

PROCEDURE FOR THE REGISTRATION OF MULTI-COUNTRY PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES (POA)

- I. The procedures for registering a multi-country GS voluntary PoAs have been further clarified. These procedures also include clarifications for post-registration design change to expand PoA boundary to new countries. These clarifications are applicable to all Gold Standard voluntary PoAs registered after 31 January 2014.
- II. In principle, multi-country GS voluntary PoAs must provide a VPA-DD for each country considered at the time of PoA registration. Exceptions may be granted on a case-by-case basis and after review by the Technical Advisory Committee, provided the Coordinating and Managing Entity (CME)/Project proponent (PP) make a formal request to The Gold Standard Foundation in writing and can deliver convincing justification to support their case.
- III. GS Voluntary PoAs that are granted with this exception would be allowed to submit a VPA-DD for only one of the countries in the PoA boundary. In this case, the CME shall conduct a Sustainable Development and Do-No-Harm assessment at the VPA equivalent level.
- IV. Any request for exception must be supported by documentation addressing the following elements in the PoA-DD and VPA-DD:
 - a. **Additionality** – PoA level additionality must be demonstrated taking into account all countries in the PoA boundary. Additionality at PoA level can be demonstrated using approved CDM¹ or GS additionality tools. Please refer to Section 4 of Annex F for PoA level additionality.
 - b. **Baseline scenario** – the baseline situation (as defined by the applied baseline methodology/methodologies) for all countries in the PoA boundary must be similar and this must be justified.
 - c. **Emission reductions calculation** – a typical emission reduction calculation approach as per the applied methodology should be demonstrated in the PoA/VPA-DD and the same approach shall be applied for VPAs from all countries in the PoA boundary.
 - d. **Legislation** – the legislation applicable to the applied technology must be provided for all countries in the PoA boundary.
- V. If the information given in the PoA-DD and VPA-DD provides sufficient evidence to show with confidence that all targeted communities considered within the PoA boundary are homogeneous with respect to the above four points, PPs can submit one VPA-DD (from one of the countries included in the PoA boundary) at the time of PoA registration and subsequent VPA(s) for the other countries can be included in the PoA at a later stage.
- VI. PoAs not granted with an exception can add new countries to the PoA boundary after PoA registration via a formal design change request and in line with “The Gold Standard Procedures for Approval of Design Changes”². This process requires submission of a VPA-DD for activities

¹ [Demonstration of additionality, development of eligibility criteria and application of multiple methodologies for Programme of Activities](#)

² http://www.cdmgoldstandard.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/v2.2_ANNEX-AA.pdf

developed in each of the countries.

- VII. Post-registration design change requests to expand the PoA boundary to other countries are also possible without requiring a VPA-DD. However, these design changes are governed by the point's outlines in paragraph IV. In this case, a fee of USD 500 per country would be charged to review its approval in the registered PoA. The remaining fee will be charged based on the annual average emission reduction estimated in the VPA-DD and will be payable on submission of the VPA-DD.