

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**DEVELOPING A METHODOLOGY FOR AVOIDED
EMISSIONS FROM REDUCED FOOD WASTE -
(INDIVIDUALS OR COMPANIES)**

Date

15 August 2023

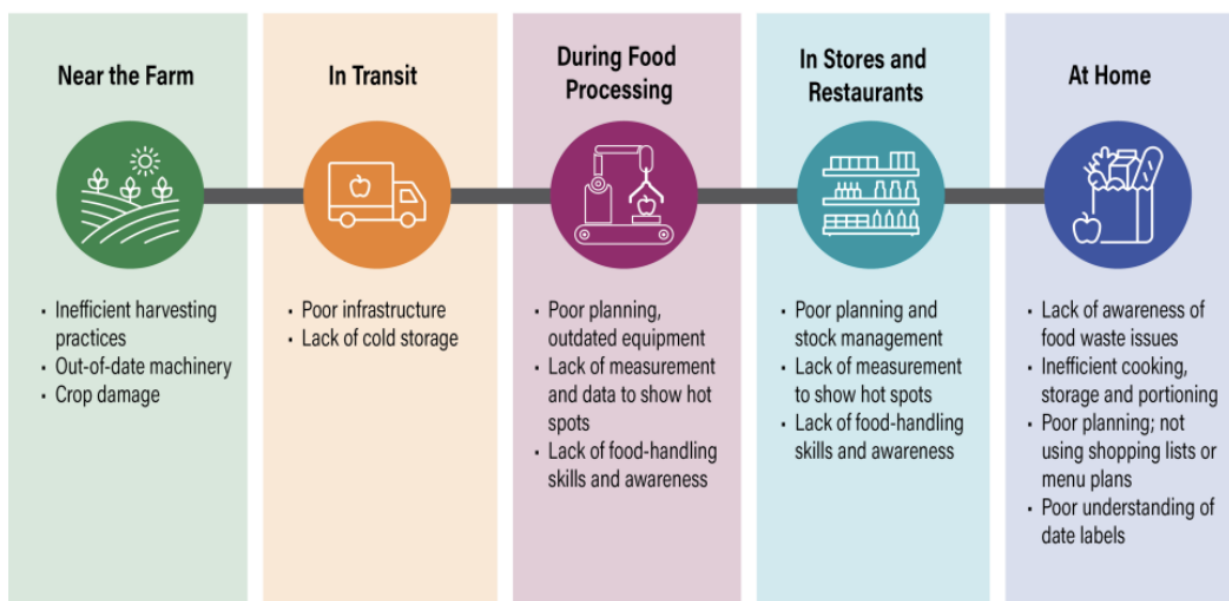
Context

Gold Standard is a civil society NGO and a standards body that promotes the best that can be achieved in climate and development projects. It was established in 2003 by [WWF](#) and other international NGOs as a best practice standard to ensure that projects which reduce carbon emissions also deliver credible, high-integrity sustainable development benefits. In close collaboration with its network of partners (civil society, governments, and private sector), Gold Standard leads several global innovation programs and supports 2000+ climate and development projects in over 80 countries worldwide.

Inefficiency in processing and drying, lack of storage and inadequate infrastructure are determinants of food waste globally. In sub-Saharan Africa, food losses are estimated at \$4 billion a year, which could easily be used to feed at least 48 million people and have been estimated to be close to the equivalent of 25 per cent of the total harvest ([2023:WRI](#)).

Emissions from food loss and waste result from the energy and inputs used to produce food that's ultimately not consumed, as well as the methane that's emitted when food rots in fields or landfills. Although shorter-lived than carbon dioxide, methane is an incredibly potent greenhouse gas with over [80 times the warming power](#) of CO₂ (on first 20 years horizon). As a result, [Project Drawdown](#) has listed reducing food loss and waste as the single-best strategy for reducing emissions and fighting the climate crisis. Because up to 10% of global emissions result from food loss and waste, achieving the Paris Agreement's goal to stay within 1.5-2 degrees C (2.7-3.6 degrees F) of warming without tackling this issue is impossible.

Main drivers of food loss and waste throughout the supply chain



Source: WRI.
23.04.10

 WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

[Improving existing food systems](#) will also help the world feed more people without expanding cultivated areas. Agricultural expansion is a significant driver of [greenhouse gas emissions](#) and often results in deforestation, which releases stored carbon dioxide and lowers the land's carbon storage capacity. In addition, increasing the efficiency of food production could potentially liberate agricultural land for reforestation, an important way to [remove carbon](#) from the atmosphere.

Overview and Purpose of the Assignment

Gold Standard is seeking an implementing partner or individual consultant to develop a methodology for avoided emissions from reduced food waste at different stages of the food chain and develop a baseline for a pilot project that will apply the methodology.

Possible food loss interventions can include –

- Avoidance of food loss during raw material production at farm level
- Avoidance of food loss during raw material transport/storage
- Avoidance of food loss at a food processing facility
- Avoidance of food loss at time of consumption e.g., in a food chain, restaurant, home, hotel, hospital etc.

This work will involve:

1. **Developing a greenhouse gas accounting methodology** that considers different options for reduced food waste approaches. The methodology should consider different project activities and combinations that may prevent food loss or waste at different stages of the food chain (e.g., farm level, food processing facility, retailer, foodservice/hospitality, residential). The methodology shall provide procedures to quantify the net greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions from keeping food (edible and/or inedible parts) in the human food chain.

