Guidance question for public consultation of Gold Standard’s Protocol to Assess the Accuracy of Earth Observation-Based Models in Forestry Carbon Credits

Note: please provide feedback on the specific questions below in a .doc document. When providing your feedback, please indicate the line number of the text your feedback refers to.

- **Name of organization providing feedback:**
- **Contact information (name and email address)**
- **Type of organization:**
  - [ ] Project developer
  - [ ] Earth Observation technology/service provider
  - [ ] Investor in carbon credit projects
  - [ ] Validation/Verification Body (VVB)

1. After reading the Methods and Results section, are there any additional simulations that you think would provide insight? These would be in addition to the internally and externally calibrated models included. Why do you suggest these simulations?

2. If you are thinking about using the protocol, what is your use case? For example, are you trying to evaluate your own biomass map?
   - a. Do you have known goals for target standard error?

3. Consider the types of data you are using. As a reminder, here are the types we discussed: **Type A:** direct tree/stem measurements from the project area. Direct means field-based on the ground measurements using forestry techniques. Ground based LiDAR may be accepted in conjunction with field data under a limited set of circumstances; **Type B:** direct tree/stem measurement data from “similar” reference sites adjacent to the project area; **Type C:** direct tree/stem measurement data from “similar” reference site not adjacent to the project area but from a “similar” ecosystem within the same ecoregion; **Type D:** direct tree/stem measurement data from “similar” reference site not adjacent to the project area from a “similar” ecosystem outside the same ecoregion; **No plot data:** no tree/stem measurement data collected. Only EO data used for verification.
   - a. Do these classifications make sense for your use case?
   - b. What type(s) of data do you plan to use, or do you currently have?
c. If you are using Type C or Type D data, or no field data, for your validation data for a biomass model, what is the reasoning behind this decision?

4. What one suggestion would you make to improve the Protocol?

5. Do you have any suggestions for improving the clarity of the Theory section? Do you have any Additional citations that you recommend including?

6. Do you suggest any clarifications for the Methods and Results section?

7. Do you have any additional comments that are not within the scope of the previous questions?