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1ST GOLD STANDARD GENDER RESPONSIVE PROJECT,
Sustainable Development in Article 6, Standard updates, COP25

FIRST EVER: Gold Standard certified "Gender Responsive" project

The Lango Safe Water Project, developed by CO2balance, is the first ever project to apply our full gender responsive requirements, proactively closing gender gaps and accelerating progress towards many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Recognising the transformative nature of empowering women as well as the need for gender-specific data to track progress toward meeting SDG 5, the Gold Standard launched its [Gender Equality Framework](#) in January 2018.

While all projects certified to Gold Standard for the Global Goals must meet the Gender Sensitive requirements for project design, CO2balance was the first developer to apply the full Gender Responsive requirements on the [Lango Safe Water project](#) based in northern Uganda. The project rehabilitates boreholes to provide clean water access to more than **40,000 people**.

Using results from a gender baseline survey and supplementary gender-focused local stakeholder meetings, CO2balance conducted a comprehensive analysis to establish a gender baseline, identifying three key themes:



2. Individual and community empowerment

The project is approaching **gender parity** within its Water Resource Committees with **46% female to 54% male**. Group dynamics training is provided to ensure the viewpoints of all members are heard equally.



1. Time poverty

Thanks to this project, women and children save more than **2 hours a day** on water collection.

The project also promotes the principle of “**shared domestic responsibilities**” - instilling the idea that time saved should be spent on empowerment focused activities – with **40% reporting** that time now is used for income-generation, leisure, religious and empowerment focused activities within the community.



3. Exposure to gender-based violence in water collection

The project raises awareness of the harms of gender-based violence, promoting open dialogue within the communities to ensure that it is understood and dispelled from the level of community leaders.

Since the project started, **no women** have reported incidents of domestic violence related to water collection, compared to 35% prior to the project. And borehole users have reported an **85% reduction** in incidents of bullying, intimidation and assault during water collection.

[>> Find out more about this project](#)

Poverty, education, health, jobs and livelihoods, food security, environmental and energy sustainability will not be solved without addressing gender inequality. This framework enables climate protection projects to quantify, certify and maximise contributions to empowering women and girls, and to credibly report on what dollars have delivered.

[>>Interested in applying the Gender Equality Framework?](#)

Acknowledgements:

The Gold Standard Gender Equality Framework was developed with support from the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and created in collaboration with experts from the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, the International Center for Research on Women, Hivos International, Fair Climate Network, World Bank Group, International Finance Corporation, UN REDD and EcoAct.

NEW REPORT **Assessment of** **Sustainable Development** **Approaches for use in** **Article 6**



This report is intended for Article 6 negotiators and experts involved in carbon markets. It aims to provide insights to assist in selecting suitable sustainable development impact assessment tools and approaches and to inform negotiations on the benefits of introducing a work programme to develop tools to measure and monitor the contributions of Article 6 activities to sustainable development.

[>>Download report](#)

The report was produced by the Sustainable Development Initiative (SDI) with the support from the governments of Belgium, Germany, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

For more information on the SDI and the [policy dialogue on Sustainable Development>>](#)



CLIMATE ACTION! Swoop partners with Gold Standard

Swoop, a Bristol-based travel agency that specialises in trips to [Antarctica](#), [Patagonia](#) and [the Arctic](#), helps close to 3000 customers to discover the ends of the earth each year. They increasingly recognise the environmental cost of travel, so have launched a new sustainability strategy to proactively tackle their carbon footprint and offset unavoidable emissions with Gold Standard.

As from 06 November 2019, Swoop is offsetting the travel of their customers', staff members, and business operations with Gold Standard certified projects. They are also encouraging customers to contribute to climate projects that deliver sustainable development benefits in order to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

They have supported the 50MW Godawari Green Energy Limited Project, which brings state-of-the-art solar thermal power to Rajasthan in India, and the Nanyang Danjiang River Solar Cooker Project which has distributed and installed 48,000 solar cookers to rural households in China.

[>>For more information](#)

COP25 Gold Standard's activities

As announced by the UNFCCC Secretariat, COP 25 will now take place from 02-13 December in Madrid.



Gold Standard will be participating in a broad range of events from envisioning the voluntary carbon market post-2020, to advocating for sustainable development in Article 6 and more broadly, to how digitalisation and disruptive technologies can provide the greatest positive impact to climate action.

Our 'tentative' schedule to date:

Getting it right – disruptive technologies and optimizing for greatest positive impact

Wednesday 4 Dec at 10:30 - 12:00
EU Pavilion, Room Brussels

Connecting the dots – interactive workshop on digitalisation and climate action

Wednesday 4 Dec at 14:45 - 16:45
As part of the capacity-building day

ICROA event: Envisioning voluntary carbon markets post-2020

Thursday 5 Dec at 12:00 - 13:30
IETA Pavilion

Please contact [Sarah Leugers](#) if you would like to set up a meeting at COP.

And be sure to check back to see new events added over the next weeks!

[>> Gold Standard at COP25](#)



IMPORTANT UPDATES
Latest standard updates,
including new eligibility
criteria for Renewable
Energy projects

We have released new updates to our standard primarily geared at providing clarification to make the standard and our requirements simpler to understand. This is in compliance with ISEAL's Code of Best Practice for "setting social and environmental standards".

[>>View summary of main standard updates](#)

Renewable Energy Eligibility Requirements: We have introduced new eligibility requirements for Renewable Energy (RE) projects to ensure funding goes to interventions most in need post-2020 when the Paris Agreement comes into force. The full list of eligibility criteria is provided [here>>](#)

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MANAGE SUBSCRIPTIONS

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EVENTS

[IPI impACT Conference](#)

12 November, Paris

[Sustainable Brands New Metrics](#)

18-19 November, Philadelphia

[ValueChange Textiles Working Group](#)

21 November, Webinar

[UN Climate Change Summit \(COP25\)](#)

02-13 December, Madrid

IN THE NEWS

[Walking the talk - can being climate neutral become the new normal?](#)

Sustainable Brands

[Carbon offsetting](#)

Tom Scott

[Gold Standard becomes newest associate member of ISEAL](#)

ISEAL



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