

## Application of the Oeko-Institut/WWF-US/ EDF methodology for assessing the quality of carbon credits

This document presents results from the application of version 3.0 of a methodology, developed by Oeko-Institut, World Wildlife Fund (WWF-US) and Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), for assessing the quality of carbon credits. The methodology is applied by Oeko-Institut with support by Carbon Limits, Greenhouse Gas Management Institute (GHGMI), INFRAS, Stockholm Environment Institute, and individual carbon market experts. This document evaluates one specific criterion or sub-criterion with respect to a specific carbon crediting program, project type, quantification methodology and/or host country, as specified in the below table. Please note that the CCQI website [Site terms and Privacy Policy](#) apply with respect to any use of the information provided in this document. Further information on the project and the methodology can be found here: [www.carboncreditquality.org](http://www.carboncreditquality.org)

Criterion:	<a href="#">7.2 Stringency and coverage of the host country's current NDC</a>
Host country:	<a href="#">India</a>
Date of final assessment:	<a href="#">20 May 2022</a>
Score:	<a href="#">Efficient cookstoves: 1</a> <a href="#">Establishment of natural forest: 1</a> <a href="#">Landfill gas utilization: 1</a>

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## Assessment

### Relevant scoring methodology provisions

The scoring approach assesses the stringency and coverage of the host country's current NDC. The scoring consists of several steps. First, it is determined whether the emission reductions or removals of the project or project type are covered by the host country's NDC. If this is the case, the second step is to assess the extent to which the NDC target deviates from the level of emissions that would most likely occur in the target year or period with current policies. The third step is optional and includes an evaluation of the likelihood that the emission reductions from the project or project activity are visible in the GHG emissions reported by the country to track progress towards its NDC. Finally, it is assessed if any reversals are likely to be accounted and compensated for by the host country. See more details on the scoring approach in the methodology.

### Information sources considered

1. India's first NDC which has been communicated to the UNFCCC secretariat on 2 October 2016.  
<https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/India%20First/INDIA%20INDC%20TO%20UNFCCC.pdf>
2. Climate Action Tracker assessment for the NDC of India.  
<https://climateactiontracker.org/countries/india/>

### Assessment outcome

The host country is assigned the following scores for the respective project types:

- Efficient cookstoves: 1
- Establishment of natural forest: 1
- Landfill gas utilization: 1

### Justification of assessment

This evaluation includes steps 1, 2 and 4 of the methodology, noting that step 3 is optional. The methodology is applied at the level of project types (efficient cookstoves, establishment of natural forest, landfill gas utilization), and not at the level of individual projects.

#### *Step 1*

The exact coverage of the first NDC of India (Source 1) is unclear. The includes three main targets:

- To reduce emissions intensity by 33% to 35% by 2030 compared to 2005 levels;
- To increase the share of non-fossil-based energy resources to 40% of installed electric power capacity by 2030;

- To create an additional (cumulative) carbon sink of 2.5–3 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.

We assume for our analysis that all three project types (efficient cookstoves, establishment of natural forest and landfill gas utilization) are covered by the NDC.

#### *Step 2*

Data from Climate Action Tracker (Source 2) is used to assess the degree to which the NDC target deviates from the emissions level that would most likely occur in the target year or period with policies in place at the time of communicating the NDC.

We use the current policy projections for India from the Climate Action Tracker assessment dated 30 April 2018. This is the earliest assessment by the Climate Action Tracker following the publication of India's first NDC on 2 October 2016 for which the underlying data is available for download. The policy and action projections for 2030 are compared to the emission level of the most ambitious of the NDC targets as assessed by Climate Action Tracker (i.e., the electric power capacity target of 40% installed capacity from non-fossil-based energy resources by 2030).

The assessment by the Climate Action Tracker does not provide emission projections for LULUCF emissions. Indeed, emission projections from the LULUCF sector can be associated with large uncertainties. Due to this uncertainty and the unavailability data with LULUCF emissions, the ambition of the NDC target is here assessed based on emissions data without the LULUCF sector. As a consequence, the overall level of ambition for the NDC target, which includes LULUCF emissions, will not be fully reflected in this assessment.

The Climate Action Tracker estimates that BAU emissions with current policies and actions for 2030 (excluding LULUCF) are likely to correspond to an emissions range between 5,082 and 5,204 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e (Source 2). We use here the average of these two values (5,143 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e) as the most likely BAU emissions. According to Climate Action Tracker, the electric power electricity target for 2030 corresponds to an emissions range between 5,321 and 5,399 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e (excluding LULUCF) (Source 2). We use here the average emissions level of 5,360 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e (excluding LULUCF). This is 4% above the likely BAU emissions in 2030 (excluding LULUCF). Applying the scoring approach set out in the methodology, this results in a score of 1.

#### *Step 4*

Information in the first NDC of India (Source 1) is used to assess whether the country fully accounts for natural disturbances and whether the country has a multi-year target or uses a multi-year trajectory or budget for NDC accounting purposes.

- Consideration of natural disturbances: There is no information included in the first NDC of India on how to account for natural disturbances. It can therefore be concluded that provisions are not currently in place to address emission changes due to natural disturbances.
- Use of multi-year approaches: No reference is made to the establishment of a multi-year trajectory or budget. In this regard, the NDC only accounts for emissions in 2030.

Since both questions have been answered negatively, the score from the previous step would be downgraded by one point; however, based on Step 2, India already receives the lowest grading resulting in a final score of 1.