



Gold Standard Academy

Top-down Methodologies

Matt Spannagle

Technical Manager, MDG Carbon Facility

&

Technical Advisory Committee Member, Gold Standard

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**"Snowmageddon" in eastern US,
heaviest snowfall in the American capital since records began.**

Authorities have blamed the storm for hundreds of accidents,... Hundreds of thousands of people have also been without electricity,... Airlines have cancelled flights and buses and trains in the Washington area have been suspended.

The blizzard comes less than two months after a storm dumped more than 40cm snow on DC. Snowfalls of this magnitude, let alone two in one winter, are rare in the area. According to the National Weather Service, Washington has received more than a foot of snow only 13 times since 1870.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/feb/06/snowmageddon-washington-blizzard-standstill>

In spite of skeptic rhetoric, warmer climate overall (but still < 0) = higher moisture content = higher snowfall. Exactly as predicted by climate models.



The merchant vessel *Fraternity* passed Nowaja Zemlya, regarded by Russia as the official exit point of the Northern Sea Route, in September 2009.



> 2bn people have biomass as their primary energy source

Environmental integrity ≠ high transaction cost

Project interventions have barely scratched surface

Gold Standard strategy is to facilitate scale-up, while maintaining environmental integrity

Starting point - avoid 'carbon layer' transaction costs as barrier to implementation.

- have VERY SIMPLE, but conservative approach,
- allow more sophisticated users to use more complex but less conservative approach if they want

Micro-scale as 'test-bed'

- Suppressed demand
- Deemed
- Positive lists

energy efficient cookstove methodology, micro-scale

Why Cookstove projects?

- Volume
- Co-benefits
- Carbon finance can make the difference?

Business models...? NGOs? Involvement of 'carbon consultants'?

Does it matter if its NRB or not?

If it is NRB, then ERs are happening

- If NOT NRB, but you reduce the use of Renewable biomass, then either:
 - More biomass grows, > C storage (afforestation etc)
 - The biomass is used for another productive purpose (development), potentially offsetting fossil fuels elsewhere
- The ONLY case in which reduced burning of biomass does NOT result in 'real' ERs/sequestration, is if the ICS results in excess biomass being 'burnt in the field', ie – wasted (rare!).

Objectives of top-down methodology

SIMPLIFY!

- The meth should be short, in legible English.
- Provide a list of countries for which biomass is automatically considered NRB based on FAO/satellite data (near all Africa)
- simple default factors (say, 0.8 or 0.9) for non-list countries
- Have conservative default factors that are very simple for given conditions:
 - Eg: 1tCO₂e/stove/year for stoves with efficiency > x%
 - 2tCO₂e/stove/year for stoves with efficiency > y%, etc
- Monitoring essentially only annual check still operating

SIMPLIFY!

- Sampling guidance should be short, in legible English.
- Provide a look-up table of sampling numbers required

Eg:

N (number of ICSs)	S (sample size required)
< 50	N or > 20 (whichever is larger)
50-100	>30
100-500	>50
>500	>(50 + 1 for each 100 above 500)

[show DRAFT meth]