

Indicative simplified baseline and monitoring methodologies  
for selected small-scale CDM project activity categories

**TYPE III - OTHER PROJECT ACTIVITIES**

Project participants shall take into account the general guidelines to the SSC CDM methodologies, information on additionality (attachment A to Appendix B) provided at:  
<<http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/SSCmethodologies/approved.html>> *mutatis mutandis*.

***III.AQ. Introduction of Bio-CNG in transportation applications***

**Technology/measure**

1. This methodology comprises activities for production of Biogenic Compressed Natural Gas (Bio-CNG) from renewable biomass<sup>1</sup> including waste organic matters to be used in transportation applications. The crops from renewable biomass origin used for production of the Bio-CNG should be sourced from dedicated plantations.
2. The project activity involves installation and operation of Bio-CNG plant that includes:
  - (a) Anaerobic digester(s) to produce and recover biogas;
  - (b) Biogas treatment system that includes processing, purification and compression of the biogas to obtain up-graded biogas such that methane content, its quality and the physical and chemical properties are equivalent to the CNG;
  - (c) Filling stations, storage and transportation.
3. This methodology covers the use of Bio-CNG in various types of transportation applications such as Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) vehicles, modified gasoline vehicles. Examples include buses, trucks, three-wheeler, cars, jeeps, etc.
4. This methodology is applicable if the methane content of the upgraded biogas is in accordance with relevant national regulations and in their absence a minimum of 96% (by volume).
5. The following conditions have to be met only if the feedstock for production of the Bio-CNG is renewable biomass cultivated at dedicated plantations:
  - (a) The project activity does not lead to a shift of pre-project activities outside the project boundary i.e. the land under the proposed project activity can continue to provide at least the same amount of goods and services as in the absence of the project;
  - (b) The plantations are established on a land:
    - (i) Which was at the start of the project implementation, classified as degraded or degrading as per the “Tool for the identification of degraded or degrading lands for consideration in implementing CDM A/R project activities”; or

<sup>1</sup> As per the definition of renewable biomass provided in Annex 18, EB 23.

**Indicative simplified baseline and monitoring methodologies  
for selected small-scale CDM project activity categories**

*III.AQ. Introduction of Bio-CNG in road transportation (cont)*

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- (ii) Area that is included in the project boundary of one or several registered A/R CDM project activities.
- (iii) Plantations established on the peatlands are not eligible even if qualifying under condition (i) and (ii) above.

6. The retailers, final users (where applicable) and the producer of the Bio-CNG are bound by a contract that states that the final consumers and retailers shall not claim emission reductions resulting from its consumption. Only the producer of the Bio-CNG can claim emission reductions under this methodology.

7. The export of Bio-CNG produced under this methodology is not allowed.

8. The digested residue waste leaving the reactor shall be handled aerobically and submitted to soil application, the proper procedures and conditions not resulting in the methane emissions shall be ensured; otherwise the emissions shall be taken into account as per relevant procedures of SSC-III.AO.

9. Measures are limited to those that result in emission reduction of less than or equal to 60 kt CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent annually. Where applicable the sum of the emission reductions from all Type III components of a project activity should comply with 60 kt CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent annually.

**Boundary**

10. The spatial extent of the project boundary encompasses:
- (a) The Bio-CNG plant;
  - (b) Where applicable, transportation of renewable biomass from the point of their origin to Bio-CNG plant, and from the Bio-CNG plant to filling stations where it is used by the final consumers;
  - (c) The land at which the cultivation of renewable biomass used for the production of Bio-CNG and/or the area/region from where the waste organic matters for the production of Bio-CNG is sourced;
  - (d) In cases where project proponents carry out modification of gasoline vehicles to enable the use of Bio-CNG, the vehicles shall be included in the boundary.

**Baseline**

11. Baseline emissions are calculated based on the amount of Bio-CNG produced and distributed to the retailers and/or CNG filling stations when case 1 is chosen (see below). Baseline emissions are calculated based on the quantity of Bio-CNG filled into converted gasoline vehicles when such vehicles are included in the boundary and are monitored (see case 2 below).

