

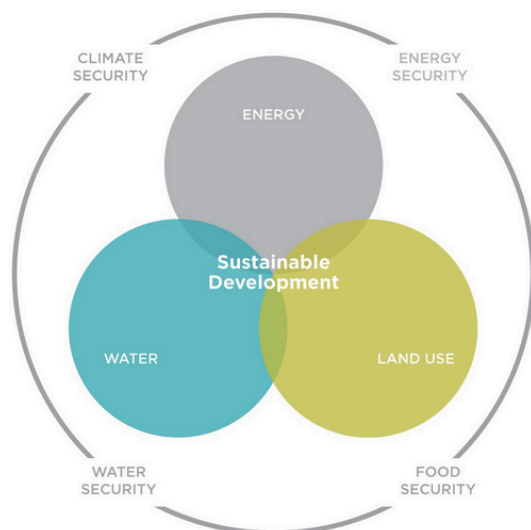
## Terms of Reference

### Lead Author and Coordinator for the Gold Standard Methodology to Quantify and Monitor Gender Impacts

#### Background

The Gold Standard's vision is 'climate security and sustainable development for all'. We make this happen by developing ambitious standards that maximise the impact of investments in climate change mitigation/adaptation and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

#### Higher standards for greater impact: Gold Standard 3.0



We are developing a new, holistic version of our standard – Gold Standard 3.0 – that integrates our principles of safeguards, transparency, and stakeholder engagement to ensure the same high level of assurance across a broad range of activities. This makes it possible for multiple outcomes—from reduced greenhouse gas emissions to

improved health to gender equality—to be certified and monetised, creating a framework for results-based payments for outcomes that contribute to the SDGs.

Under the proposed programme, Gold Standard will develop and test a methodology for measuring activity level impact towards SDG 5 – Gender Equality. It is intended that the methodology be applicable to a wide range of activities though it will be initially tested for clean cooking activities. Activity specific guidance may be required.

Gold Standard will undertake a rigorous and transparent technical process to develop a methodology to enable quantification and verification of an activities gender impacts. This will be led by experienced technical experts and informed by an independent Expert Working Group, all supported by research analysis of existing literature and academic study.

The proposed methodology will allow for the certification of gender impacts as certified outcomes for use in results-based finance. The exact characteristics and use of this certification will be determined alongside the methodology development process.

## Overall Workplan

The proposed workplan is divided into three phases: a needs assessment phase and a methodology development and roll-out phase.

### Phase 1 - Needs Assessment

The needs assessment phase includes research on the technical requirements and on the market<sup>1</sup> viability of the gender equality methodology. The technical assessment will assess existing quantification and monitoring methodologies/approaches and their gaps and suggest a framework for the to-be developed methodology. Possible outcomes include building on existing methodologies, combining of existing methodologies, or a 'start from scratch' approach. The market needs assessment will analyse existing funding trends for gender equality with a focus on 'payment for gender outcome' experiences, identify gaps and opportunities from a stakeholder and market perspective including funder profiles, and suggest approaches to increase market uptake. This phase is expected to last 3 months and will consist of structured interviews and desk research.

This phase of the work will be led by the Gold Standard Secretariat but the Consultant will provide general support for the identification of research areas and stakeholders to be approached. The Consultant shall comment on the draft outputs and take these into account for Phase 2, see below.

### Phase 2 - Methodology development and roll-out

For the development of the gender equality methodology, an independent Expert Working Group will be convened to inform the methodology

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<sup>1</sup> The use of the word 'market' in this case is intended to be left open-ended. At this time it is not intended to create a gender-based tradeable asset or product. Hence market may refer to funders from CSR/philanthropy, ODI or development bank funds.

development and to ensure integrity and transparency. As per ISEAL requirements, the methodology will also be available for public consultation before final approval by the Working Group.

The Consultant will work with Secretariat to plan the work, appoint the Working Group, draft the methodology and secure the required governance approvals.

