

Expert Assessment Template Commodities/ Jurisdictions Approach

Jurisdictional Program assessed: _____

Assessment Team: 1st Round: _____

2nd Round: _____

Overall Assessment Instructions

The Commodities/Jurisdictions Approach is based upon a series of criteria and subquestions that were developed in line with existing standards and global guidelines. The assessment process relies on your expert judgement as to whether the jurisdictional forest and climate program noted above meets these criteria and related subquestions. In addition, we ask that you determine to what degree the jurisdictional program meets the criteria and provides information consistent with the requirements listed below.

Each criterion and subquestion should be assessed according to the following scoring guide:

GREEN: *Fully met. The jurisdictional program meets the criteria or provides the required information.*

YELLOW: *Partially met. The jurisdictional program meets related criteria or provides relevant information, but is not fully consistent with the criterion or question.*

ORANGE: *Not met. The jurisdictional program does not meet related criteria or provide the specified information.*

Please note that subquestions (e.g. 1.1, 1.2) for each criterion (e.g. 1) must be rated before the criterion itself can be rated.

Structure of the Assessment Table

The Assessment Table contains the following components to be used by assessors:

1. **Criterion** or subquestion to be assessed (middle column)
2. **Assessment** score for each criterion/subquestion provided by the assessor (right column)
3. **Quick Guidance** on scoring for each criterion/subquestion (left column). This guidance is broken down into subsections marked by letters [(a), (b), (c), etc.] to be used for referencing. For full explanations, context, and guidance on scoring, please consult the Expert Assessment Guide.
4. **Explanation** box (underneath each criterion/subquestion) for assessors to provide explanations and references to justify their rating. Please keep explanations succinct and clear. For example:

While the program meets (a) and (c) – an action plan has been developed and has been recognized by the national government – it does not meet (b) because it only covers two states within the jurisdiction, and does not meet (d) because only the first phase has been implemented.

Below each criterion in the “Supporting text” box, please copy-paste relevant information from the supporting documents submitted by each jurisdiction. Please note references according to the following short titles of the documents attached with this Assessment Packet:

Supporting Documents for CJA Assessment

CJA Criteria:	Document Number(s):	Documentation Submitted (<i>Short Title</i>):
Criterion 1	1A 1B etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documented strategy to reduce deforestation, guiding REDD+ documents, or sustainable landscapes national or sub-national action plan (<i>Action Plan</i>)
Criterion 2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of jurisdictional reference level (<i>FREL</i>) Details on national or subnational MRV system (<i>MRV Plan</i>) Schedule of results reporting, applicable criteria or standards (<i>Reporting Plan</i>)
Criterion 3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of national policies, laws, regulations pertaining to social and environmental safeguards; Jurisdictional program safeguards plan/approach to environmental and social safeguards, National Safeguard Information System submissions to UNFCCC.
Criterion 4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National commitment to jurisdictional program International initiatives that partner / support to jurisdictional program
Criterion 5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on stakeholder engagement processes and consultations, and list of participating stakeholders; Stakeholder consultation and engagement plan for the duration of implementation, including a grievance redress mechanism.

Assessment Table for Criterion 1

Quick Guidance	Criteria and Subquestions	Assessment (Green, Yellow, Orange)
<p>GREEN: Fully met. The jurisdictional program fully meets the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>Subquestions 1.1 and 1.2 must be Green in order for Criterion 1 to be Green. Subquestion 1.3 must be Green or Yellow in order for Criterion 1 to be Green.</p> <p>YELLOW: Partially met. The jurisdictional program partially meets the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>Criterion 1 should be marked Yellow if either subquestion 1.1 or 1.2 is marked Yellow.</p> <p>ORANGE: Not met. The jurisdictional program does not yet meet the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>Criterion 1 should be marked Orange if either subquestion 1.1 or 1.2 is marked Orange.</p>	<p>Criterion 1: A strategy for how to reduce emissions from forests and other lands whilst increasing agricultural productivity and improving livelihoods</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	
<p>GREEN: A strategy or action plan (a) has been developed, (b) covers the whole jurisdiction, (c) is recognized by the relevant government, and (d) is largely under implementation.</p> <p>YELLOW: The program meets (a), above, but does not meet (b), (c), and/or (d)</p> <p>ORANGE: A plan has not been developed [i.e. does not meet (a), above]</p>	<p>1.1 Is a strategy or action plan to reduce deforestation adopted and being implemented for the entirety of the relevant national-scale or subnational jurisdiction? (Jurisdiction is defined in this case as a full country, or one or more politically-defined areas that are no more than one administrative level below the national level, e.g. a state or province. Note that while policy measures, monitoring, and safeguards should cover a full jurisdiction, on the ground activities may cover only specific portions of the jurisdiction.)</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	
<p>GREEN: The plan (a) identifies forest-related emissions, and its proposal can reasonably be expected to result in reduced emissions beyond the life of the program. (b) The plan identifies the main drivers of</p>	<p>1.2 Does this strategy or action plan contain a feasible plan for how emissions reductions from forests will be achieved in the jurisdiction, including by addressing the main drivers of deforestation?</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	

