

CDM-EB83-AA-A04

Concept note

Non-binding best practice examples within the CDM methodologies

Version 01.1



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1. Procedural background

1. At its eighty-first meeting (EB 81), the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism (CDM) (hereinafter referred to as the Board) considered the recommendations from the Methodologies Panel (Meth Panel) and the Small-Scale Working Group (SSC WG), to develop non-binding best practice examples for certain requirements of methodologies, building on the project registration experience of the secretariat and taking into account common pitfalls in the application of methodologies. The Board agreed to the insertion of non-binding best practice examples within the CDM methodologies, which was also included in the CDM Executive Board workplan for 2015 adopted at EB 82. The Board requested the secretariat to work in consultation with the Meth Panel and the SSC WG to define the criteria for the selection of priority methodologies that will be revised to include non-binding best practice examples and recommend a list of methodologies for work in 2015, for the consideration of the Board at a future meeting.
2. In line with the above mandate, the secretariat proposes to include the following criteria for the selection of priority methodologies and a list of methodologies for work in 2015 in consultation with the Meth Panel and the SSC WG.

2. Purpose

3. The work aims at developing 1) the criteria for the selection of priority methodologies to include non-binding best practice examples for certain requirements of methodologies, and 2) a list of methodologies for work in 2015 based on the criteria.

3. Approach

4. There are 90 large-scale, 23 consolidated large-scale and 93 small-scale methodologies approved by the Board. In order to recommend a priority list of methodologies for 2015, four criteria which the Meth Panel and the SSC WG endorsed are elucidated below

3.1. Criteria

3.1.1. Criterion 1: Methodologies that were most used, are being used and likely to be used

5. One of the criteria for the selection of priority methodologies is to identify demand for the approved methodologies. In the first step, the most commonly used methodologies based on their application in the past, present and potentially in the future are analysed. Appendix 1 and appendix 2 present the top 20 most used methodologies by registered CDM project activities (PAs) and programmes of activities (PoAs) up to 1 February 2015. In order to capture the methodologies being used by the new CDM project activities, those that are currently at the validation phase have been analysed and the 20 most used methodologies have been identified and presented in appendix 3. Regarding the methodologies used in the PoAs, while a few large-scale methodologies are used or are being used by the PoA developers majority apply small-scale methodologies. The number of registered PoAs is smaller than the PAs above; however, the coordinating/managing entity or project participants can include an unlimited number of component project activities (CPAs) under one PoA during the crediting period once the

PoA is registered. Compared to PAs, about a third of the registered PoAs are implemented in least developed countries (LDCs) out of total 63 host countries listed. Lastly, the registered CDM projects that require a renewal of crediting period from 2015 to 2017 have been analysed in appendix 4 in order to analyse the future demand for the methodologies.

3.1.2. Criterion 2: Number of methodological issues identified during request for registration and issuance

6. The number of methodological issues was analysed by reviewing the issues identified at the information and reporting check and request for review by the Board of the request for registration and issuance submitted between 2012 and 2014. The number and reasons for the submissions being found “incomplete” at the “information and reporting” stage and “requests for review” at the request for registration and/or issuance stages were analysed and are tabulated in appendices 5 and 6.

3.1.3. Criterion 3: Methodologies with a high number of requests for clarification

7. In the period of 2012–2014, there were 92 requests for clarification on small-scale methodologies and 40 requests on large-scale methodologies.

3.1.3.1. Small-scale

8. Among the 92 requests for clarification, AMS-II.G has the highest number of requests for clarification of eight, followed by AMS-I.C and AMS-III.Q with seven each. The list of methodologies with the highest numbers is shown in appendix 7.

3.1.3.2. Large-scale

9. Among the 40 large-scale methodologies, ACM0012 version 4 has the highest number of requests for clarification (i.e. eight requests) and five methodologies with specific versions have two requests for clarification each, while the remaining 22 requests can be classified as one request per specific version of a methodology. The only exception is for ACM0002, where there are six clarification requests, of which two are specific for ACM0002 v13 (listed in a separate row in appendix 7), one request each for v9 and v10, and the remaining two are general queries, i.e. not specific to any version and hence counted separately. It may be noted that except for ACM0002, all the versions of the above methodologies are the most recent versions. Regarding ACM0002, the most recent version is version 16.

3.1.4. Criterion 4: Methodologies with post-registration change (PRC)

10. In the period of 2012–2014, there were 58 PRCs to projects applying small-scale methodologies and 280 PRCs to projects applying large-scale methodologies.