## **Phase 2 - Methodology development and roll-out**

For the roll out phase, the methodology will be tested in a pilot environment and capable third party auditors will be identified to verify the results in the field. The resulting gender impact from the intervention will then be qualified or quantified and available as verified project outcome statement.

The Consultant will train a small group (2-4) Secretariat team members on the use and review of the activities applying the methodology. The Consultant will also conduct two training webinars for proposed auditors (likely external certification bodies). Finally the consultant will also conduct a peer review on the first two verification reports arising from the first two pilot projects (note these may be several months later than the completion and approval of the methodology).

## **Duties and responsibilities**

In context of the Gender methodology development, Gold Standard is seeking to hire an expert who will lead the coordination and drafting of the methodology and initial roll-out. Key responsibilities of this person will include:

1. Gold Standard will hold public consultation and conduct market analysis and background research to inform the methodology concept and content. This will result in a report, written by Gold Standard Secretariate that will inform final approvals/market decision making. The Consultant will provide inputs in relation to the structure and content needed from the review.

The Consultant will also join stakeholder calls as needed and review the feedback received through public consultations, contribute to background research and help Gold Standard in preparing the assessment paper for submission to Technical Governance Committee (Gold Standard's main technical approvals body).

2. As part of the above the Consultant shall research and identify existing tools and methodologies that might be available for use to inform/be part of the

Gold Standard methodology. These could be survey approaches, online data tools, indicators or full methodological approaches.

3. Gold Standard will select and convene an expert Working Group (WG) of 7-10 members. The Consultant will assist Gold Standard to identify potential members and to prepare briefing webinars and join the webinars / bilateral calls with WG members where needed.
4. Following Gold Standard procedures/protocols the Consultant will prepare a working draft of the methodology with sufficient details on key topics to be discussed at face-to-face meeting of WG.
5. The Consultant will attend the two-day face-to-face WG meeting and take lead in presenting the key topics of the methodology to the WG. The Consultant is not expected to Chair the meeting. The meeting is likely to take place in US or Europe.
6. The Consultant will make revisions to the methodology based on inputs received from WG, before the methodology is issued for public consultation. Gold Standard will also be deeply involved in drafting the methodology before issuing it to WG for review.
7. The Consultant will revise the methodology to address relevant comments received during public consultation period. The revised version will be issued to WG for approval. This may take several rounds of iterative changes to the methodology to approve it.
8. The Consultant is expected to attend and help Gold Standard prepare for all the webinars / calls / meetings with EP members. One briefing webinar, one face-to-face meeting and three to four monthly calls are expected during the course of methodology development process.
9. During the roll-out phase 2 internal (Secretariat) training webinars shall be prepared by the Consultant along with 2 external (project developer and certification body) webinars. The Consultant shall also provide 2 peer reviews of the certifiers validation/verification report on the pilot projects which may take place several months after the completion of the methodology. The Consultant shall be available to respond to reasonable queries and clarifications raised by the pilot projects and/or certifiers during this period.

A draft content list for the proposed methodology is included in Annex A – the Consultant should familiarise themselves with other examples of methodologies publically available via the Gold Standard website. The development process is likely to last for 11-12 months from May 2016, a more detailed workplan will be jointly prepared by Gold Standard and the Consultant upon appointment.

If you feel you meet the required criteria please send us your cover letter, CV and day rate at [recruitment@goldstandard.org](mailto:recruitment@goldstandard.org) . The deadline for submissions is for the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2016.

## Annex A - Draft Content list of the methodology:

- Applicability criteria
- Project boundary
- Baseline scenario
  - Definition
  - Baseline studies, sampling requirements
- Project scenario
  - Definition
  - Project studies, sampling requirements
- Gender impact assessment
  - Calculation methods
  - Guidelines on how to carry out the gender impact assessment and use the tools (if there is any)
- Monitoring
  - Ex-ante (fixed) and monitoring parameters, timing, frequency and QA/QC and other relevant details
  - Timing for baseline and project assessment
  - Monitoring guidelines
- Claims Guidelines
- Guidelines for the auditors on Safeguards