

## REDD Methodological Tool

### “Determining the significance of emissions sources and changes in carbon pools in REDD project activities”

Version - April 2010

#### I. SCOPE, APPLICABILITY AND PARAMETERS

##### Scope

This tool facilitates the determination of which GHG emissions and changes in carbon stocks are insignificant for the VCS-REDD project activity. It justifies neglecting emissions sources and changes in carbon stocks that are *a priori* deemed insignificant in REDD project activities. In addition, it can be used to determine which additional emissions sources and changes in carbon stocks are insignificant and can be neglected.

The emission sources and carbon pools listed in Section II are deemed insignificant and, hence, can be neglected in VCS-REDD baseline and monitoring methodologies. In all other cases, the project must account for any significant increase in emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) and methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), and reduction in carbon stocks that is attributable to the project activity — the sum of decreases or increases in carbon stocks and in emissions that may be neglected shall be less than 5% of total net GHG emissions reductions as defined in the *ex-ante* estimation for the entire project lifetime.

##### Applicability

The tool may be used if the carbon stock in harvested wood products, dead-wood, litter and soil organic carbon increases more or decreases less in the baseline case than in the project case, to determine whether they are significant. Insignificant pools can always be ignored.



Project proponents may opt for the inclusion of all carbon pools, in which case this tool will not be used.

The tool shall be used:

If emissions sources in the project case are enhanced compared to the baseline case, and if carbon stocks in the project case are reduced compared to the baseline case, and the project proponent wishes not to account for them as they are insignificant.

The purpose of using this tool is:

- a) To justify neglecting emissions sources and changes in carbon stocks that are *a priori* deemed insignificant in REDD project activities.
- b) To determine which additional emissions sources and changes in carbon stocks are insignificant and can be neglected.

## Parameters

None.

## II. INSIGNIFICANT SOURCES AND POOLS

For REDD project activities under the VCS AFOLU standard, the following emissions sources and carbon pools may be considered as insignificant and hence can be neglected in VCS-REDD baseline and monitoring methodologies:

Emissions sources:

- Fertiliser application
- Removal of herbaceous vegetation
- Transportation
- Fossil fuel combustion
- Collection of wood from non-renewable sources to be used for fencing of the project area



- Nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) emissions from decomposition of litter and fine roots from N-fixing trees

Carbon pools:

- Litter

### III. PROCEDURE

In determining which emissions sources and changes in carbon pools are insignificant for VCS-REDD project activities, the following procedure shall be followed.

The sources and pools listed in Section II may be considered as insignificant and hence can be neglected in VCS-REDD baseline and monitoring methodologies and *ex-ante* calculations of total project GHG benefits. Even if listed in Section II, sources and pools may be selected for accounting in the baseline. In this case they shall be accounted for in the with-project scenario as well. In all other cases, the A/R CDM “Tool for testing significance of GHG emissions in A/R CDM project activities” shall be used to test the significance of emissions sources and changes in carbon pools. Significant sources and pools need to be accounted for and included in the monitoring plan.

#### **Tool for testing significance of GHG emissions in A/R CDM project activities**

The following EB tool can be used to test the significance of carbon pools and emissions sources - [http://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/031/eb31\\_repan16.pdf](http://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/031/eb31_repan16.pdf). This tool requires an *ex-ante* calculation of total project GHG benefits. Please note that the calculation pertains to the entire crediting period of the project activity.

