

# REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

## VALIDATION/VERIFICATION BODY ASSESSMENT OF METHODOLOGY REVISION: VM0042 METHODOLOGY FOR IMPROVED AGRICULTURAL LAND MANAGEMENT

27 September 2021

### 1 INTRODUCTION

Verra is a global leader helping to tackle the world's most intractable environmental and social challenges. As a mission-driven non-profit organization, Verra is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving livelihoods, and protecting natural resources by working with the private and public sectors. We support climate action and sustainable development with standards, tools and programs that credibly, transparently and robustly assess environmental and social impacts and enable funding for sustaining and scaling up projects that verifiably deliver these benefits.

The [Verified Carbon Standard \(VCS\) Program](#) is our flagship program. It allows vetted projects to turn their greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions and removals into tradable carbon credits called Verified Carbon Units (VCUs). Since its launch in 2006, the VCS Program has grown into the world's largest voluntary GHG program with over 1700 registered projects in 82 countries that have cumulatively generated almost 770 million VCUs.

An integral component of the VCS Program is the [Methodology Approval Process, v4.0](#) (MAP), which allows stakeholders to revise existing methodologies per Section 7 of the MAP. Substantive methodology revisions are required to undergo a technical assessment by an approved, accredited Validation/Verification Body (VVB).

**Verra seeks a VVB to conduct the technical assessment of the proposed revisions to VM0042 Methodology for Improved Agricultural Land Management as part of the MAP.**

### 2 SCOPE OF WORK

Verra is accepting proposals for a technical assessment of a proposed revision to VM0042 Methodology for Improved Agricultural Land Management

The proposed revision contains several substantive and minor revisions as well as numerous limited modifications, edits, and clarifications. The substantive and minor revisions include but are not limited to: 1) changing applicability conditions to allow for land use change with Integrated Crop Livestock

Systems (ICLS), 2) allowing for establishment of baseline “control sites” for direct soil organic carbon measurement, 3) overhauling the approach to uncertainty assessment, and 4) expanding on the process for Independent Expert Evaluators to assess Model Validation Reports as part of the module [VMD0053 Model Calibration, Validation, and Uncertainty Guidance for the Methodology for Improved Agricultural Land Management, v1.0](#).

The requirements of the assessment are set out in Section 4.5 of the [Methodology Approval Process, v4.0](#).

### 3 QUALIFICATIONS

Verra is seeking a VVB that is in conformance with the requirements set out in Section 5 of the [Methodology Approval Process, v4.0](#).

### 4 MILESTONES, DELIVERABLES AND TIMELINE

The VVB must produce an assessment report in accordance with the requirements as set out in Section 4.5.4 of the [Methodology Approval Process, v4.0](#). The duration and timeline of the assessment must be outlined by the respondent within the proposal. We expect that the services will be needed in October-December 2021, with some flexibility in the timeline.

### 5 RESPONSES TO RFP

Interested respondents should feel free to submit clarifying questions on any of the above information.

Respondents are requested to submit the following as part of their proposals:

- Cost proposal
- Estimated timeline for the assessment
- 2-3 page narrative detailing how the VVB will execute the scope of the work as set out in the *Methodology Approval Process* and describing the VVB’s qualifications.
- Disclosure statement of services (conflict of interest statement) provided to the methodology developer

All proposals and documents submitted to Verra will be shared only with the methodology developer, and otherwise will be kept confidential.

All documents must be submitted to Stefan Jirka at [sjirka@verra.org](mailto:sjirka@verra.org) by close of business on 8 October 2021. We will finalize the selection of the VVB by 22 October 2021.

#### **Legal Nature of RFP**

This RFP is an invitation for proposals and Verra is under no legal obligation to accept any proposal nor proceed with the RFP. Verra reserves the right to amend the requirements at any time.