

**Annex 31****Guidelines on application of specified versions of A/R CDM methodologies in verification of registered A/R CDM project activities****(Version 01.1)****I. Background**

1. Several early versions of methodologies applied in registered afforestation/reforestation clean development mechanism (A/R CDM) project activities contain requirements that were withdrawn during revisions/improvements of these methodologies as part of the standards improvement process.
2. These guidelines allow a registered A/R CDM project activity to apply, at the time of verification, the improvements in the methodology that occurred after the date of registration of the project activity.

II. Guidelines

3. In verification of registered A/R CDM project activities, the requirements listed in column (a) of Table 1 below, contained in any version of any methodology which was used by a registered A/R CDM project activity or by a project activity which was in the process of registration by the end of the grace period applicable to that version of the methodology, shall be modified according to the respective guidelines provided in column (b), unless project participants inform the designated operational entity contracted by them to perform the verification that they choose to apply any of these requirements as contained in the version of the methodology used in the registered project design document of A/R CDM project activities.

Table 1: Application of specified versions of A/R CDM methodologies in registered A/R CDM project activities

Requirement	Guidelines
(a)	(b)
Monitoring of data and parameters	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Only data and parameters obtained from field measurement are required to be monitored; (ii) Monitoring is not required for data, parameters, or variables appearing as intermediate values in calculation steps and those taken from existing sources (e.g. published literature)



Requirement	Guidelines
(a)	(b)
Sampling design, sample plot lay-out, and marking of permanent sample plots	(i) Use of temporary sample plots; (ii) Random lay-out of sample plots; (iii) A maximum allowable relative margin of error of the mean, for estimation of above-ground tree biomass, of $\pm 10\%$ at 90% confidence level; shall be allowed
Accounting for uncertainty	Requirements related to “uncertainty assessment”, “uncertainty analysis”, “methods of combining uncertainties”, and “uncertainty in expert judgement” are superfluous and compliance with these requirements shall not be enforced
Field measurement of soil organic carbon	(i) Instead of field measurement of soil organic carbon, the “Tool for estimation of change in soil organic carbon stocks due to the implementation of A/R CDM project activities” shall be used for areas which meet the applicability conditions of the tool; or (ii) The value of change in soil organic carbon shall be set to zero. Consequently, monitoring of data and parameters related to estimation of changes in soil organic carbon shall not be required
Clearance or burning of herbaceous vegetation	(i) Changes in carbon stocks resulting from clearance of herbaceous vegetation shall be set to zero; (ii) Emissions resulting from clearance or burning of herbaceous vegetation shall be set to zero. Consequently, monitoring of data and parameters related to (i) and (ii) above shall not be required
Estimation of emissions of nitrous oxide from use of fertilizers	Estimation and accounting of emissions of nitrous oxide from use of fertilizers shall not be required. Consequently, monitoring of data and parameters related to the above-mentioned emissions shall not be required



Requirement	Guidelines
(a)	(b)
Burning of fossil fuel	<p>Estimation and accounting of emissions from burning of fossil fuel, both within and outside the project boundary, shall not be required.</p> <p>Consequently, monitoring of data and parameters related to the above mentioned emissions shall not be required</p>

History of the document

Version	Date	Nature of revision(s)
01.1	20 July 2012	EB 68, Annex 31 The amendment was undertaken to reflect the response provided to the request for clarification AR_AM_CLA_0018. The amendment extends the applicability of the guidelines to all project activities that use older versions of A/R methodologies.
01.0	EB 63, Annex 26 29 September 2011	Initial adoption.
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