

CDM-SSCWG46-A04

Draft Small-scale Methodology

AMS-III.AU: Methane emission reduction by adjusted water management practice in rice cultivation

Version 04.0

Sectoral scope(s): 15



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United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

COVER NOTE

1. Procedural background

1. The Executive Board of the clean development mechanism (CDM) (hereinafter referred to as the Board), at its eightieth meeting, took note of the recent submission from the designated national authority (DNA) of the Philippines on “Standardized Baseline for Methane Emissions from Rice Cultivation” and considered the issue that the approach taken for determining the baseline in the submission is built upon the methodological approach from the approved methodology “AMS-III.AU: Methane emission reduction by adjusted water management practice in rice cultivation”, however it deviates from it in some aspects. The Board requested the secretariat to prepare and submit a draft top-down revision of AMS-III.AU incorporating the new approach based on the proposed standardized baseline and a draft recommendation on the proposed standardized baseline for consideration at the 45th meeting of the Small-Scale Working Group (SSC WG).
2. The SSC WG, at its 45th meeting, agreed on the draft revised methodology and decided to launch a call for public inputs in response to which one input was received. At its 46th meeting, the SSC WG agreed to recommend this draft revised methodology to the Board for approval.

2. Purpose

3. The purpose of the draft revision of AMS-III.AU is to include a simplified new approach to calculate emission reductions using the IPCC tier 1 approach with measurement of baseline emission factors for continuously flooded fields.

3. Key issues and proposed solutions

4. The draft revision takes into account the approach proposed in the proposed standardized baseline submission from the DNA of the Philippines, “PSB0019: Standardized baseline for methane emissions from rice cultivation in the Republic of the Philippines”, and it introduces a simplified option for emission reductions calculation, with the aim of reducing transaction costs especially for those in the regions which are underrepresented in the CDM.

4. Impacts

5. The revision, if approved, will provide a simplified approach to calculate emission reductions, and it will facilitate the implementation of CDM project activities and programme of activities in agricultural sector, which are relevant for the least developed countries and other regions that are underrepresented in the CDM.

5. Subsequent work and timelines

6. Not applicable.

6. Recommendations to the Board

7. The SSC WG recommends that the Board adopt this final draft revised methodology, to be made effective at the time of the Board's approval.

TABLE OF CONTENTS	Page
1. INTRODUCTION	5
2. SCOPE, APPLICABILITY, AND ENTRY INTO FORCE.....	5
2.1. Scope	5
2.2. Applicability	5
2.3. Entry into force	6
3. NORMATIVE REFERENCES	6
4. DEFINITIONS.....	6
5. BASELINE METHODOLOGY.....	8
5.1. Project boundary	8
5.2. Baseline emissions.....	9
5.3. Baseline emissions.....	9
5.4. Determination of baseline emission factor on reference fields.....	9
5.5. Leakage.....	9
5.6. Project emissions	10
5.7. Determination of project emission factor on reference fields	10
5.8. Emission reductions	10
5.8.1. Ex ante estimation of emission reductions	11
5.8.2. Emission reductions using IPCC tier 1 approach or default values	11
6. MONITORING METHODOLOGY	17
6.1.1. Monitoring of baseline and project emissions.....	17
6.1.2. Monitoring of farmers' compliance with project cultivation practice.....	19
7. PROJECT ACTIVITY UNDER A PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES.....	19
APPENDIX. GUIDELINES FOR MEASURING METHANE EMISSIONS FROM RICE FIELDS.....	20

1. Introduction

1. The following table describes the key elements of the methodology.

Table 1. Methodology key elements

Typical project(s)	<p>(a) Rice farms that change the water regime during the cultivation period from continuously to intermittent flooded conditions and/or a shortened period of flooded conditions;</p> <p>(b) Alternate wetting and drying method and aerobic rice cultivation methods; and</p> <p>(c) Rice farms that change their rice cultivation practice from transplanted to direct seeded rice (DSR)</p>
Type of GHG emissions mitigation action	Greenhouse gas (GHG) emission avoidance: Reduced anaerobic decomposition of organic matter in rice cropping soils

2. Scope, applicability, and entry into force

2.1. Scope

2. The methodology comprises technology/measures that result in reduced anaerobic decomposition of organic matter in rice cropping soils and thus reduced generation of methane. The methodology includes projects such as:

- (a) Rice farms that change the water regime during the cultivation period from continuously to intermittent flooded conditions and/or a shortened period of flooded conditions ~~are included~~;
- (b) Alternate wetting and drying method and aerobic rice cultivation methods ~~are covered~~ (see <<http://www.knowledgebank.irri.org/watermanagement>>);
- (c) Rice farms that change their rice cultivation practice from transplanted to direct seeded rice ~~are included~~.¹

2.2. Applicability

3. This methodology is applicable under the following conditions:

- (a) Rice cultivation in the project area is predominantly characterized by irrigated, flooded fields for an extended period of time during the growing season, i.e. farms whose water regimes can be classified as *upland* or *rainfed and deep water* are not eligible to apply this methodology. This shall be shown from a representative survey conducted in the geographical region of the proposed project or by using national data. This project area characterization shall also include information on pre-season water regime and applied organic

¹ A switch from transplanted rice with continuously flooded fields to ~~direct seeded rice (DSR)~~ leads to a reduced flooding period since DSR requires non-flooded conditions after sowing until the seed has fully germinated and developed into a viable, young plantlet (at the "2 to 4 leaf stage").

