

FCPF Jurisdictional REDD+ Standard

PART B: Process Requirements

DRAFT

ABOUT THE FCPF JURISDICTIONAL REDD+ STANDARD

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) was launched in 2007 to assist developing countries in their efforts on reducing emissions from deforestation and/or forest degradation, conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (“REDD+”) by building their capacity and developing a methodological and policy framework that provides incentives for the implementation of REDD+ programs.

The FCPF Jurisdictional REDD+ Standard (“FCPF Standard”) consists of the approaches developed by the Carbon Fund of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility. The FCPF Standard provides a credible and transparent framework for estimating emission reductions and removals from REDD+ activities at the jurisdictional scale and to register, verify, and issue ERs. The FCPF Standard consists of the following 3 documents:

- Part A: Environmental and Social Integrity Requirements
- Part B: Process Requirements (this document)
- Part C: Validation and Verification Requirements

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1 ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

1.1 FCPF Standard Board

B.1. The FCPF Standard Board (“the Board”) is the main governance and decision making body of the FCPF Jurisdictional REDD+ Standard (“FCPF Standard”).

B.2. The Board will be responsible for:

- approving the FCPF Standard documents and future versions or revisions
- overseeing the implementation of the FCPF Standard by the Secretariat and providing strategical recommendations
- making recommendations on disputes

B.3. The ~~FCPF Standard will be managed by~~Board will consist of

Option 1: The Participants in the FCPF Carbon Fund

~~the World Bank’s Scaling Climate Action by Lowering Emissions (SCALE) Partnership.¹ The SCALE Standards Management Technical Advisory Groups (SM-TAG) will act as the Board for the FCPF Standard. Members of the SM-TAG will not include representatives of Contributors to SCALE~~

~~Option 2 but rather~~ individuals from academia, private sector, civil society, etc. ~~This will ensure that any discussions on fund-related issues are kept separated from standard-management issues.~~

Board membership is by invitation for a maximum of four years. The ~~SCALE PMT~~Secretariat will ensure that the invited Board members are individuals with diverse backgrounds in agriculture, climate change, forestry, human rights and other relevant topics, who can actively support the work of the FCPF Standard.

B.4. The Board shall meet, at least once a year, or at any other frequency as may be deemed necessary by the Board. The meetings shall be conducted in English and all documents of the meetings shall be in English. Board members may participate in the meetings in person or by telephone or any electronic means that facilitates all members participating in the meeting to hear each other.

B.5. The members of the Board shall make every effort to make decisions and recommendations by consensus. For decisions, if all efforts to reach consensus have been exhausted, and no decision has been made, decisions shall be taken by two-thirds majority of the members present and voting at the meeting. Each member of the Board shall be entitled to cast one vote.

B.6. If a member of the Board is directly involved in the preparation and/or implementation of a REDD+ Country ER Program that is using the FCPF Standard and/or any REDD+ projects registered under other standards programs, such member of the Board shall disclose such involvement to the ~~SCALE PMT~~Secretariat through an email or other written means as soon as he/she becomes

¹The World Bank’s Scaling Climate Action by Lowering Emissions (SCALE) Partnership seeks to catalyze transformative climate action by deploying Results Based Climate Finance (RBCF) in developing countries. By complementing other sources of finance, including World Bank financing, it supports client countries by allowing them to both enhance ambition and accelerate the fulfilment of their NDC commitments to achieve low carbon development in a socially inclusive manner.

aware of his/her involvement in such activity and the ~~SCALE-PMT~~Secretariat will accordingly inform the other Board members. The ~~SCALE-PMT~~Secretariat determines whether any of the issues discussed at a Board meeting are such that the member of the Board making the disclosure should recuse itself from the deliberation, discussion, and/or decision, and will advise such member of the Board and inform the other Board members accordingly. If a member of the Board fails to disclose the relevant involvement, the ~~SCALE-PMT~~Secretariat will determine what appropriate action to take after consultation with the other members of the Board.