<p>deforestation and emissions, and (c) presents approaches to address them.</p> <p>YELLOW: The plan meets (a), above. However, it does not meet (b) and/or (c) above</p> <p>ORANGE: The plan does not meet (a) above, and does not meet (b) and/or (c) as well</p>		
<p>GREEN: Implementation of the plan would (a) permit continuation or enhancement of agricultural production, while (b) protecting standing forests. The plan (c) specifically addresses agriculture.</p> <p>YELLOW: The plan (d) does not impede or clearly constrain agricultural production. However, (a) or (c), above, may not be met.</p> <p>ORANGE: The plan (e) might impede or constrain agricultural production.</p>	<p>1.3 Are the results of the program expected to include the continuation/ enhancement of agriculture, while protecting standing forests? (For example, does the program envision the continuation of agriculture, or include elements such as land use planning, enforcement, and technical assistance on agricultural productivity?)</p>	
<p>Explanation:</p>		

<p>Supporting text <i>Copy relevant text from submitted documents below to demonstrate the basis of scoring decisions above</i></p>		
<p>Criterion</p>	<p>Relevant text</p>	<p>Reference</p>
<p>1</p>		

Assessment Table for Criterion 2

Quick Guidance	Criteria and Subquestions	Assessment (Green, Yellow, Orange)
<p>GREEN: Fully met. The jurisdictional program fully meets the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>Subquestions 2.1 -2.6 must be Green in order for Criterion 1 to be Green.</p> <p>YELLOW: Partially met. The jurisdictional program partially meets the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>Criterion 2 should be marked Yellow if any subquestion from 2.1-2.6 is marked Yellow.</p> <p>ORANGE: Not met. The jurisdictional program does not yet meet the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>Criterion 2 should be marked Orange if any subquestion from 2.1-2.6 is marked Orange.</p>	<p>Criterion 2: A system for measuring and monitoring reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and an established baseline</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	
<p>GREEN: The program (a) has a REDD+ or other landscape-level reference level. This reference level (b) covers the entire jurisdiction, (c) will serve as the benchmark for the strategy/plan from Criterion 1, (d) is measured in CO2 equivalent, and (e) is not expected to change during the program implementation period other than technical corrections</p> <p>YELLOW: A reference level is (e) in an advanced stage of development but not yet finalized. It meets (b), (c), and (d), above.</p> <p>ORANGE: The program does not meet (a) or (e) above, or it does not meet (b) or (d).</p>	<p>2.1 Has reference level (measured in tonnes of CO2e) been finalized by the jurisdictional program?</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	
<p>GREEN: The reference level (a) has been reviewed or assessed by independent 3rd party</p>	<p>2.2 Has this reference level been assessed and approved by an independent 3rd party?</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	

<p>experts, and (b) the experts have approved and affirmed that the reference level meets good practice guidelines. Examples: certification validation, major multi/bilateral results-based payment program, or other endorsement of quality.</p> <p>YELLOW: The reference level meets (a) but not (b) above. Example: Technically assessment of REDD+ levels under the UNFCCC do not include official approval.</p> <p>ORANGE: The reference level does not meet (a), above, or (c) has been found inconsistent with best practices.</p>		
<p>GREEN: The program (a) has a system to measure, monitor, and report forest-related emissions, which (b) covers the whole jurisdiction, (c) is fully operational, and (d) is consistent with the National Forest Monitoring System, where available, or inconsistencies have been explained. The measurements (e) are consistent with the reference level, and (f) the results permit a clear understanding of effects on emissions and deforestation rates.</p> <p>YELLOW: The program meets (a), (b), (e) and (f), but not (c), above, and/or does not fully meet (d).</p> <p>ORANGE: The program does not meet (a), or meets (a) but not (b), or does not meet (e).</p>	<p>2.3 Is a robust monitoring system in place to allow measurements of net emissions reductions consistent with the assessed baseline?</p>	
<p>GREEN: Program results (a) are measured according to the MMR system from 2.3, (b) are reported at least twice per 5-year period, (c) are transparent and accessible to stakeholders, and (d) are released often enough to allow detection of</p>	<p>2.4 Is there periodic monitoring of and reporting results against the reference level?</p>	
	<p>Explanation:</p>	