- amendments, so that all dynamic parameters as shown in Table 2 are covered by the baseline study;
- (b) The project rice fields are equipped with controlled irrigation and drainage facilities such that both during dry and wet season, appropriate dry/flooded conditions can be established on the fields;
 - (c) The project activity does not lead to a decrease in rice yield. Likewise, it does not require the farm to switch to a cultivar that has not been grown before;
 - (d) Training and technical support during the cropping season that delivers appropriate knowledge in field preparation, irrigation, drainage and use of fertilizer to the farmer is part of the project activity and is to be documented in a verifiable manner (e.g. protocol of trainings, documentation of on-site visits). In particular the project proponent is able to ensure that the farmer by himself or through experienced assistance is able to determine the crop's supplemental N fertilization need. The applied method shall assess the fertiliser needs using for example a leaf colour chart (LCC) or photo sensor or testing stripes. Alternatively a procedure to ensure efficient fertilization considering the specific cultivation conditions in the project area backed by scientific literature or official recommendations shall be used;
 - (e) Project proponents shall assure that the introduced cultivation practice, including the specific cultivation elements, technologies and use of crop protection products, is not subject to any local regulatory restrictions;
 - (f) Excepting the case where the default value approach indicated in paragraph 15 section 6.1.2 "Emission reductions using IPCC tier 1 approach or default values" is chosen for emission reductions calculations, project proponents have access to infrastructure to measure CH₄ emissions from reference fields using closed chamber method and laboratory analysis;
 - (g) Aggregated annual emission reductions of all fields included under one project activity shall be less than or equal to 60 kt CO₂ equivalent.

2.3. Entry into force

- 4. The date of entry into force is the date of the publication of the EB 81 meeting report on 28 November 2014.

3. Normative references

- 5. Project participants shall apply the "General guidelines to for small-scale (SSC) clean development mechanism (CDM) methodologies, "Guidelines on the demonstration of additionality of SSC small-scale project activities" and "General guidance on leakage in biomass project activities" (attachment C to appendix B) available at <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/Reference/Guidclarif/index.html#meth>> mutatis mutandis.

4. Definitions

- 6. The definitions contained in the Glossary of CDM terms shall apply.

7. For the purpose of this methodology the following definitions² apply:
- (a) **Transplanted rice (TPR)** - a system of planting rice where seeds are raised in a nursery bed for some 20 to 30 days. The young seedlings are then directly transplanted into the flooded rice field;
 - (b) **Direct seeded rice (DSR)** - a system of cultivating rice in which seeds, either pre-germinated or dry, are broadcast or sown directly in the field under dry- or wetland condition; no transplanting process is involved;
 - (c) **IPCC approach** - the most recent version of the applicable IPCC guidance on methane emission from rice cultivation. The applicable version at the time of approval of the methodology submission, this is chapter 5.5, volume 4 of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories;
 - (d) **Project cultivation practice** - a set of elements of a cultivation practice which is adopted under the CDM project activity. This mainly consists of the adjusted irrigation method. Field preparation, fertilization and weed and pest control may also be included;
 - (e) **Water regime** - a combination of rice ecosystem type (e.g. irrigated, rainfed and deep water) and flooding pattern (e.g. continuously flooded, intermittently flooded);
 - (f) **Upland** - a type of water regime in which fields are never flooded for a significant period of time;
 - (g) **Irrigated** - a type of water regime in which fields are flooded for a significant period of time and water regime is fully controlled;
 - (h) **Rainfed and deep water** - a type of water regime in which fields are flooded for a significant period of time and water regime depends solely on precipitation.
8. For the purpose of defining reference field conditions for baseline and project emission measurements and their comparison with project fields, classify each project field with its specific pattern of cultivation conditions, applying the following parameters under Table 2:

Table 2. Parameters for the definition of cultivation patterns

Nr.	Parameter	Type ^a	Values/categories	Source/method ^b
1	Water regime – on-season ^c	Dynamic	Continuously flooded	Baseline: Farmer's information Project: Monitoring
			Single Drainage	
			Multiple Drainage	
2	Water regime – pre-season	Dynamic	Flooded	Baseline: Farmer's information Project: Monitoring
			Short drainage (<180d)	
			Long drainage (>180d)	

² IPCC approach provides for the following definitions (e) to (h) (see volume 4 of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories for further details).

