average and total reductions and removals.

## 1.2 Audit History

For projects undergoing crediting period renewal, include the audit history of the project using the table below. For the project validation, state the validation date in the Period column. This table should include all monitoring periods, including the period of this report.

Audit type	Period	Program	Validation/verification body name	Number of years
Validation/verification	(DD-Month-YYYY- DD-Month-YYYY)	VCS	Validation/verification body name	One year
	...			

## 1.3 Sectoral Scope and Project Type

Complete the table below with information relevant for non-AFOLU projects:

Sectoral scope <sup>1</sup>	
Project activity type	

Complete the table below with information relevant for AFOLU projects:

Sectoral scope	
AFOLU project category <sup>2</sup>	
Project activity type	

<sup>1</sup> 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>

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix 1 of the VCS Standard

## 1.4 Project Eligibility

### 1.4.1 General eligibility

For all projects, describe and justify how the project is eligible to participate in the VCS Program. The response should:

- Justify that the project activity is included under the scope of the VCS Program and not excluded under Table 2.1 of the VCS Standard.
- Provide information to demonstrate that the project meets requirements related to the pipeline listing deadline, the opening meeting with the validation/verification body, and the validation deadline.
- Demonstrate that the applied methodology is eligible under the VCS Program. Where applying a methodology with scale and/or capacity limits, demonstrate that the project is not a fragmented part of a larger project or activity that would otherwise exceed such limits. If applicable, demonstrate that no single cluster of project activity instances exceeds the capacity limit.
- Include any other relevant eligibility information.

### 1.4.2 AFOLU project eligibility

For AFOLU projects, describe and justify how the project is eligible to participate in the VCS Program. The response should:

- Justify and demonstrate that all selected AFOLU project categories are appropriate and that all related category requirements are met.
- Provide evidence that native ecosystems have not been converted, cleared, drained, or degraded to generate GHG credits in Section 2.4.3 below.
- For ARR, ALM, WRC, or ACoGS project areas, provide evidence that clearing or conversion did not take place within 10 years of the project start date in Section 2.4.3 below.

### 1.4.3 Transfer project eligibility

For transfer projects and CPAs seeking registration, justify how eligibility conditions have been met. The response should justify how the criteria in Appendix 2 and Section 3.22 (Participation under other GHG Programs) of the VCS Standard have been met.

## 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

For grouped projects, provide additional information relevant to the design of the grouped project, including any eligibility criteria that new project instances must meet upon their inclusion, subsequent to the initial validation of the project.

## 1.6 Project Proponent

Provide contact information for the project proponent(s). Copy and paste the table as needed.

Organization name	
Contact person	
Title	
Address	
Telephone	
Email	The email address domain must match that of the organization.

## 1.7 Other Entities Involved in the Project

Provide contact information and roles/responsibilities for any other entities involved in the development of the project. Copy and paste the table as needed.

Organization name	
Role in the project	
Contact person	
Title	
Address	
Telephone	
Email	The email address domain must match that of the organization.

## 1.8 Ownership

Provide evidence of project ownership, in conformance with the VCS Program requirements on project ownership.

## 1.9 Project Start Date

Project start date	DD-Month-YYYY
Justification	Justify how the project start date conforms with the VCS Program requirements

## 1.10 Project Crediting Period

Crediting period	<input type="checkbox"/> Seven years, twice renewable <input type="checkbox"/> Ten years, fixed <input type="checkbox"/> 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	DD-Month-YYYY to DD-Month-YYYY

## 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 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/year (project)  
☐ ≥ 300,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/year (large project)

Complete the table below for the first (if renewable) or fixed crediting period:

Calendar year of crediting period	Estimated GHG emission reductions or removals (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
DD-Month-YYYY to 31-December-YYYY	
01-January-YYYY to 31-December-YYYY	
01-January-YYYY to DD-Month-YYYY	
...	
Total estimated ERRs during the first or fixed crediting period	



Total number of years	
Average annual ERRs	

## 1.12 Description of the Project Activity

Describe the project activity or activities (including the technologies or measures employed) and how it/they will achieve the GHG emission reductions or carbon dioxide removals. Describe the implementation schedule of project activity or activities.

For non-AFOLU projects:

- Include a list and the arrangement of the main manufacturing/production technologies, systems and equipment involved. Include in the description information about the age and average lifetime of the equipment based on manufacturer's specifications and industry standards, and existing and forecast installed capacities, load factors and efficiencies.
- Include the types and levels of services (normally in terms of mass or energy flows) provided by the systems and equipment that are being modified and/or installed and their relation, if any, to other manufacturing/production equipment and systems outside the project boundary. Clearly explain how the same types and levels of services provided by the project would have been provided in the baseline scenario.
- Where appropriate, provide a list of facilities, systems, and equipment in operation under the existing scenario prior to the implementation of the project.

For AFOLU projects:

- For all measures listed, include information on any conservation, management or planting activities, including a description of how the various organizations, communities and other entities are involved.
- In the description of the project activity, state if the project is located within a jurisdiction covered by a jurisdictional REDD+ program.

