



Methodological Tool

“Assessment of the validity of the original/current baseline and update of the baseline at the renewal of the crediting period”

(Version 03.0.1)

I. SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

This tool provides a stepwise procedure to assess the continued validity of the baseline and to update the baseline at the renewal of a crediting period, as required by paragraph 49 (a) of the modalities and procedures of the clean development mechanism.

The tool consists of two steps. The first step provides an approach to evaluate whether the current baseline is still valid for the next crediting period. The second step provides an approach to update the baseline in case that the current baseline is not valid anymore for the next crediting period.

II. METHODOLOGY PROCEDURE

Step 1: Assess the validity of the current baseline for the next crediting period

The “Procedures for the renewal of the crediting period of a registered CDM project activity” approved by the CDM Executive Board require assessing the impact of new relevant national and/or sectoral policies and circumstances on the baseline.

The validity of the current baseline is assessed using the following Sub-steps:

Step 1.1: Assess compliance of the current baseline with relevant mandatory national and/or sectoral policies

If the current baseline complies with all relevant mandatory national and/or sectoral policies which have come into effect after the submission of the project activity for validation or the submission of the previous request for renewal of the crediting period and are applicable at the time of requesting renewal of the crediting period, go to Step 1.2.

If the current baseline does not comply with relevant mandatory national and/or sectoral policies, then assess based on the examination of current practice in the country or region in which the policies apply, whether those policies are systematically not enforced and that non-compliance with those requirements is widespread in the country or region.

If the current baseline is not in compliance with the relevant mandatory national and/or sectoral policies or if it cannot be shown that the policies are systematically not enforced and that non-compliance with those policies is widespread in the country or region, then the current baseline needs to be updated for the subsequent crediting period.

***Step 1.2: Assess the impact of circumstances***

Assess the impact of circumstances existing at the time of requesting renewal of the crediting period on the current baseline emissions, without reassessing the baseline scenario.

In the situation where the baseline scenario identified at the validation of the project activity was the continuation of the current practice without any investment, an assessment of the changes in market characteristics is required for the renewal of the crediting period.

Evaluate whether the conditions used to determine the baseline emissions in the previous crediting period are still valid. Assess the availability of new fuels or raw materials and the impact of electricity or fuel prices in the identification of the current practice for the baseline emissions;

If the new circumstances make a continued validity of the current baseline not plausible, then the current baseline needs to be updated for the subsequent crediting period.

Step 1.3: Assess whether the continuation of use of current baseline equipment(s) or an investment is the most likely scenario for the crediting period for which renewal is requested.

This sub-step should only be applied if the baseline scenario identified at the validation of the project activity was the continuation of use of the current equipment(s) without any investment and, the projects proponents or third party (or parties) would undertake an investment later due, for example, to the end of the technical lifetime of the equipment(s) before the end of the crediting period or the availability of a new technology.

Assess whether the remaining technical lifetime of the equipment that would have continued to be used in the absence of the project activity, as determined in the CDM-PDD or CDM-PDD-REN, exceeds the crediting period for which renewal is requested.

Take into consideration the market penetration of different technologies. Evaluate the penetration rate of different technologies that are available in the market and evaluate how they could affect the baseline.

If the baseline scenario of the project activity is the continuation of use of the current equipment(s) without any investment and the projects proponents or third party(ies) will undertake an investment later, but before the end of a crediting period, then the current baseline needs to be updated for that crediting period or the crediting of emission reductions should be limited to the period before the baseline equipment would cease its operation.

Step 1.4: Assessment of the validity of the data and parameters

Assess whether data and parameters that were only determined at the start of the crediting period and not monitored during the crediting period are still valid or whether they should be updated. Updates should be undertaken in the following cases:

- Where IPCC default values are used, the values should be updated if any new default values have been adopted and published by the IPCC, for example, in guidelines for national GHG inventories, IPCC assessment report or special reports by the IPCC;
- Where emission factors, values or emission benchmarks are used and determined only once for the crediting period, they should be updated, except if the emission factors, values or emission benchmarks are based on the historical situation at the site of the project activity prior to the implementation of the project and can not be updated because the historical situation does not exist anymore as a result of the CDM project activity.



If any of the data and parameters that were only determined at the start of the crediting period and not monitored during the crediting period are not valid anymore, the current baseline needs to be updated for the subsequent crediting period.

If the application of Steps 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 confirmed that the current baseline as well as data and parameters are still valid for the subsequent crediting period, then this baseline, data and parameters can be used for the renewed crediting period. Otherwise, proceed to Step 2.

Step 2: Update the current baseline and the data and parameters

This step is only applicable if any of the Steps 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and/or 1.4 showed that the current baseline needs to be updated.

Step 2.1: Update the current baseline

Update the current baseline emissions for the subsequent crediting period, without reassessing the baseline scenario, based on the latest approved version of the methodology applicable to the project activity. The procedure should be applied in the context of the sectoral policies and circumstances that are applicable at the time of request for renewal of the crediting period.

Step 2.2: Update the data and parameters

If the application of Step 1.4 showed that the data and/or parameter(s) that were only determined at the start of the crediting period and not monitored during the crediting period are not valid anymore, project participants should update all applicable data and parameters, following the guidance in Step 1.4.

Version	Date	Nature of revision(s)
03.0.1	EB 66, Annex 47 2 March 2012	Editorial amendment to remove background information and change the title from "Validity of the original/current baseline and to update the baseline at the renewal of a crediting period" to "Assessment of the validity of the current/original baseline and update of the baseline at the renewal of the crediting period".
03.0.0	EB 65, Annex 20 25 November 2011	Revision prepared in response to the request contained in paragraph 91 of the report of the sixty-third meeting of the Board, specifies which circumstances should be taken into account at the renewal of the crediting period for project activities where no investment is undertaken in the baseline scenario.
02.0.0	EB 63, Annex 20 29 September 2011	Revision to allow for an option to limit the crediting period to the end of the technical lifetime of the baseline equipment. Version 01 of this tool was published in the "Procedures for renewal of the crediting period of a registered CDM project activity" (EB 46, annex 11). It is now being published as a separate document.
01	EB 46, Annex 11 25 March 2009	Initial adoption.
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