

## JCM Validation Report Form for REDD-plus

### A. Summary of validation

#### A.1. General Information

Title of the project	Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary - Stung Treng REDD+ project
Reference number	KH005
Third-party entity (TPE)	Aster Global Environmental Solutions, Inc.
Project participant contracting the TPE	Ministry of Environment, Cambodia (MoE), Mitsui & Co., Ltd. (Mitsui)
Date of completion of this report	20/02/2023

#### A.2 Conclusion of validation

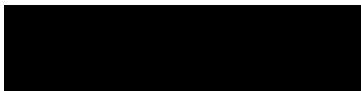
Overall validation opinion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative
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#### A.3. Overview of final validation conclusion

*Only when all of the checkboxes are checked, overall validation opinion is positive.*

Item	Validation requirements	No CAR or CL remaining
Project design document form	The TPE determines whether the PDD was completed using the latest version of the PDD forms appropriate to the type of project and drafted in line with the Guidelines for Developing the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) Project Design Document, Monitoring Plan and Monitoring Report for REDD-plus.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Project description	The description of the proposed JCM project in the PDD is accurate, complete, and provides understanding of the proposed JCM project.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Application of approved JCM methodology (ies)	The project is eligible for applying selected methodology and that the applied version is valid at the time of submission of the proposed JCM project for validation.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Carbon pools and GHG sources and calculation of emission reductions	All relevant carbon pools and GHG sources covered in the methodology are addressed for the purpose of calculating project net emissions and project reference level for the proposed JCM project.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Applied discount factor for risk of reversals is appropriate.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	The values for project specific parameters to be fixed <i>ex ante</i> listed in the Monitoring Plan Sheet are appropriate, if applicable.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental impact assessment	The project participants conducted an environmental impact assessment, if required by the Kingdom of Cambodia, in line with Cambodian procedures.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Local stakeholder consultation	The project participants have completed a local stakeholder consultation process and that due steps were taken to engage stakeholders and solicit comments for the proposed project.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	The description of the Monitoring Plan (Monitoring Plan Sheet and Monitoring Structure Sheet) is based on the approved methodology and/or Guidelines for Developing the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) Project Design Document, Monitoring Plan, and Monitoring Report for	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Item	Validation requirements	No CAR or CL remaining
	REDD-plus.	
	The monitoring points for measurement are appropriate, as well as whether monitoring measures and procedures, the types of equipment to be installed are appropriate if necessary.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Public inputs	All inputs on the PDD of the proposed JCM project submitted in line with the Project Cycle Procedure for REDD-plus are taken into due account by the project participants.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Modalities of communications	The corporate identity of all project participants and a focal point included in the MoC, as well as the personal identities, including specimen signatures and employment status, of their authorized signatories.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	The MoC has been correctly completed and duly authorized.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Start of operation	The TPE validates the start of the operating date of the proposed JCM project.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Authorised signatory:	Mr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/>
Last name: McMahon	First name: Shawn
Title: Lead Validator	
Specimen signature:	 Date: 20/02/2023

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JCM SP PF: 02/20/2023f

## B. Validation team and other experts

	Name	Company	Function*	Scheme competence*	Technical competence*	On-site visit
Mr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/>	Shawn McMahon	Aster Global Environmental Solutions, Inc.	Team Leader	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Y	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/>	Matthew Campbell	Aster Global Environmental Solutions, Inc.	Team Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Y	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/>	Sandesh Shrestha	Aster Global Environmental Solutions, Inc.	Team Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Y	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barbara Toole O'Neil	Aster Global Environmental Solutions, Inc.	Internal Reviewer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Y	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lakhena Chan	Contracted by Aster Global Environmental Solutions, Inc.	Site Visit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/>	Neab Keng	Contracted by Aster Global Environmental Solutions, Inc.	Site Visit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please specify the following for each item.

- \* *Function:* Indicate the role of the personnel in the validation activity such as team leader, team member, technical expert, or internal reviewer.
- \* *Scheme competence:* Check the boxes if the personnel have sufficient knowledge on the JCM.
- \* *Technical competence:* Indicate if the personnel have sufficient technical competence related to the project under validation.

## C. Means of validation, findings, and conclusion based on reporting requirements

### C.1. Project design document form

#### <Means of validation>

The PDD form was checked and confirmed to have been completed in accordance with the Joint Crediting Mechanism Guidelines for Developing Project Design Document and Monitoring Report for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, and the Role of Conservation, Sustainable Management of Forests and Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stocks in Developing Countries (REDD-plus) (JCM\_KH\_AM004\_ver01.1). The most current version of the JCM PDD form (JCM\_KH\_F\_PDD\_ver02.0) was confirmed to have been used by the project participant.

#### <Findings>

##### **TPE CL01:**

The TPE was unable to locate a memorandum of cooperation between project participants.

##### **Project Participant Resolution of Identified Finding:**

The project participant provided the TPE with a copy of the agreement between project participants. The TPE determined that the provision of this document was sufficient to close the identified finding.

##### **TPE CL02:**

The TPE noted that a map of the project area was not included in Section C.2 of the PDD.