Nr.	Parameter	Type ^a	Values/categories	Source/method ^b
3	Organic Amendment	Dynamic	Straw on-season ^d	Baseline: Farmer's information Project: Monitoring
			Green manure	
			Straw off-season ^d	
			Farm yard manure	
			Compost	
			No organic amendment	
4	Soil pH	Static	< 4.5	ISRIC-WISE soil property database ^e or national data
			4.5 – 5.5	
			> 5.5	
5	Soil Organic Carbon	Static	< 1%	ISRIC-WISE soil property database ^e or national data
			1 – 3 %	
			> 3%	
6	Climate	Static	[AEZ] ^f	Rice Almanac, HarvestChoice ^f

Comments:

- (a) Dynamic conditions are those that are connected to the management practice of a field, thus can change over time (no matter whether intended by the project activity or due to other reasons) and shall be monitored in the project fields. Static conditions are site-specific parameters that characterize a soil and do not (relevantly) change over time and thus do in principle only have to be determined once for a project and the corresponding fields;
- (b) Source/method of data acquisition to determine the applicable value for each parameter;
- (c) The values 'upland', 'regular rainfed', 'drought prone' and 'deep water', which are regularly used to differentiate the on-season water regime (see IPCC guidelines), are not mentioned here, because these categories are excluded from a project activity under this methodology (cf. applicability criteria);
- (d) Straw on-season means straw applied just before rice season, and straw off-season means straw applied in the previous season. Rice straw that was left on the surface and incorporated into soil just before the rice season is classified as straw on-season;
- (e) For these static parameters, refer to appropriate global or national data. The database from ISRIC provides soil data which can be used for this purpose;
- (f) Climate zone: use agroecological zones as shown in the Rice Almanac (Third Edition, 2002), or by HarvestChoice.

9. With the help of this field characterization, project fields can be grouped according to their cultivation pattern. All fields with the same cultivation pattern form one group.

5. Baseline methodology

5.1. Project boundary

10. The geographic boundary encompasses the rice fields where the cultivation method and water regime are changed. The spatial extent of the project boundary includes all fields that change the cultivation method in the context of the project activity.

5.2. Baseline emissions

11. The baseline scenario is the continuation of the current practice e.g. transplanted and continuously flooded rice cultivation in the project fields.

5.3. Baseline emissions

12. The baseline emissions shall be calculated on a seasonal basis using the following formula:

$$BE_y = \sum_s BE_s \quad \text{Equation (1)}$$

$$BE_s = \sum_{g=1}^G EF_{BL,s,g} \times A_{s,g} \times 10^{-3} \times GWP_{CH_4} \quad \text{Equation (2)}$$

Where:

BE_y	=	Baseline emissions in year y (t CO ₂ e)
BE_s	=	Baseline emissions from project fields in season s (t CO ₂ e)
$EF_{BL,s,g}$	=	Baseline emission factor of group g in season s (kgCH ₄ /ha per season)
$A_{s,g}$	=	Area of project fields of group g in season s (ha)
GWP_{CH_4}	=	Global warming potential of CH ₄ (t CO ₂ e/t CH ₄ , use value of 21)
g	=	Group g , covers all project fields with the same cultivation pattern as determined with the help of Table 2 (G = total number of groups)

5.4. Determination of baseline emission factor on reference fields

13. Baseline reference fields shall be set up in a way that they are representative of baseline emissions in the project rice fields. For each group of fields with the same cultivation pattern, as defined with the help of Table 2, at least three reference fields with the same pattern shall be determined in the project area. On these fields, measurements using the closed chamber method shall be carried out, each resulting in an emission factor expressed as kgCH₄/ha per season. The seasonally integrated baseline emission factor $EF_{BL,s,g}$ shall be derived as average value from the three measurements for each group (see the appendix for guidelines on methane measurement).

5.5. Leakage

14. Any effects of the project activity on GHG emissions outside the project boundary are deemed to be negligible and do not have to be considered under this methodology.

5.6. Project emissions

15. Project emissions consist of the CH₄ emissions, which will still be emitted under the changed cultivation practice. Due to the optimized N fertilization practice (cf. applicability criteria in paragraph 3(d) above, N fertilizer control), N₂O emissions do not significantly deviate from the baseline emissions and hence are not considered.

16. CH₄ emissions from project fields are calculated on a seasonal basis as follows:

$$PE_y = \sum_s PE_s \quad \text{Equation (3)}$$

$$PE_s = \sum_{g=1}^G EF_{P,s,g} \times A_{s,g} \times 10^{-3} \times GWP_{CH_4} \quad \text{Equation (4)}$$

Where:

PE_y = Project emissions in year y (t CO₂e)

PE_s = Project emissions from project fields in season s (t CO₂e)

$EF_{P,s,g}$ = Project emission factor of group g in season s (kgCH₄/ha per season)

5.7. Determination of project emission factor on reference fields

17. The seasonally integrated project emission factor $EF_{P,s,g}$ shall be determined using measurements on at least three project reference fields that fulfil the same conditions as the baseline reference fields, with the difference that they are cultivated according to the defined project cultivation practice. Project reference fields shall be established close to the baseline reference fields and begin with the growing season at the same time. $EF_{P,s,g}$ is the average of the measurement results from the three reference fields.