1.2 ~~SCALE Program Management Team (PMT)~~Secretariat of the FCPF Standard

B.7. The ~~SCALE Program Management Team (PMT)~~Secretariat of the FCPF Standard (“the Secretariat”) will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the FCPF Standard. The ~~SCALE PMT~~Secretariat is responsible for:

- Drafting, maintaining, and revising the FCPF Standard for approval by the Board
- Drafting, maintaining, and revising documentation templates and guidance documents
- Oversee the day-to-day implementation of the standard, including providing information and clarifications to users, stakeholders and VVBs, organizing and carrying out public consultations and assessing and publishing their outcomes
- Providing annual financial and progress reports to the Board ~~and the SCALE Partnership Council (PC)~~
- Conducting desk reviews to assess completeness and compliance of documentation submitted by ER Program as part of the Standard process
- VVB selection
- Overseeing independent validation and verification and reviewing third-party validation and verification documents
- Communication between the VVB and the REDD Country Participant
- Management of the Carbon Asset Trading System, ~~i.e. SCALE transaction registry~~ and/or overseeing the arrangements with other registries contracted to issue ERs

B.8. ~~[Option 1: The Fund Management Team (FMT) of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) will act as the Secretariat.] [Option 2: The SCALE Program Management Team (PMT) will act as the Secretariat.]~~ World Bank procedures will apply to ensure that members of the ~~SCALE PMT~~Secretariat do not have a conflict-of-interest in the management of the FCPF Standard and/or the ER Programs considered under the FCPF Standard.²

1.3 Validation and Verification

B.9. Validation and Verification are conducted by an independent Validation and Verification Body (VVB) who shall be accredited in accordance with the Validation and Verification Requirements (part C of this FCPF Standard).

² [Staff Rules for World Bank staff and consultants are part of the World Bank Policy and Procedure Framework](#)

B.10. Other requirements for Validation and Verifications may be found in the Validation and Verification Guidelines.

1.4 Documents

B.11. There are three general classes of documents:

- a) **Requirements:** Normative documents setting rules required to be complied with by ER programs.
- b) **Guidance notes:** provides supplemental advice or instruction on the Requirements. A guidance note describes acceptable methods of satisfying requirements.
- c) **Templates:** Used to capture data or information required in the processes. A form contains predefined fields to be filled in by the REDD+ Country Participant, or the Validation and Verification Body. Templates are mandatory and include text with specific guidance.

B.12. The following documents make up the FCPF Standard:

Requirements	Guidance notes	Templates
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•A - Environmental and Social Integrity Requirements•B - Process Requirements•C- Validation and Verification Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Guidance note on benefit sharing for ER Programs•Guidance note for accounting legacy emissions and removals•Guidance note on estimating uncertainty of ERs using Monte Carlo simulation•Any other Guidance notes that might be issued by the FCPF Standard in the future	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•ER Program Document•ER Monitoring Report•Validation Report•Verification Report

1.5 Updates to the FCPF Standard

B.13. At a minimum of every four years, the [SCALE-PMTSecretariat](#) and the Board will conduct a review of the FCPF Standard and make updates if necessary. Urgent revisions [to correct mistakes or provide clarification on the Standard](#) may be made in between Standard versions through guidance notes, FCPF policy announcements or by making changes to any of the documents provided that these do not affect the Reference Level.

B.14. The regular reviews described in B.13 above will consider inputs from stakeholders, relevant decisions of the UNFCCC, as well as current best practices and relevant methodological and technology innovations. To obtain the inputs from the stakeholders, the [SCALE-PMTSecretariat](#) will request stakeholder input through a public comment period for at least 45 days that will be announced on the FCPF Standard website.

B.15. When a new version of any of the documents making up the Standard are available, existing ER Programs will have the following options:

- a) Continue to use the version of the Standard that was in place at the time of validation for the remainder of the Crediting Period. At the start of the subsequent Crediting Period, the latest version of the Standard must be adopted.
- b) Begin a new crediting period upon publication of the new version of the Standard and update to all requirements of the new version, including any changes to the crediting level.

Where urgent changes are made that do not affect the Reference Level, these changes must be applied by the next Reporting Period following their publication, unless otherwise specified.

