



## Annex 12

### CLARIFICATION FOR PROJECT PARTICIPANTS ON WHEN TO REQUEST A REVISION, CLARIFICATION TO AN APPROVED METHODOLOGY OR DEVIATION

(Version 02)

#### Mandate and background

1. The Board at its twenty ninth meeting requested the secretariat to provide a draft proposal on further clarification for project participants to assist them in ascertaining when to request a revision, deviation and or clarification to an approved methodology, for consideration by the Board at its thirtieth meeting.
2. This guidance provides a clarification for project participants, when faced with the decision to either submit, via the DOE, a request for clarification or revision of an approved methodology or a deviation.

#### Request for clarifications to approved methodology

3. The clarifications to approved methodologies may be carried out in response to requests by a project participant or relevant stakeholders or may be carried out in response to requests recommended by the Executive Board, Meth Panel or Working Groups in accordance with the latest version of the procedures.<sup>1</sup>
4. The procedure for request for clarification is provided to enable the DOEs, and project participants via the DOE, to seek clarification on the applicability of an approved methodology, clarification on various procedures provided in an approved methodology, *inter alia* for identifying the baseline scenario, demonstrating additionality, estimating baseline emissions, project emissions, leakage, etc. and in clarifying monitoring data and procedures. Therefore, should a methodology be unclear or ambiguous in this regard requiring further background information as to the conditions under which it is to be applied, project participants are advised to submit a request for clarification.

#### Request for revision of an approved methodology

5. The revision of approved methodology may be carried out in response to requests by a project participant, relevant stakeholders, the Executive Board, the Meth Panel or Working Groups in accordance with the latest version of the procedures.<sup>2</sup>
6. A request for revision is suited for situations where an approved methodology is not applicable to a project activity but the project activity is broadly similar to the project activities to which the approved methodology is applicable. Similarity is based on the nature (technology/measure) of the project activity and sources of the emissions affected by the project activity. For example, the approved methodology may not be applicable as the source of emissions affected by the project activities are the same but the technology/measure used in the project activity is not covered under the applicability conditions; or the procedures provided in the methodology for estimating emissions from sources are not applicable because of slight variations in the approach, flow of events or structure chosen in the project activity.

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<sup>1</sup> See the latest procedures for the submission and consideration of queries regarding the application of approved methodologies by DOEs to the Meth Panel (*mutatis mutandis* for SSCWG and A/RWG) <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/goto/procs>>

<sup>2</sup> See the latest procedures for the revision of an approved methodology <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/goto/procs>>



7. Should no approved methodology be appropriate, then a revision to an approved methodologies could be requested. In this case significant changes are required to the approved methodology for it to be applicable to all possible project scenarios, without which *inter alia* the application of the methodology to the proposed project activity would be inappropriate, resulting in an incorrect definition of the project boundary, double counting, an inaccurate account of leakage, emission reductions that are either not real, measurable, verifiable or additional to those that would occur in the absence of the project activity.

8. The request for revisions shall not include changes to the approved methodology that would result in the exclusion, restriction, narrowing of the applicability conditions of the approved methodologies for other project activities. Should the request result in the above the project participant is advised to submit a new proposed methodology.

9. In this regard, if the request for revision to an approved methodology is likely to result in the addition of new procedures or scenarios to more than half of the sections of an approved methodology, it is advisable that project participants propose a new methodology as per procedures for submission and consideration of proposed new methodology accordance with the latest version of the procedures.<sup>3</sup>

#### **Request for deviation**

10. A request for deviation may be made in advance of requesting registration or issuance of CERs when a DOE considers, during validation or verification, that the participant has or intends to deviate from the provisions of an approved methodology or registered project documentation. The request shall be made in accordance with the latest version of the procedures.<sup>4</sup>

11. A requests of for deviations made in advance of requesting registration, refers to deviations from an approved methodology applicable to the proposed project activity, while requests at the stage of issuance refers to a deviation from the monitoring plan of a registered CDM project activity.

12. A request for deviation is suitable for situations where a change in the procedures for the estimation of emissions or monitoring procedures is required due to a change in the conditions, circumstances or nature of a registered project activity. The deviation shall be project specific and shall not deviate from the methodology, such that a revision would be required.

13. A request for deviation is not suited for cases where (i) the monitoring plan is not in accordance with the monitoring methodology applied to the registered project activity<sup>5</sup>, (ii) when the approved methodology is no longer applicable to the project activity, (iii) it results in revisions as referred to in paragraph 6, (iv) or for example it results in a change in default parameter values other than those mentioned in the approved methodology.

#### **Request for Revising Monitoring Plan of Registered CDM project activity**

14. A request for revision of the monitoring plan is made by the DOE in advance of request for issuance of CERs.

<sup>3</sup> See the latest procedures for submission and consideration of a proposed new methodology and or equivalent for AR methodologies <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/goto/procs>>

<sup>4</sup> See the latest procedures for requests for deviations <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/goto/procs>>

<sup>5</sup> See the procedures for revising monitoring plans in accordance with paragraph 57 of the modalities and procedures for the CDM (Annex 34, EB26) <<http://cdm.unfccc.int>>



15. The request for revising monitoring plan is made in cases where:
  - a. the monitoring plan in the registered CDM project activity document is found not to be consistent with the approved monitoring methodology applied to the registered project activity; or
  - b. the proposed revision of the monitoring plan ensures that the level of accuracy or completeness in the monitoring and verification process is not reduced as a result of the revision;

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