5.8. Emission reductions

18. The emission reductions achieved by the project activity shall be calculated as the difference between the baseline and the project emissions.

$$ER_s = BE_s - PE_s \quad \text{Equation (5)}$$

Where:

ER_s = Emission reductions in season s (t CO₂e)

5.8.1. Ex ante estimation of emission reductions

19. For the ex ante estimation of emission reductions within the project design document (PDD), project participants shall either refer to own field experiments or estimate baseline and project emissions with the help of national data or IPCC tier 1 default values for emission and scaling factors. The approach shall be explained and justified in the PDD.

5.8.2. Emission reductions using IPCC tier 1 approach or default values

20. As an alternative to the reference field approach indicated in paragraphs 12, 13, 16 and 17, project participants may calculate emission reductions using one of the following two simplified approaches (i.e. Option 1 or Option 2):

21. **Option 1:** Using the IPCC tier 1 approach but undertaking measurements to determine baseline emission factors for continuously flooded fields, as per the following formula:

$$ER_y = EF_{ER} \times A_y \times L_y \times 10^{-3} \times GWP_{CH_4} \quad \text{Equation (6)}$$

$$EF_{ER} = EF_{BL} - EF_P \quad \text{Equation (7)}$$

$$EF_{BL} = EF_{BL,c} \times SF_{BL,w} \times SF_{BL,p} \times SF_{BL,o} \quad \text{Equation (8)}$$

$$EF_P = EF_{BL,c} \times SF_{P,w} \times SF_{P,p} \times SF_{P,o} \quad \text{Equation (9)}$$

Where:

ER_y = Emission reductions in year y (t CO₂e)

EF_{ER} = Adjusted daily emission factor (kgCH₄/ha/day). Alternatively, seasonal emission factor (kgCH₄/ha/season) may be determined³

A_y = Area of project fields in year y (ha)

L_y = Cultivation period of rice in year y (days/year). This is not applicable when seasonal emission factor is determined

GWP_{CH_4} = Global warming potential of CH₄ (t CO₂e/t CH₄)

³ In this methodology, "season" means an entire cropping season (from land preparation until harvest or post season drainage). If a seasonal emission factor is opted, it should be based on measurements over the entire period of flooding, and should account for fluxes of soil-entrapped methane that typically occur upon drainage.

EF_{BL}	=	Baseline emission factor (kgCH ₄ /ha/day) or (kgCH ₄ /ha/season)
EF_P	=	Project emission factor (kgCH ₄ /ha/day) or (kgCH ₄ /ha/season)
$EF_{BL,c}$	=	Baseline emission factor for continuously flooded fields without organic amendments (kgCH ₄ /ha/day) or (kgCH ₄ /ha/season)
$SF_{BL,w}$ or $SF_{P,w}$	=	Baseline or project scaling factors ⁴ to account for the differences in water regime during the cultivation period
$SF_{BL,p}$ or $SF_{P,p}$	=	Baseline or project scaling factors to account for the differences in water regime in the pre-season before the cultivation period
$SF_{BL,o}$ or $SF_{P,o}$	=	Baseline or project scaling factors should vary for both type and amount of organic amendment applied

22. The baseline emission factor for continuously flooded fields without organic amendments ($EF_{BL,c}$) shall be either determined ex ante prior to the start of the project activity (in this case the ex ante value should be used to calculate emission reduction during the crediting period) or monitored annually (in this case, the ex post values should be used to calculate emissions reduction during the crediting period). At least three reference fields shall be chosen in the project area. On these fields, measurements shall be carried out using the closed chamber method in accordance with the guidance on methane measurement in the appendix.
23. Alternatively, the baseline emission factor for continuously flooded fields with organic amendments may be determined. In this case, scaling factors to account for organic amendments ($SF_{BL,o}$ or $SF_{P,o}$) shall not be applied in the equations (8) and (9) above.
24. IPCC default for $SF_{BL,w}$ or $SF_{P,w}$ is as follows:

Table 3. IPCC default values for $SF_{BL,w}$ or $SF_{P,w}$

Water regime during the cultivation period		$SF_{BL,w}$ or $SF_{P,w}$
Irrigated	Continuously flooded	1
	Intermittently flooded - single aeration	0.60
	Intermittently flooded - multiple aeration	0.52

^(a) Source: IPCC 2006, volume 4, chapter 5.5, Table 5.12

- Continuously flooded: Fields have standing water throughout the rice growing season and may only dry out for harvest (end-season drainage).
- Intermittently flooded: fields have at least one aeration period of more than three days during the cropping season;

⁴ For all scaling factors used in the methodology, the average values in 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories are chosen. Uncertainties related to scaling factors may be considered in the future revision of the methodology.