2 PROCESS FOR ER PROGRAMS

2.1 Validation

B.16. The ER Program Entity sends a draft of the ER-PD to the ~~SCALE PMT~~ Secretariat. The ~~Secretariat~~ ~~SCALE PMT~~ checks if the draft is complete and of sufficient quality for validation purposes (Completeness Check) and requests revisions as needed. Once the ~~Secretariat~~ ~~SCALE PMT~~ considers that the draft is adequate, it approves the ERPD for Validation.

B.17. The Validation and Verification Body shall be accredited and approved as per the requirements of this FCPF Standard. The ~~Secretariat~~ ~~SCALE PMT~~ will submit a request for proposals from accredited VVBs to conduct country-specific Validation and Verification engagements where the validation and verification of an ER Program can be combined into one engagement.

B.18. Accreditation of any Validation and Verification Body is given by an Accreditation Body acceptable to SCALE. The Accreditation Body is in charge of the oversight of VVB and compliance with the requirements of ISO 14065 and the requirements of the Validation and Verification Guidelines.

B.19. The Validation and Verification Body conducts the validation of the ERPD (or the combined validation and verification) in line with the Environmental and Social Integrity Requirements and the Validation and Verification Requirements.

B.20. The Validation and Verification Body submits the Validation Report to the ~~Secretariat~~ ~~SCALE PMT~~, who reviews and clears the documents. The ~~Secretariat~~ ~~SCALE PMT~~ will request revisions as needed.

2.2 Reporting and Verification

B.21. The REDD Country Participant provides the ~~Secretariat~~ ~~SCALE PMT~~ with an ER Monitoring Report for a specific Reporting Period following the ER Monitoring Report template.

B.22. The ~~Secretariat~~ ~~SCALE PMT~~ reviews the ER Monitoring Report for completeness. The ~~Secretariat~~ ~~SCALE PMT~~ then approves the ER Monitoring Report for verification.

- B.23.** The [SecretariatSCALE PMT](#) will submit a request for proposals from accredited VVBs to conduct country-specific Verification engagements.
- B.24.** The Validation and Verification Body conducts the Verification of the ER Monitoring Report in line with the Environmental and Social Integrity Requirements and the Validation and Verification Requirements.
- B.25.** The Validation and Verification Body submits the Verification Report to the [SecretariatSCALE PMT](#) who reviews and clears the documents. The [SecretariatSCALE PMT](#) will request revisions as needed.

2.3 Issuance and buffers

- B.26.** The SCALE PMT approves the credit issuance for an ER Program and submits the Verification report, along with the ER Monitoring Report to CATS, or if applicable a third party ER Transaction Registry administrator with the instructions to establish serial numbers for the amount of Total ERs. Administration of the ERs issued, including Cancellations, Retirements, and Transfer of ERs occurs as per the registry Terms and Conditions.
- B.27.** ER Programs shall establish buffer reserve accounts in CATS, [or if applicable a third party ER Transaction Registry](#), to manage Reversal Risks and Uncertainty through the ER Program CF Buffer. Two (2) separate buffer reserve accounts shall be established, which together will comprise the ER Program CF Buffer:
- a) An 'Uncertainty Buffer' account to hold ERs set aside for the purpose of managing Uncertainty,
 - b) A 'Reversal Buffer' account to hold ERs set aside for the purpose of managing Reversal Risks
- B.28.** Each time ERs are reported and verified, a portion of the reported ERs must be set aside in the Uncertainty Buffer and Reversal Buffer Buffer accounts. The REDD Country Participant and the [SecretariatSCALE PMT](#) will instruct CATS, [or if applicable a third party ER Transaction Registry](#) to transfer and deposit a portion of the serialized ERs, as Buffer ERs, into the Uncertainty Buffer account and the Reversal Buffer account, respectively.
- B.29.** From the Issuance account, and once the buffer discounts have been applied, the available serialized ER units from a specific Reporting Period can be transferred to the REDD Country Participant accounts.

Document history

Version	Date	Notes