## 1.13 Project Location

Indicate the project location and geographic boundaries (if applicable) including a set of geodetic coordinates.

For AFOLU projects, GCS projects, grouped projects, or projects with multiple project activity instances, a separate KML file is required.

## 1.14 Conditions Prior to Project Initiation

Describe the conditions existing prior to project initiation and demonstrate that the project has not been implemented to generate GHG emissions for the purpose of their subsequent reduction, removal, or destruction.

Where the baseline scenario is the same as the conditions existing prior to the project initiation, there is no need to repeat the description of the scenarios; state that this is the case and refer the reader to Section 3.4 (Baseline Scenario).

AFOLU projects must also provide the following information:

- **Ecosystem type:** Provide a brief (1–2 sentence) description of the ecosystem type.
- **Current and historical land-use:** Provide a brief (2–4 sentence) description of the current and historical land use of the project area.
- **Present and prior environmental conditions of the project area:** Provide information on the climate, hydrology, topography, relevant historic conditions, soils, vegetation, and ecosystems of the project area.

## 1.15 Compliance with Laws, Statutes and Other Regulatory Frameworks

Identify and demonstrate compliance of the project with all and any relevant local, regional and national laws, statutes and regulatory frameworks.

## 1.16 Double Counting and Participation under Other GHG Programs

### 1.16.1 No Double Issuance

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

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, provide required evidence of no double issuance as outlined by the VCS Standard.

### 1.16.2 Registration in Other GHG Programs

Is the project registered or seeking registration under any other GHG programs?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, provide the registration number and all relevant details.

### 1.16.3 Projects Rejected by Other GHG Programs

Has the project been rejected by any other GHG programs?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, provide the program name(s), reason(s) and date for the rejection, justification of eligibility under the VCS Program, and any other relevant information.

## 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? See the *VCS Program Definitions* for definitions of emissions trading program and binding emission limit.

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, provide all required evidence of no double claiming as outlined by the VCS Standard.

### 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? See the *VCS Program Definitions* for definition of GHG-related environmental credit system.

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, provide all required evidence of no double claiming as outlined by the VCS Standard.

### 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

If yes to all:

Provide evidence of the public statement. Evidence must be provided in this section or in an appendix.

## 1.18 Sustainable Development Contributions

Provide a brief description that includes the following (no more than 500 words):

- A summary description of project activities that result in sustainable development (SD) contributions (i.e., technologies/measures implemented, activity location).
- An explanation of how project activities will result in expected SD contributions.
- A description of how the project contributes to achieving any nationally stated sustainable development priorities, including any provisions for monitoring and reporting these.

## 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.

<b>Stakeholder Identification</b>	Describe the process(es) used to identify stakeholders likely impacted by the project. List the stakeholders identified.
<b>Legal or customary tenure/access rights</b>	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.
<b>Stakeholder diversity and changes over time</b>	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.
<b>Expected changes in well-being</b>	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;
<b>Location of stakeholders</b>	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.
<b>Location of resources</b>	Describe the location of territories and resources which stakeholders own or to which they have customary access.

#### 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.

<b>Date of stakeholder consultation</b>	<i>DD-Month-YYYY</i>
<b>Stakeholder engagement process</b>	<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>
<b>Consultation outcome</b>	<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>
<b>Ongoing communication</b>	<i>Describe the mechanisms for ongoing communication with stakeholders.</i>
<b>Stakeholder input</b>	<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.

<b>Obtaining consent</b>	<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>
<b>Outcome of FPIC</b>	<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.

<b>Development process</b>	<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>
<b>Grievance redress procedure</b>	<i>Describe the grievance redress procedures developed with stakeholders.</i>

### 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
Summary of comment received	Provide a summary of actions taken and any project design updates or justify why updates were not necessary or appropriate.
...	...

## 2.2 Risks to Stakeholders and the Environment

Use the table below to describe the risk assessment and outcome of the potential risks to stakeholders and the environment. Describe the mitigation or preventative measure 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.

	Risks identified	Mitigation or preventative measure taken
<b>Risks to stakeholder participation</b>		
<b>Working conditions</b>		
<b>Safety of women and girls</b>		
<b>Safety of minority and marginalized</b>		



groups, including children		
Pollutants (air, noise, discharges to water, generation of waste, release of hazardous materials)		

## 2.3 Respect for Human Rights and Equity

### 2.3.1 Labor and Work

Use the table below to demonstrate the project's respect for rights related to work and labor.

Discrimination and sexual harassment	Demonstrate that no discrimination or sexual harassment has occurred or will occur.
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.
Gender equity in labor and work	Demonstrate that equal opportunities have been or will be provided in the context of gender equity and pay for labor and work.
Human trafficking, forced labor, and child labor	Demonstrate that the project does not and will not use victims of human trafficking, forced labor, and child labor.

### 2.3.2 Human Rights

Demonstrate how the project recognizes, respects, and promotes 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.

### 2.3.3 Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage

Demonstrate that the project preserves and protects cultural heritage as part of project activities.

### 2.3.4 Property Rights

Using the table below, describe the property rights of IPs, LCs, and customary rights holders and demonstrate respect of such rights.