**Project Participant Resolution of Identified Findings:**

The project participant revised Section C.2 of the PDD to include the referenced map. The TPE determined this finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**TPE CL03:**

The TPE noted that the spatial level of data was not provided for several parameters in the monitoring spreadsheet.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant provided the TPE with an updated monitoring spreadsheet that included spatial level of data for the identified parameters. The finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**TPE CL04:**

During review of the project participants Round 1 finding responses, the TPE noted that the monitoring spreadsheet contained hardcoded formulas for multiple equations that differed from the equations provided in the monitoring spreadsheet initially provided to the TPE. The TPE identified this as a clarification request and reached out to JCM Secretariat for additional clarification.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

In response to the identified findings, the project participant coordinated with the JCM Secretariat. The JCM Secretariat confirmed that several changes had been made. The finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**<Conclusion based on reporting requirements>**

The TPE concludes that the PDD is completed using the valid version of the PDD form and that the PDD is drafted in line with all relevant forms and guidance.

**C.2. Project description****<Means of validation>**

The validation site visit was conducted from 24th – 28th January 2022 and followed the TPE's Validation and Sampling Plan process. The TPE contracted two in-country personnel to conduct an on-site visit due to national restrictions in place from the global COVID-19 pandemic. The intention of these activities and interviews was to gather information about the project that is not readily apparent in the provided project documents.

To assess whether the description of the proposed JCM project in the PDD was accurate, complete, and provides an understanding of the proposed JCM project, the TPE reviewed the PDD and all supporting evidence provided by the project participant (see Section E.2). The TPE assessed the statements and claims made in the PDD and determined that they are accurate and complete, and that the PDD was completed utilizing all relevant guidance. The TPE's review of supporting documentation provided further support for the statements and claims made in the PDD and provided the TPE with the additional context needed to ensure their accuracy and completeness. In review of the PDD and all supporting documentation, the TPE determined that the PDD provides an appropriate understanding of the proposed JCM Project.

**<Findings>****TPE CAR07:**

During the site visit, the on-site personnel determined that it may take another 3-5 years for the zoning and demarcation process to be completed in the project area. The TPE was unclear how the project was in compliance with the 2008 Protected Areas Law.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant clarified that only 2-3 protected areas in the country had been zoned as of 2022 and thus the project was not out of compliance with the 2008 Protected Areas Law. The finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**TPE CAR08:**

The TPE noted during the site visit that enrollment in the Ibis Rice Program appeared to be one of the only livelihood interventions being implemented at the time. It was unclear to the TPE how this livelihood intervention was sufficient for the project to meet its second Objective. The TPE issued a Corrective Action Request, stating that the project participant must implement additional livelihood interventions that will be beneficial and accessible to all community members.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant clarified that the enrollment in the Ibis Rice Program is not the only planned livelihood intervention. While it is one of the only livelihood interventions currently being implemented, the project participant clarified that additional livelihood interventions are being assessed and planned, but their implementation is pending the receipt of carbon finance from verification of the project. The TPE determined that as these livelihood interventions are dependent on carbon finance, they are not likely to be implemented prior to verification. The TPE closed this CAR but has issued TPE FAR05 for future verification (see Conclusion section).

**TPE FAR03**

The TPE requested documentation of the trainings and equipment provided at the first verification.

**Project Participant Resolution :**

The Project Participant noted the TPE's intention to issue the FAR. The TPE will include the FAR in the Validation Report and will need to be assessed at the first verification.

**TPE FAR04**

The TPE requested documentation of the outreach/training opportunities provided to the communities at the first verification.

**Project Participant Resolution :**

The Project Participant noted the TPE's intention to issue the FAR. The TPE will include the FAR in the Validation Report and will need to be assessed at the first verification.

**<Conclusion based on reporting requirements>**

Through review of the PDD and provided documentation, the TPE determined that the description of the proposed project in the PDD is accurate, complete and provides an understanding of the proposed JCM project.

While the TPE has issued a positive conclusion for this section, the TPE identified several issues during the site visit that do not fall within the scope of validation but are important in helping the project participant meet the main objectives of the project in the subsequent verification. As such, the TPE has issued Forward Action Requests (FARs) that should be addressed during the project's first verification and subsequent verifications. The identified FARs listed in the <Findings> section are described below in full:

**TPE FAR03:**

Interviews conducted during the site visit suggested that illegal deforestation is still occurring on a large scale in the project area. The project participants appear to be making progress in training and equipping rangers with the skills and equipment needed to effectively combat illegal deforestation. While the interviews with rangers suggested that they are largely grateful for the

training and equipment, there seems to be some areas that can be improved upon to help combat illegal deforestation in the project area. As such, the TPE is issuing a FAR, requesting the project participants continue providing training and equipment to rangers and to provide a documented list of these trainings and provided equipment during the first verification.

**TPE FAR04:**

Interviews with community members of the three villages visited during the on-site visit suggest that many community members are aware of the project. However, it appears that multiple community members are unaware of the project, do not fully understand the project, or would like additional training/information on REDD+. While the TPE believes the local stakeholder consultation conducted by the project participant is adequate in addressing the guidelines of the JCM program, the TPE is issuing a FAR requesting that the project participant conduct additional outreach/training on the project and REDD+. The TPE is requesting that these additional outreach/training initiatives be documented during the first verification.

**TPE FAR05:**

The TPE had initially issued a CAR regarding the necessity to implement additional livelihood interventions that will be beneficial and available to all community members. Clarification from the project participant determined that additional livelihood interventions are being planned but are dependent on carbon finance associated with the verification of the project. As such the TPE is issuing a FAR requesting that the project participant provide evidence of consultations/assessments/plans for future livelihood activities at the first verification.