The methodology shall consider downstream emission reductions from reducing food from a food loss and waste destination such as landfills or energy recovery and the associated project emissions that technologies applied to reduce waste generate e.g. improved packaging, cool storage chains etc.

The work should reference and consider distinguishing itself from the recently published methodology by Verra – [see here](#). And the American Carbon Registry Advanced Refrigeration methodology – [see here](#).

2. **A Baseline Calculation for a pilot project** - The Methodology produced will contain baseline qualifications and methods for quantifying. In addition to verifying that this calculation method is conservative and credible, the consultant will also need to perform the baseline assessment (based on this calculation method) i.e., determine what is the current baseline for food loss, and what are the aggregate emissions as a result of this food waste.

In developing the methodology, the consultant shall follow the guidance provided in Section 3.1.1.2 of the [Impact quantification methodology approval procedure](#).

Description of the Assignment

There are two key parts of this assignment:

1. Methodology design

- i. Desk review of existing methodologies and analysis of strengths and weaknesses of approaches.
- ii. Development of approach that shall include the following sections:
 - a. Definitions
 - b. Eligibility criteria
 - c. Method to identify the most plausible Baseline scenario
 - d. Project boundary definition
 - e. Baseline emissions calculation approaches for different intervention types, projects and programs
 - f. Leakage - For example: It's possible that a small proportion of food that's cold stored and then distributed could still be discarded and end up as waste
 - g. Project Emission Sources for different intervention types
 - h. Emission reduction calculations (ex-ante and ex-post approaches)
 - i. Monitoring Methodology
 - i. Data and parameters (including those not monitored i.e. fixed, calculated and monitored)
 - ii. General requirements for sampling
 - iii. QA/QC processes

2. Calculation of a Baseline for a pilot with three sites.

- The boundary of the project – note the pilot has several sites.
- Sources of emissions within the boundary - The different proportions of food groups that are currently going to waste (i.e. percentages of dairy, meat etc. as each will have different emission factors) and where this food waste resides (i.e. is it in landfill or used for other purposes like biogas etc.)
- Baseline Scenario - What would have happened in the absence of the project activity e.g. the situation in which food is left as waste to decay and produce emissions in the absence of the project activity (e.g., cold storage facility).

- Baseline Emission calculation - Considering different application methods for slightly different project scenarios (i.e., assuming all food waste is going to landfill, assuming a proportion of food waste is going to composting etc.)

International travel is not envisioned

Anticipated outputs and timeline

Output	Start date	End date
Task 1:		
Task 2:		
Etc.		

Methodology and Work Plan

Applicants should submit proposals relevant to the purpose and description of the assignment including all elements outlined below. Proposals should be no more than ten pages, and should include:

- (1) Overview of the organisation(s), highlighting relevant experience and evidence of related projects;
- (2) Profiles of the participating consultant(s) demonstrating suitable qualifications and experience (these may be annexed and in addition to the ten pages);
- (3) A high-level work plan for the assignment taking account of key touchpoints, including:
 - Methodology development
 - Baseline development for pilot project
- (4) A budget, broken down between the phases outlined above.

The proposed budget must include day rates and the total price of the assignment as well as payment terms. All figures should be presented in US Dollars.

Please note that whilst our maximum budget is 50,000 USD, our tender evaluation will consider price as one of the key factors.

Evaluation criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on, but not limited to, the following formal criteria:

- 1) **Timeliness.** The proposals must be submitted on or before the stated deadline in order to be considered for further evaluation.
- 2) **Proposal Format.** The proposals shall follow the requested format and include all of its elements.
- 3) **Proposed Scope of Work.** Gold Standard will assess to what extent the proposal clearly addresses the needs of the assignment.
- 4) **Qualifications and Team.** Gold Standard will assess whether the proposed team possesses expertise and relevant experience to assure successful completion of the work and delivery of good quality outputs.
- 5) **Work plan.** The proposed work plan and approach will be assessed for efficiency, relevance and technical feasibility.
- 6) **Budget.** Gold Standard will assess if the budget is reasonable, adequate for the proposed work and provides good value for money.

Contract Award

Gold Standard will award a contract to the proposal that best meets the needs of our project, the requirements of the funding institution and the principles of the Gold Standard procurement policy. We may also find that no proposal completely fulfils these needs and choose not to award a contract or alternatively to negotiate directly with one or more of the contractors to refine their proposals.

Proposals may be disqualified on the following grounds:

- Submission of an incomplete proposal
- Illegal conduct or attempts to influence the evaluation process
- Material misrepresentation in the proposal
- Determination that the contractor is in a conflict of interest or is unlikely to fulfil the terms or conditions of the proposal
- Requested changes by a contractor in the proposal representations made after the closing date
- Changes in laws or regulations affecting the solicitation

Confidentiality

Proposals should not include proprietary or confidential information. Each recipient of this Request for Proposals should treat the contents of the solicitation as business

confidential and should use and disclose the contents of the solicitation only for the purposes of preparing and submitting a proposal.

Applications and closing date

Please submit your complete proposal to Tanaka Tabassum at tanaka.tabassum@goldstandard.org by 23:59 CET on 24 September 2023. Please include in the subject line – [Your name]_ Emissions Reduced Due To Reducing Food Waste. If you have any contract-related clarifications, please direct your emails to the above inbox.

Indicative timeline	Due date
Release of the Request for Proposals	15 August 2023
Closing date of the application process	24 September 2023
Indicative date for award of a contract	02 October 2023