**Indicative simplified baseline and monitoring methodologies  
for selected small-scale CDM project activity categories**

*III.AQ. Introduction of Bio-CNG in road transportation (cont)*

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**Case 1:**

12. In cases where the vehicles are not included in the project boundary it is conservatively assumed that all Bio-CNG produced will displace CNG from fossil origin and the baseline emissions are calculated as follows:

$$BE_y = FS_{Bio-CNG,y} \times NCV_{Bio-CNG} \times EF_{CO_2,CNG} \quad (1)$$

Where:

$FS_{Bio-CNG,y}$  Amount of Bio-CNG distributed/sold directly to retailers, filling stations by the project activity in year  $y$  (tons)

$EF_{CO_2,CNG}$  CO<sub>2</sub> emission factor of CNG (tCO<sub>2</sub>e/GJ), determined using reliable local or national data. IPCC default values (lower value of 95% CI) shall be used only when country or project specific data are not available or demonstrably difficult to obtain. Values shall be updated if national values or IPCC values change

$NCV_{Bio-CNG}$  Net calorific value of Bio-CNG (GJ/ton)  
If it is demonstrated that the methane content of the Bio-CNG is minimum 96% by volume then NCV of CNG shall be used. For NCV of CNG, reliable local or national data shall be used. IPCC default values shall be used only when country or project specific data are not available or demonstrably difficult to obtain. Values shall be updated if national values or IPCC values change

Under the condition of:

$$FS_{Bio-CNG,y} \leq FP_{Bio-CNG,y}$$

Where:

$FP_{Bio-CNG,y}$  Quantity of the Bio-CNG produced by the project activity in the year  $y$  (tons)

**Case 2:**

13. In cases where the project activity also undertakes the conversion of gasoline vehicles including those vehicles in the project boundary, the baseline emission calculations are calculated as per equations 2 and 3 below.

$$FC_{gasoline,k,y} = FC_{Bio-CNG,k,y} \times \frac{NCV_{Bio-CNG}}{NCV_i} \times n \times f_{FO,gasoline} \quad (2)$$

Where:

$FC_{gasoline,k,y}$  Amount of gasoline of fossil origin which would have been consumed in the baseline by vehicle  $k$  in the year  $y$  (tons)

$FC_{Bio-CNG,k,y}$  Bio-CNG consumed by the project vehicle  $k$  in the year  $y$  (tons)

**Indicative simplified baseline and monitoring methodologies  
for selected small-scale CDM project activity categories**

*III.AQ. Introduction of Bio-CNG in road transportation (cont)*

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$NCV_{Bio-CNG}$	Net calorific value of Bio-CNG (GJ/ton) The net calorific value of the Bio-CNG shall be determined based on direct measurement of a representative sample
$NCV_i$	Net calorific value of gasoline (GJ/ton) that was used by project vehicle $k$ . In case the gasoline is blended with biofuels the NCV of the blended gasoline shall be used. For $NCV_i$ reliable local or national data shall be used. IPCC default values (lower value of 95% CI) shall be used only when country or project specific data are not available or demonstrably difficult to obtain. Values shall be updated if national values or IPCC values change
$n$	Discount factor to account for the possible drop in the fuel efficiency of the retrofitted Bio-CNG vehicles. A default value of 0.95 shall be used for converted vehicles that previously used gasoline
$f_{FO, gasoline}$	Fraction of gasoline of fossil fuel origin. 1.0 if pure gasoline has been displaced. In cases where national regulations require mandatory blending of the fuels with biofuels then the fraction of gasoline (on mass basis) in the blend should be applied

14. Total baseline emissions for case 2 are calculated on an annual basis as below:

$$BE_y = \sum_k FC_{gasoline, k, y} \times NCV_{gasoline} \times EF_{CO_2, gasoline} \quad (3)$$

Where:

$BE_y$	Total baseline emission in year $y$ (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
$NCV_{gasoline}$	Net calorific value of gasoline (GJ/ton), determined using reliable local or national data. IPCC default values (lower value of 95% CI) shall be used only when country or project specific data are not available or demonstrably difficult to obtain. Values shall be updated if national values or IPCC values change
$EF_{CO_2, gasoline}$	CO <sub>2</sub> emission factor of gasoline (tCO <sub>2</sub> e/GJ)

Under the condition of:

$$\sum FC_{Bio-CNG, k, y} \leq FP_{Bio-CNG, y} \quad (4)$$

Where:

$\sum FC_{Bio-CNG, k, y}$	Total consumed Bio-CNG by all project vehicles in year $y$ (tons)
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**Indicative simplified baseline and monitoring methodologies  
for selected small-scale CDM project activity categories**

*III.AQ. Introduction of Bio-CNG in road transportation (cont)*

15. In the cases where PPs apply both case 1 and 2 PPs shall describe in the PDD how the double counting of emission reductions has been avoided.