**C.3. Application of approved methodology(ies)**

**<Means of validation>**

The TPE confirmed the methodology is correctly quoted and applied by comparing it with the actual text of the applicable version of the methodology. The TPE confirmed that the most recent version of the chosen methodology (KH\_AM004 Ver 1.1) was appropriately applied. The TPE reviewed each eligibility criterion of the applied methodology and assessed the project participant's justification regarding how the proposed project meets each criterion. A summary of the TPE's assessment of each criterion as it pertains to the proposed project is provided below:

**Criterion 1:** The project is to reduce deforestation and forest degradation through project activities including forest management and community livelihood development.

The TPE confirmed that the project meets this Criterion as the project's first Objective is to reduce deforestation in the project area through implementation of effective law enforcement. The TPE reviewed the proposed measures to be taken to improve effectiveness of law enforcement in the project area and is reasonably assured that their implementation will be effective in reducing deforestation and degradation in the project area. The TPE conducted interviews with law enforcement personnel during the site visit and confirmed the trainings and equipment were provided as described. Further the TPE confirmed during the site visit that patrols and regular forest change monitoring are being conducted, and that the project participant is in the process of the protected area demarcation, zonation, and management plan development process.

The project's second Objective is to develop sustainable livelihoods of communities in and around the project area so they can move away from economic activities resulting in deforestation. The TPE confirmed during the site visit that the project participant is supporting participatory community land-use planning and management activities, and that multiple farmers are participating in the IBIS Rice Program. Once carbon credits are issued, the project aims to continue developing livelihood interventions through consultation with community members.

As the project's primary Objectives are in accordance with this criterion, and the TPE confirmed the activities designed are in the process of being implemented during the site visit, the TPE

determined that the first Criterion is satisfied.

**Criterion 2:** Cambodia's official forest reference (emission) level has been submitted to UNFCCC, completed technical assessment by UNFCCC, and is publicly available.

The TPE determined that the Project meets this criterion as Cambodia's official forest level was appropriately completed in 2017, the technical assessment was completed by UNFCCC in 2018 and the National FRL is publicly available.

**Criterion 3:** Cambodia's official forest map for the project start year or less than or equal to two years old is available to the project participant.

The TPE confirmed the project start date is March 12, 2018. The project received Cambodia's official forest map of 2018, which uses the Landsat images available from November 2017 to April 2018. The TPE confirmed that this official forest map was used for implementation of the project. The issuance of this official forest map is within the two-year requirement of this Criterion.

**Criterion 4:** Project activities do not include activities which lead to GHG emissions within the project area and the project activity area, except for the use of fuel or fertilizer including N-fixing crops.

The TPE confirmed that the project activities listed in Section A.7 of the PDD (implementing effective law enforcement and improving livelihoods of community) do not lead to GHG emissions within the project and project activity area. The TPE confirmed that emissions from fuel and fertilizer/N-fixing crops were appropriately accounted for in line with the methodology.

#### <Findings>

##### **TPE CL19:**

The TPE noted a discrepancy in the quotation of Criterion 4 in the PDD when compared to the methodology.

##### **Project Participant Resolution:**

The Project Participant updated the text in the PDD to correctly quote Criterion 4. The finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

#### <Conclusion based on reporting requirements>

The TPE confirmed the project used the most recent version of an approved methodology. The TPE confirmed that the eligibility criterion defined by the methodology were appropriately quoted and described in the PDD and that the project complies with all eligibility criteria.

### C.4. Carbon pools and GHG sources and calculation of emission reductions

#### <Means of validation>

The TPE reviewed the PDD and Monitoring Spreadsheet and determined the project had included all relevant carbon pools and GHG sources required by the methodology. The project uses the default discount factor for risk of reversals (20%). The TPE determined that the use of the default value is reasonable in the context of this project. The TPE reviewed the provided Monitoring Spreadsheet and determined it had not been altered and that all required fields have been appropriately filled in. The TPE reviewed all relevant documentation provided by the project participants as well as the JCM guidance documents required for validation.

The TPE conducted an on-site visit utilizing in-country personnel. During the visit, the in-country personnel performed two ground truthing exercises: one to review the forest classes determined as a result of the accuracy assessment, and one to confirm the digitized deforestation polygons.



The TPE reviewed the results of these exercises and determined that the project participant conducted both forest classification and deforestation digitization appropriately.

**<Findings>**

**TPE CAR01:**

The TPE noted that the results of the accuracy assessment performed by the Project Participants did not meet the 80% land use classification threshold identified.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant clarified that the referenced 80% land use classification refers to the reference region based on the accuracy of the 2018 land cover map provided by the Ministry of Environment. The overall accuracy for this map is 93.53%. The TPE determined that the project participant's interpretation of this requirement was correct. The finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**TPE CL07:**

The TPE requested clarification regarding how the size and location of the displacement belt were determined.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant clarified that all area within Stung Treng province portion of PLWS that is not part of the project area and meets identified criteria was included in the displacement belt. The TPE determined that the location of the displacement meets the requirements of the methodology. As no specific requirements for determining the size of the displacement belt are included in the methodology, the TPE determined the explanation provided was sufficient to close the identified finding. The finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**TPE CL08:**