<p>increases in emissions or deforestation.</p> <p>YELLOW: The program meets (a), above, but not (b), (c), or (d). However, results (e) are reported at least once per 5-year period, (f) are available upon request, and (g) are <i>likely</i> released often enough to allow detection of increases in emissions or deforestation.</p> <p>ORANGE: Program results do not meet (a), above, or do not meet at least (e) and/or (f).</p>		
<p>GREEN: The results reported (a) are below the assessed baseline, indicating a reduction in emissions from benchmark values</p> <p>YELLOW: n/a</p> <p>ORANGE: The results do not meet (a), i.e. are at or above the assessed baseline, indicating an increase or lack of change in emission values</p>	<p>2.5 Are the measured results below the agreed baseline? (<i>Once reporting and verification begins</i>)</p>	
<p>GREEN: The program results (a) are or have been reviewed/assessed by independent 3rd party experts, (b) are or have been verified/approved by these experts. Review happens (c) at least once every 5 years, and (d) the data and assumptions used are found to be consistent with reference levels and good practice. Examples of verification processes: certifications verification, acceptance of results by major multi/bilateral results based payment program, or other equivalent endorsement.</p> <p>YELLOW: The results meet (a) and (c) above, but not (b).</p> <p>ORANGE: The results do not meet (a) and/or (c), or do not meet (d).</p>	<p>2.6 Are results verified or approved by an independent 3rd party every 5 years at a minimum?</p>	
	<p>Explanation:</p>	

<p><i>Only applies: If the review and verification process from criterion 2.6 happens only once per 5-year period.</i></p> <p>GREEN: Reporting of measured results (a) happens at least once in the interim period, i.e. reporting happens at least twice every 5 years (<i>same as 2.4 reason (b)</i>).</p> <p>YELLOW: n/a</p> <p>ORANGE: Results are not reported in the interim period between verification events</p>	<p>2.7 If verification/ approval is not more frequent than every 5 years, is reporting of measured results carried out at least once in the interim period?</p>	
	<p>Explanation:</p>	
<p><i>Only applies to second and subsequent program periods.</i></p> <p>GREEN: The reference level for subsequent program periods (a) has been adjusted to reflect recent data, and (b) is more ambitious than the previous reference level</p> <p>YELLOW: n/a</p> <p>ORANGE: Subsequent reference levels do not meet (b), above</p>	<p>2.8 <i>Over time:</i> For each subsequent program period, is the baseline increasingly ambitious, to lead towards zero emissions over time?</p>	
	<p>Explanation:</p>	

<p>Supporting text</p> <p><i>Copy relevant text from submitted documents below to demonstrate the basis of scoring decisions above</i></p>		
Criterion	Relevant text	Reference
2		

