Addressing REDD methodology complexities using a module approach

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From standard to module

- Standard

- Project design and Methodology

- Module

- PD/PDD goes beyond methodological issues

- Tools, DSS

Voluntary Carbon Standard

- Credibility of GHG Reductions
  - Additionality
  - Measurement & Monitoring
  - Leakage
  - Permanence
  - Registration

VCS { **VOLUNTARY CARBON STANDARD**

- Designed to be as robust as A/R CDM, while attempting to reduce costs and bottlenecks
- Covers new sectors (e.g., IFM, ALM, REDD) and creates permanent, fungible credits (VCUs)
  (peatland management)
- Addresses permanence with a buffer approach
  - Project risk assessment to determine buffer withholding percentage, placed in shared VCS buffer pool

Structure of methodologies

- **Applicability conditions**
- **Baseline methodology**
  - Boundaries
  - Baseline scenario
  - GHG emissions/removals
    - Ex-ante baseline
    - Ex-ante with-project…
  - Leakage
- **Monitoring methodology**

Complex?

- Number of issues to be addressed
- Perceived complexity – early A/R CDM methodologies

Reducing complexity:

- Modular approach
- Insignificant emission sources
- Simplified ex-ante with-project estimations

What is a methodological module?

Module:
- Component of a methodology that can be applied stand-alone to perform a specific task.
- E.g. "Estimation of carbon stocks and changes in carbon stocks in the aboveground biomass pool" or "Estimating baseline emissions for planned deforestation".

Tool:
- Guideline or procedure to help use or select a module or a methodology.
- E.g. "Tool to calculate sampling size for terrestrial sampling" or TARAM – "Tool for Afforestation and Reforestation Approved Methodologies".

Module structure

- From A/R CDM meth tools:
  - Scope
  - Applicability conditions
  - Parameters produced
  - Procedures

Modules

- ## Carbon pools
  - Above-ground biomass
  - Below-ground biomass
  - Dead wood
  - Litter
  - Soil organic carbon
  - Harvested wood products

Modules *(cont.)*

- ## Sources of emission
  - Non-CO_2 emission from biomass burning
  - Non-CO_2 emission from Nitrogen additions
  - Emissions from fossil fuel combustion

Modules *(cont.)*

- Planned and Unplanned deforestation:
  - Baseline emissions (rate and location)
  - Leakage (market, activity shifting)

Modules *(cont.)*

- Stratification
- Baseline GHG emissions from forest degradation
- Monitoring of deforestation and forest degradation
- Uncertainty analysis
- Significance of emission sources

- **Framework methodology**

Insignificant emission sources

- ## Recent EB decisions
  - Fossil fuel combustion/transportation
  - Collection of wood from non-renewable sources for fencing
  - N_2O emissions from litter N-fixing species
  - Fertiliser use
  - Removal of herbaceous vegetation

- ## Analysis of BioCF projects (based on ex-ante calculations)

Significance module

- List of insignificant emission sources
  - Non-prescriptive, however
  - If emissions in baseline accounted for, then also in with-project
- A/R CDM Significance tool
  - Sum of sources <5% of total ex-ante benefits
  - This requires the ex-ante calculation…

Our view on complexity

- Complexity is partly based on perception
- REDD complexity related to DD drivers, actor and underlying causes
- Transparency and applicability of REDD methodologies enhanced by modular approach
- REDD projects will not be able to address all DD drivers in all cases, but in many cases an approach that can deliver

Thank you