3.1.4.1. Small-scale

11. Of 58 requests for PRCs with small-scale methodologies, AMS-I.D has the highest number of requests for PRCs with 82. AMS-I.C has 14, a combination of AMS-ID and AMS-III.H has 12 requests while the remaining methodologies have fewer than 10 requests each for PRCs. The top 10 methodologies with the highest number of requests are presented in appendix 8.

3.1.4.2. Large-scale

12. Among 280 requests for PRCs, ACM0002 has the highest number of requests for PRCs with 152 requests mainly due to changes in substation, calibration frequency or class of meter, and ACM0001 ranks second with 20 PRCs. The remaining methodologies have fewer than 10 requests each for PRCs. The top 10 methodologies with the highest number of requests are listed in appendix 8. The methodologies that are no longer active or consolidated into other methodologies have not been included in the appendix.

3.2. Priority list of methodologies for 2015

13. According to the results of the analysis based on the above criteria, where large-scale methodologies are identified most frequently across the various criteria, the priority list of methodologies recommended for including non-binding best practice examples is shown below, covering 10 methodologies, of which two – ACM0001 and ACM0012 – were considered priority/pilot methodologies. Further, the Meth Panel agreed that work on the methodologies ACM0001 and ACM0012 should be prioritized to benefit from some groundwork that has already been done and subsequently other methodologies from the list of 10 would be taken up for work during the year depending on resource availability.

Table 1. Priority list of large-scale methodologies

| Methodology | Number of registration | Number of project at validation | Number of renewal expected during 2015-17 | Number of PoA Registration /at validation | Number of methodological issues | Number of clarification | Number of PRC |
|------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| ACM0001 | 228 | 18 | 44 | 6/4 | 55 | 2 | 20 |
| ACM0012 | 143 | 59 | 17 | 0/1 | 69 | 8 | 8 |
| ACM0002 | 3,149 | 248 | 593 | 44/7 | 19 | 6 | 152 |
| ACM0005 | 17 | 2 | - | - | 9 | - | - |
| ACM0006 | 127 | 31 | 33 | 1/0 | 21 | - | 6 |
| ACM0007 | 15 | 5 | 3 | - | 18 | - | 3 |
| ACM0008 | 83 | 28 | 15 | 2/3 | 34 | - | 7 |
| ACM0013 | 6 | 21 | - | - | 7 | - | 4 |
| AM0029 | 56 | 22 | 26 | 0/1 | 20 | - | - |
| AM0034 / ACM0019 | 54/25 | 2 | 34 | - | 26 | 0/2 | - |

14. According to the results of the analysis based on the above criteria, where small-scale methodologies are identified, the priority list of methodologies recommended constitutes 11 methodologies, of which two – AMS-III.H and AMS-III.D – are considered priority/pilot methodologies based on inputs from the Small Scale Working Group (SSC WG). Furthermore the SSC WG noted that the Meth Panel has recommended ACM0001 and ACM0012 for prioritising, which are similar to AMS-III.G and AMS-III.Q respectively. Further, the SSC WG recommended that other methodologies such as AMS-II.G and AMS-II.D from the list of 11 should be taken up for work during the year depending on resource availability.

Table 2. Priority list of small-scale methodologies

| Methodology | Number of registration | Number of project at validation | Number of renewal expected during 2015-17 | Number of PoA Registration /at validation | Number of methodological issues | Number of clarification | Number of PRC |
|-------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| AMS-III.H | 151 | 17 | 47 | 8/5 | 60 | 5 | 3 (19) ¹ |
| AMS-III.D | 165 | 10 | 33 | 13/3 | 28 | 3 | 5 |
| AMS-I.C | 251 | 78 | 22 | 12/10 | 35 | 7 | 14 |
| AMS-I.D | 1930 | 229 | 356 | 39/13 | 36 | 4 | 82 |
| AMS-II.D | 53 | 22 | 1 | 2/3 | 44 | 4 | 4 |
| AMS-II.E | 15 | 6 | 0 | 1/4 | 12 | 3 | 1 |
| AMS-II.G | 34 | 2 | 0 | 42/10 | 17 | 8 | 0 |
| AMS-II.J | 36 | 2 | 0 | 20/4 | 21 | 1 | 3 |
| AMS-III.E | 32 | 6 | 4 | 0/0 | 8 | 1 | 2 |
| AMS-III.G | 23 | 3 | 0 | 0/0 | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| AMS-III.Q | 43 | 23 | 2 | 0/0 | 40 | 7 | 1 |

4. Impacts

15. Project participants and designated operational entities (DOEs) that aim to utilize the methodologies will benefit from having non-binding best practice examples in the methodologies. The non-binding best practice examples will reduce instances of misinterpretation and enhance the understanding of the requirements. This understanding will reduce the number of documents deemed incomplete at the “information and reporting” and “request for review” stage at the request for registration and issuance on areas related to methodological requirements.