The TPE requested clarification regarding how the size of the displacement belt is adequate to absorb potential displacement due to project activities throughout the project's lifetime given the assumption that 2,000 ha are projected to be deforested annually within the project area.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant clarified that the displacement belt is defined by specific criteria, not by size and thus all eligible areas meeting identified criteria were included in the displacement belt. As no specific requirements for determining the size of the displacement belt are included in the methodology, the TPE determined the explanation provided was sufficient to close the identified finding. The finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**TPE CAR03 and CAR04:**

The TPE reissued CAR01 as it pertains to the application of Equation 2 and 3 of the methodology.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant clarified that the referenced 80% land use classification refers to the reference region based on the accuracy of the 2018 land cover map provided by the Ministry of Environment. The overall accuracy for this map is 93.53%. The TPE determined that the project participant's interpretation of this requirement was correct. The finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**TPE CL09:**

The TPE requested clarification regarding the project participants ex-ante calculation of parameter  $CA_{pj i y}$ . As no methods for calculation of this parameter are prescribed by the methodology, the TPE reviewed the remote sensing analysis used to calculate this parameter and requested the project participant update the PDD with language elaborating on the justification



for choosing the identified method, citing specific references on how this method is in line with current best practices in the industry.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant clarified that the visual delineation of land entities is listed in 2.1 Monitoring Changes in Forest Area under Step 5.2 of analysis methods of the GOFC-GOLD Source book COP22 version 1. The TPE determined that this is an appropriate method from a trusted source, and that selection of this method was appropriate to the project scenario.

**TPE CL10:**

The TPE identified discrepancies between values reported for parameter  $CA_{pj \ i \ y}$  in the PDD and in the Monitoring worksheet.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant acknowledged an error in reporting in the PDD and made the appropriate corrections to align with the values identified in the monitoring worksheet. This finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**TPE CL11:**

The TPE requested clarification regarding the project participant's application of a reduction in deforestation for later years in the ex-ante projection. The project participant noted that these deductions were based on professional judgement, as no guidance on projecting ex ante areas of deforestation is provided in the methodology.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant clarified that the reduction in deforestation for later years in the ex-ante projection are applied as implementation of project activities will slow the rate of deforestation. The TPE determined that this is a reasonable assumption and closed the finding.

**TPE FAR01:**

The TPE had initially raised a FAR asking the project participant to confirm with JCM that a methodology deviation initially identified would be approved for ex post monitoring.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant provided email correspondence with JCM substantiating that the methodology deviation initially identified is not needed. As such, no FAR is being issued by the TPE.

**TPE CAR05and CAR06 :**

The TPE reissued CAR01 as it pertains to the application of Equation 32 of the methodology.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant clarified that the referenced 80% land use classification refers to the reference region based on the accuracy of the of the 2018 land cover map provided by the Ministry of Environment. The overall accuracy for this map is 93.53%. The TPE determined that the project participant's interpretation of this requirement was correct. The finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**TPE CL12:**

The TPE requested clarification regarding on using independently calculated transition probabilities in the displacement belt is in line with the methodology.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant updated the calculations and PDD to use the same transition probabilities

as the project area, in line with the methodology. The finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**TPE CL13:**

The TPE noted a discrepancy in values between two calculation workbooks provided to the TPE.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant clarified that an error was made in one of the workbooks and made the appropriate corrections. The finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**TPE CL14:**

The TPE reissued CL12 as it pertains to the application of Equation 33.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant updated the calculations and PDD to use the same transition probabilities as the project area, in line with the methodology. The finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**TPE CL15:**

The TPE noted a discrepancy in values between two calculation workbooks provided to the TPE.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant clarified that an error was made in one of the workbooks and made the appropriate corrections. The finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**TPE CL16:**

The TPE reissued CL09, pertaining to parameter  $CA_{d_{pj}iy}$  rather than parameter  $CA_{pj}iy$

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant clarified that the visual delineation of land entities is listed in 2.1 Monitoring Changes in Forest AREA under Step 5.2 of analysis methods of the GOFC-GOLD Source book COP22 version 1. The TPE determined that this is an appropriate method from a trusted source, and that selection of this method was appropriate to the Project scenario.

**TPE CL17:**

The TPE reissued CL11, pertaining to parameter  $CA_{d_{pj}iy}$  rather than parameter  $CA_{pj}iy$

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The TPE requested clarification regarding the project participant application of a reduction in deforestation for later years in the ex-ante projection. The project participant noted that these deductions were based on professional judgement, as no guidance is provided in projecting ex ante areas of deforestation is provided in the methodology.

**TPE FAR02:**

The TPE had initially raised a FAR asking the project participant to confirm with JCM that a methodology deviation initially identified would be approved for ex post monitoring.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant provided email correspondence with JCM substantiating that the methodology deviation initially identified is not needed. As such, no FAR is being issued by the TPE.

**TPE CL18:**

The TPE noted discrepancies in areas of several forest classes in the displacement belt after

performing an independent geospatial analysis.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant revised forest loss area and updated appropriately in the calculation worksheet and PDD/Annex.

**<Conclusion based on reporting requirements>**

The TPE confirmed that the carbon pools and GHG sources and calculation of emission reductions as described in the PDD, and associated documents is accurate and complies with all requirements of the JCM.

**C.5. Environmental impact assessment**

**<Means of validation>**

The TPE confirmed through a virtual interview with His Excellency Dr. Paris Chuop, (Deputy Secretary-General, National Council for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment, Cambodia) that the Project was not required to conduct an environmental impact assessment. As no environmental impact assessment was required, there was no need for the TPE to assess whether it was conducted in line with Cambodian procedures.