- (a) Single aeration: fields have a single aeration during the cropping season at any growth stage (except for end-season drainage);
- (b) Multiple aeration: fields have more than one aeration period during the cropping season (except for end-season drainage).

25. IPCC default for $SF_{BL,p}$ or $SF_{P,p}$ is provided in the following table. For regions/countries where it can be demonstrated by official government data or peer-reviewed literature that double cropping is practiced, a default value of 1.0 is used. Otherwise, 0.68 is used.

Table 4. IPCC default values for $SF_{BL,p}$ or $SF_{P,p}$

Water regime prior to rice cultivation	$SF_{BL,p}$ or $SF_{P,p}$
Non flooded pre-season < 180 days (indicating double cropping)	1
Non flooded pre-season > 180 days (indicating single cropping)	0.68

(a) Source: IPCC 2006, volume 4, chapter 5.5, Table 5.13.

26. IPCC default for $SF_{BL,o}$ or $SF_{P,o}$ is calculated as follows:

$$SF_o = \left(1 + \sum_i ROA_i \times CFOA_i \right)^{0.59} \tag{Equation (10)}$$

Where:

ROA_i = Application rate of organic amendment type i , in dry weight for straw and fresh weight for others, tonne ha⁻¹.
5 tonne/ha of straw is assumed as the baseline quantity of organic amendment, because the value of leftover straw after harvest is in the range of 3 tonne/ha (when harvested manually to the ground level, leaving very little stubble and the root residues) to 7 tonne/ha (harvested mechanically leaving behind large amount of crop residues on the field)

$CFOA_i$ = Conversion factor for organic amendment type i (in terms of its relative effect with respect to straw applied shortly before cultivation).
0.29 is used for a single crop and 1.0 for a double crop⁵

⁵ For a single crop, where the rice straw is usually ploughed back to the soil after the harvest of the crop and left for long period of time (i.e. rice straw is incorporated for a duration of > 30 days before cultivation), the straw is already mineralized being left in the dry field. Therefore the readily fermentable C component of the rice straw is less at flooding. This gives rise to lesser methane production when the soil is flooded for cultivation, therefore, 0.29 is used.

27. Accordingly, default for $SF_{BL,o}$ or $SF_{P,o}$ is provided in the following table.

Table 5. IPCC default values for $SF_{BL,o}$ or $SF_{P,o}$

Water regime prior to rice cultivation	$SF_{BL,o}$ or $SF_{P,o}$	
Non flooded pre-season < 180 days (indicating double cropping)	2.88	$SF_{BL,o}$ or $SF_{P,o} = (1 + 5 \times 1)^{0.59} = 2.88$
Non flooded pre-season > 180 days (indicating single cropping)	1.70	$SF_{BL,o}$ or $SF_{P,o} = (1 + 5 \times 0.29)^{0.59} = 1.70$

^(a) Source: calculated using equation (10) above with default values from IPCC 2006, volume 4, chapter 5.5, Table 5.14.

28. The above table is for rice straw only. To include other organic amendments following IPCC 2006 Table 5.14, the data will be:

(a) For compost, the $SF_{BL,o}$ or $SF_{P,o}$ will be $(1 + C \times 0.05)^{0.59}$;

(b) For farm yard manure, the $SF_{BL,o}$ or $SF_{P,o}$ will be $(1 + YM \times 0.14)^{0.59}$;

(c) For green manure, the $SF_{BL,o}$ or $SF_{P,o}$ will be $(1 + GM \times 0.50)^{0.59}$;

(d) C, YM, GM are application rate (tonne ha⁻¹) of compost, farm yard manure, and green manure, respectively.

29. The calculation of specific emission factor for the baseline (EF_{BL}) and for the project activity (EF_P) (kgCH₄/ha/day) is summarized in the table below.

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On the contrary, when rice straw is incorporated for a duration < 30 days before the cultivation (a double crop situation), the rice straw is not mineralized and the readily fermentable C contents of the rice straw results in the formation of higher quantity of methane production, therefore, 1.0 is used. Moreover, the soil characteristics when a second crop follows an earlier one favour larger methane production.

