

### **Decision on interim special measure for on-site assessment by TPEs**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Joint Committee between Laos and Japan (JC) decided to ease requirements on an on-site visit of the first verification by a third-party entity (TPE) as a temporary measure effective from 23 March until 31 December 2022.

If an on-site visit for the first verification assessment cannot be conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a TPE may use other appropriate auditing techniques for verification, as referred to in section 8.1.2. of the “Joint Crediting Mechanism Guidelines for Validation and Verification (version01.0) (VVG)”.

In the above regard, the JC decided to allow until 31 December 2022, to deviate from the requirements in para 84 of the VVG. Where the TPE relies on this temporary measure, it describes in the verification report the alternative means used and justifies that they are credible and sufficient for the purpose of verification and that the on-site visit cannot be conducted.