**<Findings>**

**TPE CL20:**

A preliminary finding was issued in Round 1, as the TPE had not yet confirmed via interview with His Excellency Dr. Paris Chuop that the project was not required to conduct and environmental impact assessment.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

No resolution was required from the Project Participant. The TPE confirmed that no environmental impact assessment was required.

**<Conclusion based on reporting requirements>**

The TPE concludes that there was no need to conduct an environmental impact assessment, as evidenced by the interview conducted.

**C.6. Local stakeholder consultation**

**<Means of validation>**

The TPE reviewed the PDD which details historic consultations between the project participants and the local communities. The PDD describes the most recent consultation event, which took place from 12 October to 7 November 2021 and further states locked boxes were placed in every village to provide a place to deposit comments and grievances. The boxes were checked at the end of the public input period (6 November 2021). During the on-site visit, the in-country personnel observed the grievance boxes in the three villages they visited. Interviews with community members suggest many members had been consulted and were aware of the comment process.

The TPE reviewed “Summary and consideration of comments received” in the PDD, which lists the comments received in table format and is reasonably assured that the listed summary is complete. The TPE compiled a list of questions for the in-country personnel to ask community members to verify that these considerations were taken into account in the communities. The in-country personnel interviewed community members and confirmed that the project participant had taken due account of all comments received.

**<Findings>**

No findings were raised to this requirement.

**<Conclusion based on reporting requirements>**

Based on the result of the desktop review and field assessment, the TPE determines that the local stakeholder consultation conducted by the project participants was adequate.

**C.7. Monitoring**

**<Means of validation>**

The TPE assessed the monitoring plan for compliance with the approved methodology, PDD, and Monitoring Guidelines for REDD-plus. The TPE reviewed the parameters to be monitored *ex post* and parameters to be fixed *ex ante* identified in the monitoring plan and confirmed they are in alignment with the parameters as described by the methodology. Default values were used for multiple parameters, and if a default value was not used, the TPE assessed the chosen value for reasonableness and conservativeness. All parameters were determined to be reasonable and conservative. The means of monitoring for all included parameters was reviewed and determined by the TPE to comply with the requirements of the methodology.

The TPE reviewed the monitoring structure described in the Monitoring Structure Sheet of the monitoring plan. The TPE determined that the Monitoring Structure Sheet was appropriately completed, with Monitoring Participants identified and their roles in implementing methods and procedures for each data appropriately described. The TPE reviewed the Monitoring Procedures and determined the description of data, and the associated Monitoring Procedure were appropriately described to a rigorous enough level to ensure that *ex post* monitoring can be completed effectively. Quality assurance and quality control procedures were reviewed and determined to be reasonable and in line with current industry best practices.

**<Findings>**

**TPE CL05:**

The TPE requested clarification regarding how parameter  $R_{AGT}$  for beans and pulses was calculated.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant acknowledged that there had been an error in calculation of the identified parameter. Appropriate changes sufficient to address and close the identified finding were made in the Annex and monitoring worksheet.

**TPE CL06:**

The TPE requested clarification regarding how parameter  $R_{BGT}$  for beans and pulses was calculated.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant acknowledged that there had been an error in calculation of the identified parameter. Appropriate changes sufficient to address and close the identified finding were made in the Annex and monitoring worksheet.

**TPE CAR02:**

The TPE noted that parameter  $Frac_{RenewT}$  was listed as 2, when the methodology states that this parameter must be a dimensionless fraction between 0-1.

**Project Participant Resolution:**

The project participant made the appropriate changes in line with the TPE's findings. This finding was sufficiently addressed and closed.

**<Conclusion based on reporting requirements>**

The TPE determined that the description of the monitoring plan is based on the approved methodology and/or PDD and Monitoring Guidelines for REDD-plus. The TPE determined

that the monitoring points for measurement are appropriate, and that identified monitoring measures and procedures and types of equipment to be installed are appropriate.

#### C.8. Modalities of Communication

##### <Means of validation>

The MOC was provided to the TPE on 29/09/2021. The TPE reviewed the MOC and validated the corporate identities. Revised form was submitted on 02/09/2022 after the resolution of an issue raised on “Date of Submission”.

##### <Findings>

###### **TPE CL22**

The TPE noted that the "Date of Submission" box on the Modalities of Communication had not been filled out.

##### **Project Participant Resolution:**

The Project Participant updated the identified error and provided evidence from JCM Secretariat substantiating the Modalities of Communication had been appropriately executed.

##### <Conclusion based on reporting requirements>

The TPE concludes that the MOC is completed using the valid version of the form (JCM\_KH\_F\_MoC\_REDD+\_ver01.0) and determined that it has been correctly completed and duly authorized.

#### C.9. Start of operation

##### <Means of validation>

Section A.6 of the PDD states the starting date of project operation is 12/Mar/2018. The TPE confirmed the project start date as 12/Mar/2018 through the review of the project page on the JCM website and interviews conducted by in-country personnel employed by the TPE.

##### <Findings>

No findings were raised to this requirement.

##### <Conclusion based on reporting requirements>

The TPE concludes the start of the operating date of the project, 12/Mar/2018 is accurate.

#### C.10. Other issues

##### <Means of validation>

During the validation process, the publication of several articles by Amnesty International alleging illegal deforestation and human-rights abuses in and around Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary were brought to the attention of the TPE. Though these were identified outside of the public comment process, given the severity of the allegations in the identified articles as they pertain to the project area and surrounding areas, they were brought to the attention of the JCM Secretariat by the TPE.