Table 6. Specific emission factors for baseline, project and emission reductions (kgCH₄/ha/day) or(kgCH₄/ha/season)

	$EF_{BL,c}$	Baseline				Project scenarios	Project				Emission reduction factor (EF_{ER})
		$SF_{BL,w}$	$SF_{BL,p}$	$SF_{BL,o}$	Emission factor (EF_{BL})		$SF_{P,w}$	$SF_{P,p}$	$SF_{P,o}$	Emission factor (EF_P)	
For regions/ countries where double cropping is practiced	$EF_{BL,c}$	1.00	1.00	2.88	$EF_{BL,c}$ x 2.88	Scenario 1: change the water regime from continuously to intermittent flooded conditions (single aeration)	0.60	1.00	2.88	$EF_{BL,c}$ x 1.73	$EF_{BL,c}$ x 1.15
						Scenario 2: change the water regime from continuously to intermittent flooded conditions (multiple aeration)	0.52	1.00	2.88	$EF_{BL,c}$ x 1.50	$EF_{BL,c}$ x 1.38
For regions/ countries where single cropping is practiced	$EF_{BL,c}$	1.00	0.68	1.70	$EF_{BL,c}$ x 1.16	Scenario 1: change the water regime from continuously to intermittent flooded conditions (single aeration)	0.60	0.68	1.70	$EF_{BL,c}$ x 0.69	$EF_{BL,c}$ x 0.46
						Scenario 2: change the water regime from continuously to intermittent flooded conditions (multiple aeration)	0.52	0.68	1.70	$EF_{BL,c}$ x 0.60	$EF_{BL,c}$ x 0.55

30. **Option 2:** using global default values derived from IPCC tier 1 approach, as per the following formula:

$$ER_y = EF_{ER} \times A_y \times L_y \times 10^{-3} \times GWP_{CH4} \quad \text{Equation (11)}$$

Where:

ER_y = Emission reductions in year y (tCO₂e)

EF_{ER} = Adjusted daily emission factor (kgCH₄/ha/day)

A_y = Area of project fields in year y (ha)

L_y = Cultivation period of rice in year y (days/year)

GWP_{CH4} = Global warming potential of CH₄ (tCO₂e/tCH₄; use value of 21)

31. Emission reductions shall be calculated, as per the equation (6), using default values of adjusted daily emission factor EF_{ER} (kgCH₄/ha/day) are given below in different project scenarios:⁶
- (a) For regions/countries where double cropping is practiced:
 - (i) Use 1.50 (kgCH₄/ha/day) for project activities that shift to intermittent flooding (single aeration);
 - (ii) Use 1.80 (kgCH₄/ha/day) for project activities that shift to intermittent flooding (multiple aeration);
 - (b) For regions/countries where single cropping is practiced:
 - (i) Use 0.60 (kgCH₄/ha/day) for project activities that shift to intermittent flooding (single aeration);
 - (ii) Use 0.72 (kgCH₄/ha/day) for project activities that shift to intermittent flooding (multiple aeration).
32. The default values above consider the rice straw on field as the only organic amendment inputs. Other organic amendments such as compost, farm yard manure and green manure, which have been used in the pre-project scenario, may continue to be applied at the same or a lower rate during the crediting period, but do not affect the emission reductions estimated using the default values.

⁶ Under this option, $EF_{BL,c} = 1.30$ (kgCH₄/ha/day) from IPCC 2006, volume 4, chapter 5.5, Table 5.11. is used in Table 6 to derive at EF_{ER} .

6. Monitoring methodology

6.1.1. Monitoring of baseline and project emissions

33. The following parameters shall be monitored as per the below. The applicable requirements specified in the “General guidelines for SSC CDM methodologies” (e.g. calibration requirements, sampling requirements) shall be taken into account by the project participants.

Data / Parameter table 1.

Data / Parameter:	EF_{BL, s, g}
Data unit:	kgCH ₄ /ha per season
Description:	Baseline emission factor
Source of data:	-
Measurement procedures (if any):	As per the instructions in the appendix (Guidelines for measuring methane emissions from rice fields) and IPCC 2006, volume 4, chapter 5.5.
Monitoring frequency:	Regular measurements as per closed chamber method guidance, seasonally integrated
QA/QC procedures:	-
Any comment:	-

Data / Parameter table 2.

Data / Parameter:	EF_{BL, c}
Data unit:	kgCH ₄ /ha/day or kgCH ₄ /ha/season
Description:	Baseline emission factor for continuously flooded fields without organic amendments
Source of data:	-
Measurement procedures (if any):	As per the instructions in the appendix (Guidelines for measuring methane emissions from rice fields) and IPCC 2006, volume 4, chapter 5.5.
Monitoring frequency:	Determined ex ante prior to the start of the project activity (in this case, the ex ante value should be used to calculate emissions reduction during the crediting period) or monitored annually
QA/QC procedures:	-
Any comment:	-

Data / Parameter table 3.

Data / Parameter:	EF_{P, s, g}
Data unit:	kgCH ₄ /ha per season
Description:	Project emission factor
Source of data:	-
Measurement procedures (if any):	As per the instructions in the appendix (Guidelines for measuring methane emissions from rice fields) and IPCC 2006, volume 4, chapter 5.5.

Monitoring frequency:	Regular measurements as per closed chamber method guidance, seasonally integrated
QA/QC procedures:	-
Any comment:	-

Data / Parameter table 4.