**Project activity emissions**

16. The project emissions should be calculated as follows:

$$PE_y = PE_{elec,y} + PE_{fuel,y} + PE_{transport,y} + PE_{cultivation,y} + PE_{CH_4,y} \quad (5)$$

Where:

$PE_y$	Project emissions in year $y$ (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
$PE_{elec,y}$	Project emissions due to electricity consumption in year $y$ (tCO <sub>2</sub> )
$PE_{fuel,y}$	Project emissions due to fossil fuels consumption in year $y$ (tCO <sub>2</sub> )
$PE_{transport,y}$	Project emissions from transportation of the renewable biomass from the places of their origin to the biogas production site and the processed biogas from the biogas processing facility to the filling stations in year $y$ (tCO <sub>2</sub> )
$PE_{cultivation,y}$	Project emissions of N <sub>2</sub> O from renewable biomass cultivation in year $y$ (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
$PE_{CH_4,y}$	Project emissions due to the physical leakage of methane from the systems affected by the project activity for production, processing, purification, compression; storage and filling of the Bio-CNG in year $y$ (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)

*Calculation of  $PE_{elec,y}$*

17. The emissions include electricity consumption (including auxiliary use)  $PE_{elec,y}$  associated with the operation of Bio-CNG plant, calculated as per the parameter  $PE_{EC,y}$  in the “Tool to calculate baseline, project and/or leakage emissions from electricity consumption”.

*Calculation of  $PE_{fuel,y}$*

18. The emissions include fossil fuel consumption (including auxiliary use)  $PE_{fuel,y}$  associated with the operation of Bio-CNG plant, calculated as per the parameter  $PE_{FC,j,y}$  in the “Tool to calculate project or leakage CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion”, where each combustion processes  $j$  in the tool should correspond to one of the fossil fuel consumption sources of the plant.

19. In cases where it is demonstrated that the energy requirements of the biogas production and treatment system and Bio-CNG plant are met only by renewable energy source the values of  $PE_{elec,y}$  and  $PE_{fuel,y}$  are considered as zero.

**Indicative simplified baseline and monitoring methodologies  
for selected small-scale CDM project activity categories**

*III.AQ. Introduction of Bio-CNG in road transportation (cont)*

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*Calculation of  $PE_{transport,y}$*

20. Project emissions from transportation of the renewable biomass and/or waste organic matters from the places of their origin to the biogas production site and the processed biogas from the biogas processing facility to the filling stations have to be accounted following the procedures in AMS-III.AK “Biodiesel production and use for transport applications” if the transportation distance is more than 200 km, otherwise they can be neglected.

*Calculation of  $PE_{cultivation,y}$*

21. Project emissions of from renewable biomass cultivation shall be calculated as per relevant provisions of AMS-III.T “Plant oil production and use for transport applications”.

*Calculation of  $PE_{CH_4,y}$*

22. Project emissions associated with the physical leakage of methane from the systems affected by the project activity are calculated as follows:

$$PE_{CH_4,y} = PE_{AD,y} + PE_{Bio-CNG,y} \quad (6)$$

Where:

$PE_{AD,y}$  CH<sub>4</sub> leakage emissions from the anaerobic digesters in year y (tCO<sub>2</sub>e)

$PE_{Bio-CNG,y}$  Project emissions of CH<sub>4</sub> from biogas and Bio-CNG processing, upgrading, purification, compression, storage and transportation (leaks and dissolved in wastewater) in year y (tCO<sub>2</sub>e)

*Methane emissions from physical leakage emissions from the anaerobic digesters ( $PE_{AD,y}$ )*

23. Methane emissions due to physical leakages from the digester and recovery system ( $PE_{AD,y}$ ) shall be estimated using a default factor of 0.05 m<sup>3</sup> biogas leaked/m<sup>3</sup> biogas produced. For *ex ante* estimation the expected biogas production of the digester may be used, for *ex post* calculations the effectively recovered biogas amount shall be used for the calculation.