Assessment Table for Criterion 3

Quick Guidance	Criteria and Subquestions	Assessment (Green, Yellow, Orange)
<p>GREEN: Fully met. The jurisdictional program fully meets the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>Subquestions 3.1 and 3.3 must be assessed as Green for this Criterion to be marked Green. Subquestion 3.4 must be assessed as Green or Yellow for this Criterion to be marked Green.</p> <p>YELLOW: Partially met. The jurisdictional program partially meets the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>This criterion should be marked as Yellow if subquestions 3.1 or 3.3 are assessed as Yellow.</p> <p>ORANGE: Not met. The jurisdictional program does not yet meet the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>This criterion should be marked as Orange if subquestions 3.1 or 3.3 are assessed as Orange.</p>	<p>Criterion 3: A commitment to adhere to social and environmental safeguards and monitor these efforts</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	
<p>GREEN: The program (a) has in place policies, laws, regulations, or plans to address social and environmental risks, and plans to report how these risks are addressed; (b) these policies are consistent with UNFCCC Cancun Safeguards and relevant national or multilateral safeguards; (c) and the policies are in force and under implementation.</p> <p>YELLOW: The program meets (a) and (b), above, but not (c). Policies are expected to be implemented in the near future.</p> <p>ORANGE: The programs does not meet (a) and/or (b).</p>	<p>3.1 Does the program have in place relevant policies, laws and regulations and/or safeguard plan(s) to address social and environmental risks of the strategy or action plan, and to address and respect relevant social and environmental safeguards, including the UNFCCC Cancun safeguards?</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	
<p>GREEN: The program’s country (a) has in place the UNFCCC-</p>	<p>3.2 Is the country’s national-level Safeguard Information System in place and operational?</p>	

<p>specified system for Cancun safeguards in REDD+, and (b) the system is fully operational, providing regular information on how safeguards are being addressed and respected.</p> <p>YELLOW: The country meets (a) but not (b) – information is not being shared regularly.</p> <p>ORANGE: The country does not meet (a).</p>	<p>Explanation:</p>	
<p><i>Applies once the program is under implementation</i></p> <p>GREEN: The program (a) has a system in place to monitor how safeguards are being addressed and respected (may be the Safeguard Information System or another system), and (b) the system is reporting on these issues regularly.</p> <p>YELLOW: The program meets (a) but not (b).</p> <p>ORANGE: The program does not meet (a).</p>	<p>3.3 Once under implementation, is this Safeguard Information System, or another system, being used to monitor and regularly report on how the safeguards are addressed and respected?</p>	
<p>GREEN: The safeguard monitoring system (a) provides relevant information to stakeholders. This information (b) is easily accessible or available to all stakeholders upon request, and (c) is provided regularly to stakeholders.</p> <p>YELLOW: The system meets (a) and (b) but not (c).</p> <p>ORANGE: The system does not meet (a) and/or (b).</p>	<p>3.4 Is this information accessible to all stakeholders on a regular basis?</p>	
<p>GREEN: The program’s identified safeguards and approach (a) is the same as or consistent with the national safeguards approach or is consistent with the emerging approach, if national approach is under development (program approach may go beyond the national approach).</p>	<p>3.5 Are the relevant safeguards identified for the program consistent with the national safeguards approach for REDD+?</p>	
	<p>Explanation:</p>	

<p>YELLOW: The program’s safeguards approach does not meet (a) but (b) does not undermine or contradict the national approach.</p> <p>ORANGE: The approach does not meet (a) or (b).</p>		
<p>GREEN: The program (a) contributes relevant information to the national Safeguards Information System and for the summary for submission to the UNFCCC.</p> <p>YELLOW: n/a</p> <p>ORANGE: The program does not meet (a).</p>	<p>3.6 Is the program contributing to the national safeguards information system and the summary of information on safeguards submitted to the UNFCCC?</p>	
<p>GREEN: The program’s country (a) has regularly submitted their summary of how the Cancun safeguards are being addressed to the UNFCCC through National Communications or other channels.</p> <p>YELLOW: The country does not meet (a) but (b) has provided at least one of the required summaries.</p> <p>ORANGE: The country has not met (a) or (b).</p>	<p>3.7 Has the country submitted their summary of information on safeguards to the UNFCCC?</p>	
	<p>Explanation:</p>	

<p>Supporting text Copy relevant text from submitted documents below to demonstrate the basis of scoring decisions above</p>		
<p>Criterion</p>	<p>Relevant text</p>	<p>Reference</p>
<p>3</p>		