Data / Parameter:	A_{s, g}
Data unit:	ha
Description:	Aggregated project area in a given season s
Source of data:	-
Measurement procedures (if any):	To be determined by collecting the project field sizes in a project database. The size of project fields shall be determined by GPS or satellite data. Should such technologies not be available, established field size measurement approaches shall be used provided that uncertainties are taken into account in a conservative manner
Monitoring frequency:	Every season
QA/QC procedures:	-
Any comment:	Only compliant farms are considered (see paragraph 34 below)

Data / Parameter table 5.

Data / Parameter:	A_y
Data unit:	ha
Description:	Aggregated project area in year y.
Source of data:	-
Measurement procedures (if any):	To be determined by collecting the project field sizes in a project database. The size of project fields shall be determined by GPS or satellite data. Should such technologies not be available, established field size measurement approaches shall be used provided that uncertainties are taken into account in a conservative manner
Monitoring frequency:	Every year
QA/QC procedures:	-
Any comment:	This parameter is only required to monitor if for the default value approach mentioned in under paragraph 21 i.e. option 1 or 30 i.e. option 2 is used. Only compliant farms are considered (see paragraph 34 below)

Data / Parameter table 6.

Data / Parameter:	L_y
Data unit:	days/year
Description:	Cultivation period of rice in year y
Source of data:	-
Measurement procedures (if any):	To be determined using cultivation logbooks
Monitoring frequency:	Every year

QA/QC procedures:	-
Any comment:	This parameter is only required to monitor if for the default value approach mentioned in under paragraph 21 i.e. option 1 or 30 i.e. option 2 is used. Also, this parameter is not monitored when seasonal emission factor is applied.

6.1.2. Monitoring of farmers' compliance with project cultivation practice

34. In order to determine whether the project fields are cultivated according to the project cultivation practice as defined by the project activity, and thus assure that measurements on the reference fields are representative for the emissions from the project fields, a cultivation logbook shall be maintained for all project fields. With the help of the logbook, all parameters that are part of the project cultivation practice, and at least the following, shall be documented by the farmers:
- Sowing (date);
 - Fertilizer, organic amendments, and crop protection application (date and amount);
 - Water regime on the field (e.g. "dry/moist/flooded") and dates where the water regime is changed from one status to another;
 - Yield.
35. In addition, farmers shall state whether they have followed fertilization recommendations provided with the introduction of the adjusted water management practice.
36. Project proponents shall assure that the project reference fields are cultivated in a way that they represent the ranges of cultivation practice elements on the project fields in a conservative manner with respect to methane emissions. Should farmers relevantly deviate from the defined project cultivation practice, so that their fields cannot be deemed to be represented by the reference fields any more, those fields shall not be taken into account for the determination of the aggregated project area $A_{s,g}$ of that season. This requirement shall assure that only those farms are considered for the calculation of emission reductions which ~~do actually~~ comply with the project cultivation practice.
37. Reporting and verification shall be done on the basis of samples of the log-books from the farmers, according to the latest version of the "Standard for sampling and surveys for CDM project activities and programme of activities".
38. Project proponents shall set up a database which holds data and information that allow an unambiguous identification of participating rice farms, including name and address of the rice farmer, size of the field and, if applicable, additional farm specific information as defined above.
- ## 7. Project activity under a Programme of Activities
39. The methodology is applicable to a programme of activities, no additional leakage estimations are necessary other than that indicated under leakage section above.

Appendix. Guidelines for measuring methane emissions from rice fields

1. The implementation of methane measurement in rice fields requires the involvement of experts in this field or at least experienced staff trained by experts (i.e. from research institutions). These guidelines cannot replace expertise in setting up chamber measurements. They rather set minimum requirements that serve for standardizing the conditions under which methane emissions are measured for projects under this methodology.
2. Project proponents shall prepare a detailed plan for the seasonal methane measurements before the start of the season. The plan shall include the schedule for the field and laboratory measurements, the logistics that are necessary to get the gas samples to the laboratory and a cropping calendar. The plan shall also include all reference field specific information regarding location and climate, soil, water management, plant characteristics, fertilizer treatment and organic amendments.
3. The following guidance is structured according to the steps from field measurement to emission factor calculation. Project proponents shall make sure that the measurements on project and baseline reference fields are carried out in an equal manner and simultaneously.