*Methane emissions from physical leakage due to the biogas treatment system ( $PE_{Bio-CNG,y}$ )*

24. The following Project emission sources shall be determined as per the relevant procedures in Annex I of AMS-III.H “Methane recovery in wastewater treatment”:

- (a) Methane emissions from the discharge of the upgrading equipment are determined;
- (b) Fugitive methane emissions from leaks in compression equipment;
- (c) Methane emissions due to the vent gases from upgrade equipment;
- (d) Methane emissions related to physical leakage from filling operations shall be computed as per the procedures for calculating emissions from compressor leaks as per paragraph 24 b) above;

**Indicative simplified baseline and monitoring methodologies  
for selected small-scale CDM project activity categories**

*III.AQ. Introduction of Bio-CNG in road transportation (cont)*

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- (e) Where applicable methane emissions associated with the physical leakage of the upgraded biogas from the dedicated pipelines;
- (f) Where applicable methane emissions due to physical leakage from Bio-CNG/biogas filled bottles (e.g. mobile cascades) which are used for the storage and transportation of Bio-CNG/biogas.

25. The digested residue waste leaving the reactor shall be treated aerobically, and disposed in land properly, such as to avoid methane emissions. If disposed under anaerobic conditions (e.g. landfill) the methane emissions shall be estimated and discounted as project emissions following the relevant provisions in SSC-III.AO “Methane recovery through controlled anaerobic digestion”.

**Leakage**

26. Leakage emissions  $LE_{\text{BIOMASS},y}$  due to a shift of pre-project activities and competing use of biomass shall be accounted for as per the approved “General guidance on leakage in biomass project activities for small-scale project activities”.

27. The substitution of Bio-CNG for CNG from fossil origin reduces indirect (“upstream”) emissions associated with the production of fossil CNG and is treated as negative leakage  $LE_{\text{PROCESS},y,\text{CNG}}$  (leakage emissions due to fossil fuel combustion/electricity consumption associated with the liquefaction, transportation, re-gasification and compression of LNG into a natural gas transmission or distribution system during the year  $y$  in tCO<sub>2</sub>e) that can be calculated as per the relevant provisions of AM0029 “Methodology for Grid Connected Electricity Generation Plants using Natural Gas”.

28. The substitution of Bio-CNG for gasoline reduces indirect (“upstream”) emissions associated with the production of gasoline and is treated as negative leakage  $LE_{\text{PROCESS},y,\text{GAS}}$  (leakage emissions related to production and refining of the gasoline) that can be calculated as per the relevant sections of ACM0017 “Production of biodiesel for use as fuel” and its equations 16, 17 and 18 using the following default values for gasoline:

$EF_{\text{REF}}$  Emission factor related to oil refining expressed by per ton of gasoline (tCO<sub>2</sub>e/t).

A default value of 0.241<sup>2</sup> tCO<sub>2</sub>e/t gasoline shall be used

$EF_{\text{PROD}}$  Emission factor for production of crude oil (tCO<sub>2</sub>e/t).

A default value of 0.075<sup>3</sup> tCO<sub>2</sub>e/t gasoline shall be used

29. Negative leakage emissions related to the avoided production of Fossil Fuel (CNG, gasoline) (tCO<sub>2</sub>/yr) shall be calculated as per the equation below:

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<sup>2</sup> This value was calculated using ACM0017 approach.

<sup>3</sup> This value was calculated using ACM0017 approach.

**Indicative simplified baseline and monitoring methodologies  
for selected small-scale CDM project activity categories**

*III.AQ. Introduction of Bio-CNG in road transportation (cont)*

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$$LE_{PROCESS,y,FF} = LE_{PROCESS,y,CNG} + LE_{PROCESS,y,GAS} \quad (7)$$

Where:

$LE_{PROCESS,y,FF}$  Leakage related to the avoided production of Fossil Fuel (tCO<sub>2</sub>/yr)

**Emission reductions**

30. The emission reductions achieved by the project activity shall be calculated as the difference between the baseline emissions and the sum of the project emissions and leakage.

$$ER_y = BE_y - PE_y - LE_{BIOMASS,y} + LE_{PROCESS,y,FF} \quad (8)$$

Where:

$ER_y$  Emission reductions in the year  $y$  (tCO<sub>2</sub>e)

**Monitoring**

31. Relevant parameters shall be monitored as indicated in the Table 1 below.

32. Parameters for determining project emissions from renewable biomass cultivation shall be monitored as per relevant provisions of AMS-III.T.

33. Parameters for calculating methane emissions from physical leakage of methane from the systems affected by the project activity for production, processing, purification, compression; storage and filling of the Bio-CNG shall be monitored as per the procedures prescribed in AMS-III.H.

34. Parameters for establishing methane emissions from residue waste disposed under anaerobic conditions shall be monitored as per relevant procedures of SSC-III.AO.