To ensure the TPE was correctly following the JCM process for safeguards, a review of the “JCM Guidelines for Validation and Verification (REDD-plus)” was conducted which confirmed that no references are made to validation activities to be performed by the TPE pertaining to safeguards. Paragraph 58 of the “JCM Project Cycle Procedure (REDD -plus)” states:

*“Upon positive conclusion of the completeness check by the secretariat, the Joint Committee reviews the submitted SGIP within fourteen (14) calendar days.”*

Additionally, per Paragraph 58, the TPE confirmed that the review of the SGIP and associated safeguards are to be conducted by JCM as Paragraph 49 of the “JCM Project Cycle Procedure

(REDD-plus)” states the TPE:

*“validates the MoC and the proposed JCM project as described in the draft PDD, prepares a validation report using the “JCM Validation Report Form” and sends the report to the project participants.”*

Paragraph 49 makes clear that the TPE is to submit a draft PDD and validation report and send to the project participant. Per Paragraph 58, only after a positive statement is issued by the TPE does the Joint Committee review the SGIP. As such, the TPE confirmed that review of safeguards in general, and specifically pertaining to the alleged human rights abuses brought to the JCM Secretariat’s attention, are outside of the scope of the TPE’s validation. Further, the JCM secretariat was consulted by the TPE regarding the human rights allegations and the JCM secretariat confirmed by email that they would review the SGIP.

#### <Findings>

No findings were raised to this requirement.

#### <Conclusion based on reporting requirements>.

The TPE notified the JCM Secretariat of the publication of several articles by Amnesty International documenting illegal deforestation and alleged human-rights abuses in and around Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary. Through review of the “JCM Guidelines for Validation and Verification (REDD-plus)” and “JCM Project Cycle Procedure (REDD-plus)” the TPE confirmed that review of safeguards in general, and specifically pertaining to the identified alleged human rights abuses brought to the Joint Committee’s attention, are outside of the scope of the TPE’s validation.

### D. Information on public inputs

#### D.1. Summary of public inputs

The Project was posted for public inputs from 07 October 2021 - 05 November 2021. A clarification request (TPE CL21) was issued asking the Project Participant whether any public inputs were received during this period. The Project Participant confirmed that no public inputs were received on the JCM project webpage.

#### D.2. Summary of how inputs received have been taken into account by the project participants

As the TPE confirmed no public inputs were received electronically, there was no need for the TPE to assess if they had been taken in to account by the project participant.

### E. List of interviewees and documents received

#### E.1. List of interviewees

##### **Conservation International (CI)**

- Aya Uraguchi
- Jeffrey Silverman
- Jackson Frechette
- Donal Yeang
- Sopheha Yoeun

##### **Mitsui & Co., Ltd.**

- Akiko Kitazawa

##### **Ministry of Environment (MoE)**

- H.E Dr. Paris Chuop

**Provincial Department of Environment (PDoE)**

-Deputy Chief of Stung TrengPDOE

-Head rangers

**Dong Village**

- Village Chief

- Village Members

- Resin Tappers
- Rice Producers

**Toal Village**

-Community members

- Village leader

-Former CPA committee and village leader s

**Spong Village**

- Village leader

-Community members

**Ibis Rice/SMP**

-Ibis Rice/SMP representatives

-Community members participating in Ibis Rice/SMP programs

**E.2. List of documents received**

PDD\_annex1\_ex-ante\_PreyLangST\_June8\_clean.docx  
JCM\_KH\_AM004\_ver01.0\_rev\_200616\_greyout.docx  
JCM\_KH\_AM004\_ver01.0\_修正中\_200527\_unlock\_PreyLangST\_Jun8.xlsx  
JCM\_KH\_F\_SGIP\_REDD+\_ver01.0\_PreyLangST\_June4.docx  
JCM\_KH\_F\_PDD\_REDD+\_ver01.0\_PreyLangST\_June8\_clean.docx  
Meth Deviation concept.docx  
JCM\_KH\_F\_PDD\_REDD+\_ver01.0\_PreyLangST\_Sep2021sent.docx  
JCM\_KH\_AM004\_ver01.1\_PreyLangST\_Sep2021.xlsx  
PDD\_annex1\_ex-ante\_PreyLangST\_Sep2021sent.docx  
Forest cover area in Displacement Belt\_2014-2018.xlsx  
Accuracy\_assessment\_20210928\_clean.xlsx  
A Feasibility Assessment\_Conservation Agreements.docx  
(2) JCM\_KH\_AM004\_ver01.1\_(PreyLangST)\_Sep29\_submitted.xlsx  
Lui-Walton SLA Follow-up support Cambodia April-May 2019.docx  
SMP\_ProjectManagementRecord\_GreenManure.xlsx  
PreyLangFuel used.xlsx  
(1.2) JCM\_KH\_F\_PDD\_REDD+\_ver01.0\_(PreyLangST)\_Sep29\_submitted.docx  
(1) JCM\_KH\_F\_PDD\_REDD+\_ver01.0\_(PreyLangST)\_Sep29\_submitted.docx  
(1.3) JCM\_KH\_F\_PDD\_REDD+\_ver01.0\_(PreyLangST)\_Sep29\_submitted.docx  
2016-05-12 socio economic data\_final.xlsm  
Workshop Photos.zip  
SLS Miradi May 2019.jpg  
Mgnt Gov Situation July 2019.jpg  
Private Sector SA July 2019.jpg  
Livelihood Situation July 2019.jpg  
LE Situation July 2019.jpg  
Com Land Situation July 2019.jpg  
Habitat Resortation SA July 2019.jpg  
Awareness raising SA July 2019.jpg