<b>Rights to territories and resources</b>	<i>Describe any legal or customary tenure/access rights to territories, property, and resources, including collective and/or conflicting rights, held by stakeholders.</i>
<b>Respect for property rights</b>	<i>Describe the measures implemented to protect and preserve the property rights of IPs, LCs, and customary rights holders.</i>

### 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.

<b>Process used to design the benefit sharing plan</b>	<i>Describe the process used to develop the benefit sharing agreement with the affected stakeholder groups.</i>
<b>Summary of the benefit sharing plan</b>	<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>
<b>Approval and dissemination of benefit sharing plan</b>	<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

Identify and summarize any risks to the environment and the steps taken to mitigate them. Where no risk is identified, write "No risk identified" in the first column, and provide justification in the second column.

	<b>Risks identified</b>	<b>Mitigation or preventative measure taken</b>
<b>Impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems</b>		
<b>Soil degradation and soil erosion</b>		

Water consumption and stress		
Usage of fertilizers		

## 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 for rare, threatened, or endangered species.
...	...

## 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 mono-culture. Where the species is non-native include an explanation of possible adverse effects of its usage, and a description of how the project will mitigate such risks. This table is not required 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 demonstrate that the project activity will not allow the species to thrive.

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

## 3 APPLICATION OF METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Title and Reference of Methodology

Provide the title, reference and version number of the following information for the methodology(s), tools, and modules applied to the project (where applicable).

Type (methodology, tool or module).	Reference ID, if applicable	Title	Version
Example: Methodology	Example: VM0007	Example: VM0007 REDD+ Methodology Framework (REDD+MF)	Example: 6.0
...	...	...	...

### 3.2 Applicability of Methodology

Demonstrate and justify how the project activity(s) meets each of the applicability conditions of the methodology(s), tools, and modules applied by the project (where applicable). Address each applicability condition separately.

Methodology ID	Applicability condition	Justification of compliance
Example: VM0007	First applicability condition for given methodology, tool, or module	Justification that the project complies with this applicability condition
...	...	...

### 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 <sub>2</sub>		
		CH <sub>4</sub>		
		N <sub>2</sub> O		
		Other		
	Source 2	CO <sub>2</sub>		
		CH <sub>4</sub>		
		N <sub>2</sub> O		
		Other		
Project	Source 1	CO <sub>2</sub>		
		CH <sub>4</sub>		
		N <sub>2</sub> O		
		Other		
	Source 2	CO <sub>2</sub>		
		CH <sub>4</sub>		
		N <sub>2</sub> 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 VCU's 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 <sub>2</sub> e)	Estimated project emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Estimated leakage emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Estimated reduction VCUs (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Estimated removal VCUs (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Estimated total VCUs (tCO <sub>2</sub> 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						
<b>Total</b>						

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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
For ARR and IFM projects with harvesting, state, in tCO <sub>2</sub> e, the Long-term Average (LTA).	
Has the LTA been updated based on monitored data, if applicable?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If no, provide justification.
State, in tCO <sub>2</sub> e, the expected total GHG benefit to date.	
Is the number of GHG credits issued below the LTA?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 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 tCO<sub>2</sub>e removals and 80,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>e reductions and has a buffer contribution of 20%, or 20,000, the estimated removal VCUs would be 16,000 and reduction VCUs would be 64,000).

Vintage period	Estimated baseline emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Estimated project emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Estimated leakage emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Estimated buffer pool allocation (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Estimated reduction VCUs (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Estimated removal VCUs (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Estimated total VCU issuance (tCO <sub>2</sub> 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							
<b>Total</b>							



## 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	Provide the value applied
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	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.
Purpose of data	Indicate one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determination of baseline scenario (AFOLU projects only)</li> <li>Calculation of baseline emissions</li> <li>Calculation of project emissions</li> <li>Calculation of leakage</li> </ul>
Comments	Provide any additional comments

### 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	Indicate the unit of measure
Description	Provide a brief description of the data/parameter
Source of data	Indicate the source(s) of data
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied	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).
Frequency of monitoring/recording	Specify measurement and recording frequency
Value applied	Provide an estimated value for the data/parameter
Monitoring equipment	Identify equipment used to monitor the data/parameter including type, accuracy class, and serial number of equipment, as appropriate.
QA/QC procedures to be applied	Describe the quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) procedures to be applied, including the calibration procedures where applicable.
Purpose of data	Indicate one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calculation of baseline emissions</li> <li>• Calculation of project emissions</li> <li>• Calculation of leakage</li> </ul>
Calculation method	Where relevant, provide the calculation method, including any equations, used to establish the data/parameter.
Comments	Provide any additional comments

### 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.

This is not the current version of this VCS Program document. The current version is at:  
<https://verra.org/programs/verified-carbon-standard/vcs-program-details/>.

# 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

This is not the current version of this VCS Program document. The current version is at: <https://verra.org/programs/verified-carbon-standard/vcs-program-details/>.

## APPENDIX X: <TITLE OF APPENDIX>

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

This is not the current version of this VCS Program document. The current version is at:  
<https://verra.org/programs/verified-carbon-standard/vcs-program-details/>.