Table 1. On the field - technical options for the chamber design

Feature	Conditions	
Chamber material	Option 1: Non-transparent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercially available PVC containers or manufactured chambers (e.g. using galvanized iron); • Painted white or covered with reflective material (to prevent increasing inside temperature); • Only suitable for short-term exposure (typically 30 min) followed by immediate removal from the field 	Option 2: Transparent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufactured chambers using acrylic glass; • Advantage of transparent chambers: could be placed for longer time spans on the field if equipped with a lid that remains open between measurements and is only closed during measurements
Placement in soil	Option 1: Fixed base <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Base made of non-corrosive material and remains in the field for the whole season; • Base should allow tight sealing of the chamber; • Base should have bores in the submerged section to allow water exchange between inside and outside; • Base should be installed at least 24 hours before the first sampling 	Option 2: Without base <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chamber have to be placed on the soil with open lid to allow escape of eventual ebullition

Feature	Conditions	
Auxiliaries of chamber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thermometer for measuring the temperature inside the chamber; • Fan (battery operated) inside the chamber for mix the inside air during sampling; • Sampling port (rubber stopper placed in a bore of the chamber) 	
Basal area	Rectangular or rounded, but has to cover minimum of four rice hills (ca. 0.1 m ² minimum)	
Height	Option 1: Fixed height Total height (protruding base + chamber) should exceed plant height	Option 2: Flexible height <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjustable to plant height; • Chambers with different heights or modular design

Table 2. On the field – air sampling

Feature	Conditions
Replicate chambers per plot	Minimum requirement: Three replicate chambers per plot
Number of air samples per exposure / data points per measurement	Minimum requirement: Three samples per exposure
Exposure time	30 minutes
Daytime of measurement	Morning
Measurement interval	Minimum requirement: once per week
Syringe	Suitability test (leak proof) before measurement Preferably equipped with a lock for ease of handling
Sample storage until analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storage < 24 h: air samples can remain in syringe; • Storage > 24 h: transfer air samples into evacuated vial, store with slight overpressure

Table 3. Laboratory analysis

Feature	Conditions
Method	Gas Chromatograph with flame ionization detector (FID)
Injection	Direct injection or with multi-port valve and sample loop
Column	Packed (e.g. molecular sieve) or capillary column
Calibration	With certified standard gas each day of analysis before and after the analyses are done

1. Calculation of the emission rate for a plot (reference field)

4. For each gas analysis, calculate the mass of CH₄ emissions with the help of the following formula:

$$m_{CH_4,t} = c_{CH_4,t} \times V_{Chamber} \times M_{CH_4} \times \frac{1atm}{R \times T_t \times 1000} \quad \text{Equation (1)}$$

Where:

$m_{CH_4,t}$ = Mass of CH₄ in chamber at time t (mg)

t = Point of time of sample (e.g. 0, 15, 30 in case of three samples within 30 minutes)

$c_{CH_4,t}$ = CH₄ concentration in chamber at time t , from gas analysis (ppm)

$V_{Chamber}$ = Chamber volume (L)

M_{CH_4} = Molar mass of CH₄: 16 g/mol

$1atm$ = Assume constant pressure of 1atm, unless pressure measurement is installed

R = Universal gas constant: 0,08206 L atm K⁻¹ mol⁻¹

T_t = Temperature at time t (K)

5. Determine the slope of the line of best fit for the values of over time with the help of software (e.g. Excel):

$$s = \frac{\Delta m_{CH_4}}{\Delta t} \quad \text{Equation (2)}$$

Where:

s = Slope of line of best fit (mg/min)

6. Calculate the emission rate per hour for one chamber measurement:

$$RE_{ch} = s \times 60min / A_{Chamber} \quad \text{Equation (3)}$$

Where:

RE_{ch} = Emission rate of chamber ch (mg/h × m²)

ch = Index for replicate chamber on a plot

$A_{Chamber}$ = Chamber area (m²)

7. Calculate the average emission rate of a chamber measurement per plot:

$$RE_{plot} = \frac{\sum_{ch=1}^{Ch} RE_{ch}}{Ch} \quad \text{Equation (4)}$$

Where:

RE_{plot} = Average emission rate of a plot (mg/h × m²)

Ch = Number of replicate chambers per plot

8. Further procedure: from the average emission rates per plot of each chamber measurement, derive the seasonally integrated emission factor by integration of the measurement results over the season length. The simplest way of integration is multiplying the emission rate with the number of hours of the measurement interval (e.g. one week) and accumulating the results of every measurement interval over the season. Convert from mg/m² to kg/ha by multiplying with 0.01.

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Document information

Version	Date	Description
04.0	7 November 2014	SSC WG 46, Annex 4 To be considered by the Board at EB 81. The draft revised methodology was available for public input from 9 to 24 September 2014 in response to which one input was received. The revision takes into account the proposed standardized baseline PSB0019: "Standardized baseline for methane emissions from rice cultivation in the Republic of the Philippines", and introduces a simplified option for emission reductions calculation, with the aim of reducing transaction costs especially for those in the regions which are underrepresented in the CDM.
03.0	20 July 2012	EB 68, Annex 24 The revision includes a simplified approach to calculate emission reductions using default values derived from IPCC tier 1 approach, as an alternative to the reference field approach.
02.0	2 March 2012	EB 66, Annex 59 The revision allows for an alternative procedure to ensure efficient fertilization.
01.0	15 April 2011	EB 60, Annex 16 Initial adoption.

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