5. Subsequent work and timelines

16. Based on the Board’s decision on the criteria and the list, the secretariat will propose a revision to the methodologies including non-binding best practice examples for consideration by the Meth Panel and the SSC WG during their respective meetings scheduled to be held in June 2015. A public call for input will precede the recommendation of revised methodologies by the Meth Panel and the SSC WG for consideration by the Board ~~at EB-86~~.

¹ 19 PRCs include 12 PRC cases with AMS-I.D and AMS-III.H and seven PRC cases with AMS-III.H and AMS-I.C.

| Product | EB83 | EB84 | EB85 | EB86 | EB87 |
|---|--------------------------|------|--|--|--|
| Non-binding best practice examples in methodologies | Concept (panel/WG input) | | Final (through panel /WG report, preceded by call) | Final (through panel /WG report, preceded by call) | Final (through panel /WG report, preceded by call) |

6. Recommendations to the Board

17. Based on the criteria for selection of methodologies as outlined in section 3 above, the secretariat recommends the methodologies ACM0001, ACM0012, AMS-III.H and AMS-III.D as being priorities for inclusion of non-binding best practice examples. Other methodologies from the Table 1 and 2 can be taken up for work during the year depending on resource availability.

Appendix 1. Top 20 methodologies used by the registered CDM projects¹

| Large-scale Methodology | No. of registered projects | Small-scale Methodology | No. of registered projects |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| ACM0002 | 3149 | AMS-I.D | 1930 |
| ACM0001 | 228 | AMS-I.C | 251 |
| ACM0012 | 143 | AMS-III.D. | 165 |
| ACM0006 | 127 | AMS-III.H | 151 |
| <i>ACM0004</i> ² | 104 | AMS-III.F | 54 |
| ACM0008 | 83 | AMS-II.D | 53 |
| <i>AM0025</i> ³ | 65 | AMS-III.Q | 43 |
| AM0029 | 56 | AMS-II.J | 36 |
| ACM0018 | 55 | AMS-II.G | 34 |
| <i>AM0034</i> ⁴ | 54 | AMS-I.F | 32 |
| <i>AM0016</i> ⁵ | 40 | AMS-III.E | 32 |
| ACM0014 | 27 | AMS-I.A. | 26 |
| ACM0019 | 25 | AMS-III.G | 23 |
| ACM0003 | 23 | AMS-III.B | 20 |
| AM0028 | 21 | AMS-I.E | 19 |
| ACM0005 | 17 | AR-AMS1 | 17 |
| ACM0007 | 15 | AMS-II.E. | 15 |
| <i>AM0024</i> ⁶ | 12 | AMS-II.B. | 11 |
| AM0018 | 10 | AMS-II.C | 11 |
| ACM0010 | 9 | AMS-III.Z | 7 |

¹ Source: CDM pipeline <<http://www.cdmpipeline.org/>>.

² ACM0004 was replaced by ACM0012.

³ AM0025 was replaced by ACM0022.

⁴ AM0034 was replaced by ACM0019.

⁵ AM0016 was withdrawn.

⁶ AM0024 was replaced by ACM0012.

Appendix 2. Methodologies used by projects at validation¹

| Large-scale methodology | No. of projects at validation | Small-scale methodology | No. of projects at validation |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ACM0002 | 248 | AMS-I.D | 229 |
| ACM0012 | 59 | AMS-I.C | 78 |
| ACM0006 | 31 | AMS-III.Q | 23 |
| ACM0008 | 28 | AMS-II.D | 22 |
| AM0029 | 22 | AMS-III.H | 17 |
| ACM0013 | 21 | AMS-III.D | 10 |
| ACM0001 | 18 | AMS-III.Z | 10 |
| ACM0018 | 17 | AR-AMS0007 | 10 |
| AM0025 | 9 | AMS-I.F | 8 |
| ACM0014 | 8 | AMS-II.C | 7 |
| ACM0007 | 5 | AMS-II.B | 6 |
| ACM0022 | 3 | AMS-II.E | 6 |
| ACM0010 | 2 | AMS-III.E | 6 |
| ACM0015 | 2 | AMS-III.F | 6 |
| ACM0017 | 2 | AMS-II.H | 5 |
| ACM0021 | 2 | AMS-I.A | 4 |
| ACM0003 | 2 | AMS-I.E | 3 |
| ACM0004 | 2 | AMS-III.AR | 3 |
| ACM0005 | 2 | AMS-III.B | 3 |
| AM0034 | 2 | AMS-III.G | 3 |
| | | AMS-II.G | 2 |
| | | AMS-II.J | 2 |

¹ Source: CDM pipeline <<http://www.cdmpipeline.org/>>.