Benefit Sharing SA July 2019.jpg  
 Cardamom-Tonle Sap SLS Strategy Workshop Report + Agenda 1 April 2019.docx  
 EEA50B76-A731-43A1-BE6D-1DE75F25D7EC.jpeg  
 E30CD788-91F5-4090-9752-E431E3CEA073.jpeg  
 Cardamom Tonle Sap Strategy 3-pager APRIL 2019 UPDATE.docx  
 DEA98744-7C22-4B71-9B6B-0820AA8B9DE7.jpeg  
 B25A5346-EC79-40EC-B2D4-A52B624CB920.jpeg  
 C8BB0C12-7CC9-406B-9DDA-C59558E96E9E.jpeg  
 A65E6385-3A4C-4D6C-84DE-C46406A04DE9.jpeg  
 95B9922E-52B2-48E1-B892-7DEBB6E8DEA6.jpeg  
 9C25E3DA-6465-4530-A331-2B779F582E7A.jpeg  
 7E3E1431-4E67-44E3-ABBC-056B4128F0BE.jpeg  
 94D99780-17C4-467A-BEC8-EBF6AB7E2F5C.jpeg  
 8E5EEB07-703F-4E9A-B823-05564BB396A2.jpeg  
 20D7D2D0-E24F-413A-B752-864C7212DECD.jpeg  
 2BCDFE6F-54ED-4A4F-BAD7-EDFFCD6FAF78.jpeg  
 6B4D679C-AB5B-499C-874F-2A3EF008E2F1.jpeg  
 38B99A19-858D-4278-B3FA-3D02E7B2F378.jpeg  
 1EFF7AB0-C9D6-44D4-A1E0-687CF785F7D3.jpeg  
 0824881D-A799-4DAF-8272-93017618CA29.jpeg  
 172E8980-A469-4E0B-9D68-F997C9648E5E.jpeg  
 WS 28-31 May 2019 Mondulkiri.pdf  
 00A71904-EDCE-4257-95F8-46775EC751E6.jpeg  
 IMG\_1082.JPG  
 IMG\_1084.JPG  
 IMG\_1083.JPG  
 Inception WS on 15 Mar 2018 Stung Treng.pdf  
 Agenda for visit REDD+ in Mondulkiri\_final.docx  
 Agenda of Study Tour in Mondulkiri.docx  
 sustainability-12-09987-v2.pdf  
 InceptionWorkshop.docx  
 REDD-Action-Investment-Plan-Final-version-April-2020.pdf  
 Drivers\_Agents\_Analysis\_report\_final\_v2012\_01\_19.pdf  
 REDD+ in Prey Long Feasibility Study Conservation International\_May\_2011.pdf  
 JRC-Technical-Report\_Assessment-Cambodia-Prey-Lang-Sanctuary.pdf  
 Cambodia deforestation driver analysis Nov2015.pdf  
 deforestation\_fronts\_factsheet\_cambodia.pdf  
 DV00123 workshop on effective law enforcement 8 Feb, 2019.pdf  
 SFB Summary final report (2015\_2016).docx  
 Letter of Support.pdf  
 2018-12-13 Assessment report livelihood\_.docx  
 2018-12-13 Assessment report livelihood\_.docx  
 Cambodia\_frl\_rcvd22052017\_modified.pdf  
 deforestation\_area\_update20210305\_Sep29submitted.xlsx  
 Plwssubdecreeno7409.05.2016.pdf  
 ENG\_National\_Protected\_Area\_System\_Strategic\_Framework.pdf  
 Prey Long Sub-decree\_English.docx  
 Land Law 2001.pdf  
 land-law-2001 kh.pdf  
 April May 2019  
 July 2019 Workshop Situation Analysis USAID GPL  
 Picture  
 ENG\_1996\_Law\_on\_Environmental\_Protection\_and\_Management\_of\_Natural\_Resources.pdf  
 ENG\_2008\_Law\_on\_Protected\_Areas.pdf