35. The applicable requirements specified in the “General Guidelines to SSC CDM methodologies” (e.g. calibration requirements, sampling requirements) are also an integral part of the monitoring guidelines.

36. Evidence shall be provided to demonstrate that the modification of gasoline vehicles has been implemented.

37. In case of paragraphs 13 and 15 the filling stations must be equipped with following devices/systems:<sup>4</sup>

- (a) Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR); or Electronic Vehicle Identification (EVI);

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<sup>4</sup> The PPs are encouraged to propose revision of the methodology for allowing/including other alternative procedures.

**Indicative simplified baseline and monitoring methodologies  
for selected small-scale CDM project activity categories**

*III.AQ. Introduction of Bio-CNG in road transportation (cont)*

- (b) Automatic locking and unlocking function of dispenser directly controlled by equipped device/system responsible for project vehicle identification to ensure that all the Bio-CNG that is produced is only consumed in the project vehicles;
- (c) System for logging of the data on quantity of Bio-CNG filled into identified project vehicles;
- (d) Natural gas analyser capable of analysing ethane and propane to ensure that the gas delivered to the vehicle by the dispenser does not contain ethane or/and propane.

**Table 1: Parameters to be monitored**

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Measurement methods and Procedures</b>	<b>Monitoring/Recording Frequency</b>
$FC_{Bio-CNG,k,y}$	Bio-CNG consumed by the project vehicle $k$ in the year $y$ (tons)	Measurements of the amount of Bio-CNG filled into vehicles of the end users are undertaken using calibrated meters at the filling station site. Measurements results shall be cross-checked with production and sales data	Continuously
$FS_{Bio-CNG,y}$	Amount of Bio-CNG distributed/sold directly to retailers, filling stations by the project activity in year $y$ (tons)	Measurements of the amount of Bio-CNG distributed/sold to retailers/filling stations are undertaken using calibrated meters at the delivery section of Bio-CNG production site. Measurements results shall be cross checked with records for sold amount (e.g. invoices/receipts) and with the amount of biogas produced	Continuously or in batches
$FP_{Bio-CNG,y}$	Quantity of the Bio-CNG produced by the project activity in the year $y$ (tons)	Measurements are undertaken using calibrated meters at the outlet of the biogas upgrading section of the Bio-CNG production site	Continuously

**Indicative simplified baseline and monitoring methodologies  
for selected small-scale CDM project activity categories**

*III.AQ. Introduction of Bio-CNG in road transportation (cont)*

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Measurement methods and Procedures</b>	<b>Monitoring/Recording Frequency</b>
$NCV_{Bio-CNG}$	Net calorific value of Bio-CNG (GJ/ton)	Measured according to relevant national/international standards through sampling. Analysis has to be carried out by accredited laboratory	Monthly or as prescribed by the applied national/international standard
$NCV_i$	Net calorific value of gasoline/blended gasoline (GJ/ton) that was used by project vehicle $k$	Measured according to relevant national/international standards. Analysis has to be carried out by accredited laboratory	At the validation, and annually during the crediting period
$w_{CH_4,y}$	Methane content in the Bio-CNG	The fraction of methane in the gas should be measured with a continuous analyzer or, alternatively, with periodical measurements at a 90/10 sampling confidence/precision level. It shall be measured using equipment that can directly measure methane content in the biogas - the estimation of methane content of biogas based on measurement of other constituents of biogas such as CO <sub>2</sub> is not permitted. The methane content measurement shall be carried out at the location where $FP_{Bio-CNG,y}$ is measured	Continuous/Periodic
$f_{FO,gasoline}$	Fraction of gasoline from fossil fuel origin in the displaced gasoline	As per the following options (in preferential order): (i) Data from the supplier of the gasoline; (ii) If it accrues to national regulations requiring mandatory blending of biofuels, the regulatory blend fraction may be used; (iii) If measured, it shall be according to relevant national/international standards through sampling	Continuously or in batches

Indicative simplified baseline and monitoring methodologies  
 for selected small-scale CDM project activity categories

*III.AQ. Introduction of Bio-CNG in road transportation (cont)*

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**Project activity under a programme of activities**

38. The methodology is applicable to a programme of activities.

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**History of the document**

Version	Date	Nature of revision
01	EB 58, Annex # 26 November 2010	To be considered at EB 58.
<b>Decision Class:</b> Regulatory <b>Document Type:</b> Standard <b>Business Function:</b> Methodology		