Appendix 3. Methodologies used by PoAs¹

| Registered PoAs | | Validating PoAs | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Methodology | Number of PoAs | Methodology | Number of PoAs |
| ACM0002 | 44 | AMS-I.D | 13 |
| AMS-II.G | 42 | AMS-II.G | 10 |
| AMS-I.D | 39 | AMS-I.C | 10 |
| AMS-II.J | 20 | AMS-II.C | 7 |
| AMS-III.D | 13 | ACM0002 | 7 |
| AMS-I.C | 12 | AMS-III.AR | 6 |
| AMS-I.E | 10 | AMS-III.H | 5 |
| AMS-II.C | 9 | AMS-II.J | 4 |
| AMS-III.AR | 8 | AMS-II.E | 4 |
| AMS-III.H | 8 | AMS-I.F | 4 |
| AMS-III.AV | 7 | ACM0001 | 4 |
| AMS-III.F | 7 | AMS-III.D | 3 |
| ACM0001 | 6 | AMS-II.D | 3 |
| AMS-I.F | 6 | AM0025 | 3 |
| AMS-III.R | 6 | ACM0008 | 3 |
| AMS-I.J | 4 | AMS-I.J | 2 |
| AM0009 | 3 | AMS-III.F | 2 |
| AMS-II.A | 3 | AMS-III.B | 2 |
| ACM0008 | 2 | AMS-III.AV | 2 |
| AMS-II.D | 2 | AMS-I.E | 2 |
| AMS-II.K | 2 | AMS-I.B | 2 |
| AMS-III.B | 2 | AMS-I.A | 2 |
| ACM0014 | 1 | ACM0024 | 2 |
| ACM0016 | 1 | AM0062 | 1 |
| ACM0018 | 1 | AM0029 | 1 |
| ACM0006 | 1 | ACM0018 | 1 |
| AM0025 | 1 | ACM0012 | 1 |
| AM0067 | 1 | AMS-I.L | 1 |
| AMS-II.E | 1 | AMS-II.E | 4 |
| AMS-III.E | 0 | AMS-III.E | 0 |

¹ Source: CDM pipeline <<http://www.cdmpipeline.org/>>.

Appendix 4. Methodologies by registered projects which require the renewal of a crediting period during 2015–2017

| Large-scale methodology | Number of submissions expected | Small-scale methodology | Number of submissions expected |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ACM0002 | 593 | AMS-I.D | 356 |
| ACM0001 | 44 | AMS-III.H | 47 |
| ACM0019 (projects are registered with AM0034) | 34 | AMS-III.D | 33 |
| ACM0006 | 33 | AMS-I.C | 22 |
| AM0029 | 26 | AMS-III.F | 12 |
| ACM0012 | 17 | AMS-III.E | 4 |
| ACM0008 | 15 | AMS-I.A | 4 |
| AM0025 | 8 | AMS-II.C | 2 |
| ACM0014 (projects are registered with AM0022) | 4 | AMS-III.Q | 2 |
| ACM0007 | 3 | AMS-II.D | 1 |
| | | AMS-II.E | 0 |
| | | AMS-II.G | 0 |
| | | AMS-II.J | 0 |

Appendix 5. Number of methodological issues for request for registration (2012–2014)

| Large-scale methodology | Number of issues | Small-scale methodology | Number of issues |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| ACM0012 | 54 | AMS-III.H | 50 |
| ACM0001 | 41 | AMS-III.Q | 38 |
| ACM0008 | 26 | AMS-I.D | 29 |
| AM0025 | 16 | AMS-I.C | 22 |
| ACM0007 | 13 | AMS-II.D | 22 |
| AM0029 | 15 | AMS-III.G | 15 |
| ACM0005 | 7 | AMS-II.G | 14 |
| ACM0002 | 9 | AMS-III.Z | 14 |
| ACM0013 | 7 | AMS-II.J | 13 |
| ACM0003 | 5 | AMS-II.E | 12 |
| ACM0006 | 4 | AMS-III.C | 12 |
| ACM0017 | 4 | AMS-III.D | 11 |
| ACM0014 | 3 | AMS-II.C | 9 |
| ACM0022 | 3 | AMS-III.B | 9 |
| AM0034 | 3 | AMS-II.B | 6 |
| ACM0015 | 1 | AMS-III.E | 5 |
| ACM0018 | 1 | AMS-II.H | 5 |
| ACM0004 | 0 | AMS-III.AL | 5 |
| ACM0010 | 0 | AMS-I.E | 4 |
| ACM0019 | 0 | AMS-II.K | 4 |
| ACM0021 | 0 | AMS-II.Q | 2 |
| AM0016 | 0 | AMS-III.F | 2 |
| AM0018 | 0 | AMS-III.U | 1 |
| AM0024 | 0 | AMS-I.F | 0 |
| AM0028 | 0 | AMS-III.AD | 0 |
| | | AMS-III.AT | 0 |