2011 Nov Drivers Workshop  
 2018 Inception Workshop  
 2019 Workshops  
 2019 May Trip to Mondulkiri REDD  
 Reports\_Drivers  
 ENG-2002\_Law\_on\_Forestry.pdf  
 Cambodian Government  
 Carbon  
 Driver  
 Socio-economic survey  
 Stakeholder Consultations  
 Validation Documents Phase 1  
 Sent to JCM Aster Copied  
 (4) JCM\_KH\_F\_SGIP\_REDD+\_ver01.0\_(PreyLangST)\_Sep29\_submitted.docx  
 (5) JCM\_KH\_F\_MoC\_REDD+\_ver01.0\_(PreyLangST).pdf  
 (3.2) AdditionalInformation (PreyLangST) PDDcommunication.docx  
 (3.1) PDD\_annex1\_ex-ante (PreyLangST)\_Sep29\_submitted.docx  
 (1) JCM\_KH\_F\_PDD\_REDD+\_ver01.0\_(PreyLangST)\_Sep29\_submitted Revised Dec9  
 2021.docx  
 Link to CI Japan RS data  
 linkprotect.cudasvc.com.url  
 CEO\_Instructions\_PLWS\_Validation.docx  
 plws\_sample\_points\_validation.csv  
 Date of Satellite imagery for monitoring deforest in JCM.docx  
 Satellite folder.JPG  
 Deforestation report from March 2018-April 2019.pdf  
 Phase1\_displacementbelt.url  
 Project\_area updated.url  
 JCM\_deforestation.zip  
 Accuracy\_Assessment\_20220111.xlsx  
 (1) JCM\_KH\_F\_PDD\_REDD+\_ver01.0\_(PreyLangST)\_Revised Jan19.docx  
 (3.1) PDD\_annex1\_ex-ante (PreyLangST)\_Revised Jan19.docx  
 Report on Public Input Period for JCM REDD+ in Prey Lang.pdf  
 Mitsui Tri-Party Project Agreement.pdf  
 (1) JCM\_KH\_F\_PDD\_REDD+\_ver02.0\_PreyLangST\_2022Aug.docx  
 21000.00 JCM PLWS-Stung Treng REDD+ Round 1 Findings\_Responses\_2022Aug.xlsx  
 JCM\_KH\_AM004\_ver02.0\_PreyLangST\_2022Aug.xlsx  
 (5) JCM\_KH\_F\_MoC\_REDD+\_ver01.0\_(PreyLangST)\_2022.08.19.pdf  
 (3.1) PDD\_annex1\_ex-ante\_ver02.0\_PreyLangST\_2022Aug.docx  
 (1) JCM\_KH\_F\_PDD\_REDD+\_ver02.0\_PreyLangST\_2022Aug\_rev.docx  
 (1) JCM\_KH\_F\_PDD\_REDD+\_ver02.0\_PreyLangST\_2022Aug\_rev\_track.docx  
 Displacementbelt\_fc2018.xlsx  
 JCM\_displacementbelt\_fc2018.shp  
 JCM\_displacementbelt\_fc2018.prj  
 JCM\_displacementbelt\_fc2018.sbn  
 JCM\_displacementbelt\_fc2018.sbx  
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 JCM\_displacementbelt\_fc2018.shx  
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 JCM\_displacementbelt.sbn  
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 JCM\_displacementbelt.shx

JCM\_displacementbelt\_fc2018.cpg  
 JCM\_displacementbelt\_fc2018.dbf  
 JCM\_displacementbelt.cpg  
 JCM\_displacementbelt.dbf  
 JCM\_displacement\_belt\_sha  
 Accuracy\_assessment\_v3.xlsx  
 MOC (KH005 Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary -Stung Treng REDD+ project).msg  
 ReMOC (KH005 Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary -Stung Treng REDD+ project).msg  
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 JCM\_displacementbelt\_fc2018.shp.xml  
 JCM\_displacementbelt\_fc2018.shx  
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 JCM\_displacementbelt\_fc2018.prj  
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 JCM\_displacementbelt.cpg  
 JCM\_displacementbelt.dbf  
 JCM\_displacementbelt.prj  
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 JCM\_displacementbelt.sbx  
 JCM\_displacement\_belt\_sha  
 JCM\_displacement\_belt\_Oct19\_2022  
 (1) JCM\_KH\_F\_PDD\_REDD+\_ver03.0\_PreyLangST\_2022Dec.docx  
 JCM\_KH\_AM004\_ver01.1\_r\_PreyLangST\_2022Nov.xlsx  
 (3.1) PDD\_annex1\_ex-ante\_ver03.0\_PreyLangST\_2022Dec.docx  
 Accuracy\_assessment\_v3.xlsx  
 The methodology revision history.docx  
 21000.00 JCM PLWS-Stung Treng REDD+ Round 2 Findings REVISED\_Dec19\_2022.xlsx  
 JCM\_overflow2019.sbx  
 JCM\_overflow2019.shp  
 JCM\_overflow2019.shp.xml  
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 JCM\_overflow2018.shp  
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 JCM\_overflow2019.cpg  
 JCM\_overflow2019.dbf  
 JCM\_overflow2019.prj  
 JCM\_overflow2019.sbn  
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 JCM\_overflow2018.dbf  
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 JCM\_KH\_AM004\_ver01.1\_r\_PreyLangST\_2023Jan.xlsx

RE\_ 21000.00 Cambodia Prey Lang Round 2 Findings

<https://www.jcm.go.jp/kh-jp/methodologies/131>

<https://www.jcm.go.jp/kh-jp/information/465>

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(3.1) PDD\_annex1\_ex-ante\_ver03.0\_PreyLangST\_2023Jan\_clean.docx

(1) JCM\_KH\_F\_PDD\_REDD+\_ver04.0\_PreyLangST\_2023Jan\_clean.docx

**Annex Certificates or curricula vitae of TPE's validation team members, technical experts and internal technical reviewers**

*Please attach certificates or curricula vitae of TPE's validation team members, technical experts and internal technical reviewers.*

Shawn McMahon

Position: Lead Verifier

Education: Bachelor of Science –Forest Resource Management

Years of Experience: 20+

Matthew Campbell

Position: Team Member

Education: Master of Science –Environmental Studies

Years of Experience: 7

Sandesh Shrestha

Position: Team Member

Education: Master of Science –Forest Resources

Years of Experience: 7

Lakhena Chan

Position: In-country specialist and representative of Aster Global

Neab Keng

Position: In-country specialist and representative of Aster Global