Appendix 6. Number of methodological issues for request for issuance (2012–2014)

| Large-scale methodology | Number of issues | Small-scale methodology | Number of issues |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| AM0034 | 23 | AMS-II.D | 22 |
| ACM0004 | 18 | AMS-III.D | 17 |
| ACM0006 | 17 | AMS-I.C | 13 |
| ACM0012 | 15 | AMS-III.H | 10 |
| AM0016 | 15 | AMS-II.J | 8 |
| ACM0001 | 14 | AMS-I.D | 7 |
| ACM0005 | 2 | AMS-II.H | 7 |
| ACM0007 | 5 | AMS-II.B | 4 |
| ACM0002 | 10 | AMS-III.E | 3 |
| ACM0003 | 9 | AMS-II.G | 3 |
| AM0025 | 9 | AMS-III.F | 3 |
| ACM0008 | 8 | AMS-III.AD | 2 |
| AM0028 | 7 | AMS-III.Q | 2 |
| AM0029 | 5 | AMS-II.C | 1 |
| ACM0019 | 3 | AMS-III.B | 1 |
| AM0024 | 2 | AMS-III.U | 1 |
| ACM0014 | 1 | AMS-I.E | 0 |
| ACM0010 | 0 | AMS-I.F | 0 |
| ACM0013 | 0 | AMS-II.E | 0 |
| ACM0015 | 0 | AMS-II.K | 0 |
| ACM0017 | 0 | AMS-II.Q | 0 |
| ACM0018 | 0 | AMS-III.AL | 0 |
| ACM0021 | 0 | AMS-III.AT | 0 |
| ACM0022 | 0 | AMS-III.C | 0 |
| AM0018 | 0 | AMS-III.G | 0 |
| | | AMS-III.Z | 0 |

Appendix 7. Small-scale and large-scale methodologies with a high number of clarifications

| Large-scale methodology | No. of clarifications | Small-scale methodology | No. of clarifications |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| ACM0012 ver. 4 | 8 | AMS-II.G | 8 |
| ACM0001 ver. 15 | 2 | AMS-I.C | 7 |
| ACM0002 | 2 | AMS-III.Q | 7 |
| ACM0002 ver. 9 | 1 | AMS-III.H | 5 |
| ACM0002 ver. 10 | 1 | AMS-II.D | 4 |
| ACM0002 ver. 13 | 2 | AMS-I.D | 4 |
| ACM0019 | 2 | AMS-II.C | 3 |
| AM0090 | 2 | AMS-III.D | 3 |
| | | AMS-I.A | 2 |
| | | AMS-II.E ver. 10 AMS-II.Q | 2 |
| | | AMS-III.AR | 2 |
| | | AMS-III.AV | 2 |
| | | AMS-III.F | 2 |
| | | AMS-II.E | 1 |
| | | AMS-II.J | 1 |
| | | AMS-III.E | 1 |

Appendix 8. Small-scale and large-scale methodologies with a high number of post-registration changes (PRCs)

| Small-scale methodology | No. of PRCs | Large-scale methodology | No. of PRCs |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| AMS-I.D | 82 | ACM0002 | 152 |
| AMS-I.C | 14 | ACM0001 | 20 |
| AMS-I.D + AMS-III.H | 12 | ACM0012 | 8 |
| AMS-III.F | 8 | ACM0008 | 7 |
| AMS-III.D | 5 | ACM0001 + ACM0002 | 6 |
| AMS-III.H + AMS-I.C | 4 | ACM0006 | 6 |
| AMS-II.D | 4 | ACM0002 + ACM0006 | 4 |
| AMS-III.H + AMS-I.D | 3 | AM0013 | 4 |
| AMS-III.H | 3 | ACM0007 | 3 |
| AMS-II.J | 3 | AM0036 | 3 |
| AMS-III.E | 2 | | |
| AMS-II.E | 1 | | |
| AMS-III.Q | 1 | | |
| AMS-II.G | 0 | | |

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