Assessment Table for Criterion 4

Quick Guidance	Criteria and Subquestions	Assessment (Green, Yellow, Orange)
<p>GREEN: Fully met. The jurisdictional program fully meets the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>Subquestion 4.1 must be assessed as Green for this Criterion to be marked Green.</p> <p>YELLOW: Partially met. The jurisdictional program partially meets the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>This criterion should be marked as Yellow if subquestion 4.1 is assessed as Yellow.</p> <p>ORANGE: Not met. The jurisdictional program does not yet meet the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>This criterion should be marked as Orange if subquestion 4.1 is assessed as Orange.</p>	<p>Criterion 4: High-level political commitment to, and support for, the program’s design and implementation from government partners</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	
<p>GREEN: The program (a) has support from high-level authorities and government institutions, who (b) have relevance to forest and land use decisions in the country and/or subnational jurisdictions, and (c) multiple such authorities support the program. The program’s strategy, action plan, or priorities (d) are clearly incorporated into relevant national or sub-national plans or laws. <i>Optional:</i> The program (e) has letters or statements of support from high-level government officials.</p> <p>YELLOW: The program meets (a) and (b), but not (c) – only ‘some,’ not ‘multiple’ authorities support the program. The program partially meets (d) and/or (e) – at least one relevant national or subnational plan or strategy incorporates the program’s</p>	<p>4.1 Does the program demonstrate the support and commitment of high-level officials in country and/or sub-national jurisdiction (for example through statements of support by the president, minister or governor, or through incorporation into national development plans or sectoral strategies)?</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	

<p>strategy, action plan, or priorities, and/or the program has statements of support from high-level officials.</p> <p>ORANGE: The program does not meet (a), (c), or (d).</p>		
<p>GREEN: The program (a) formally participates in one or more international initiatives that provide technical or financial support for jurisdictional REDD+ or landscape programs.</p> <p>YELLOW: The program does not meet (a).</p> <p>ORANGE: n/a</p>	<p>4.2 Does the program participate in an international initiative that provides technical or financial support for jurisdictional forest and climate programs (for example FCPF Carbon Fund, VCS Jurisdictional and Nested REDD Initiative, Governors Climate and Forest Fund, REDD Early Movers, major bilateral results-based payment partnership)?</p>	
<p><i>Answer only if 4.2 is Yellow</i></p> <p>GREEN: The program (a) benefits from the design and implementation support of another major partner, i.e. major foundations, NGOs, private sector companies, or development banks; or (b) has sufficient resources to design and fully implement the program.</p> <p>YELLOW: The program does not yet meet (a) or (b), above.</p> <p>ORANGE: n/a</p>	<p>Explanation:</p> <p>4.3 If no, are there other partners involved in supporting the implementation of the program?</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	

<p>Supporting text <i>Copy relevant text from submitted documents below to demonstrate the basis of scoring decisions above</i></p>		
<p>Criterion</p>	<p>Relevant text</p>	<p>Reference</p>
<p>4</p>		

Assessment Table for Criterion 5

Quick Guidance	Criteria and Subquestions	Assessment (Green, Yellow, Orange)
<p>GREEN: Fully met. The jurisdictional program fully meets the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>Subquestion 5.1 must be assessed as Green for this Criterion to be marked Green. Subquestion 5.2 must be assessed as Green or Yellow for this Criterion to be marked Green.</p> <p>YELLOW: Partially met. The jurisdictional program partially meets the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>This criterion should be marked as Yellow if subquestion 5.1 is assessed as Yellow or subquestion 5.2 is assessed as Orange.</p> <p>ORANGE: Not met. The jurisdictional program does not yet meet the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>This criterion should be marked as Orange if subquestion 5.1 is assessed as Orange.</p>	<p>Criterion 5: Stakeholder engagement in the program’s development and implementation</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	
<p>GREEN: The program strategy or action plan (a) was developed in consultation with representatives from a range of stakeholder groups relevant to or interested in the program, and (b) stakeholder involvement was substantial. Consultations (c) included vulnerable and marginalized groups and (d) were conducted in a manner appropriate to each stakeholder group.</p> <p>YELLOW: The program meets (a), but not (b), (c) and/or (d).</p> <p>ORANGE: The program does not meet (a).</p>	<p>5.1 Was the strategy or action plan developed in consultation with representatives of all stakeholder groups?</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	

<p>GREEN: The program (a) has a clear plan for continued stakeholder engagement during the implementation of the program which (b) includes marginalized groups, and (c) will be conducted in a manner appropriate to each stakeholder group.</p> <p>YELLOW: The program does not yet meet (a), but there is (d) an indication that such consultations will continue, meeting (b) and (c) above.</p> <p>ORANGE: The program does not at least meet (d).</p>	5.2 Is there a plan for stakeholder consultation and engagement during the implementation of the program?	
	Explanation:	
<p>GREEN: The program (a) is subject to or includes one or more grievance redress mechanisms which (b) is fully operational and (c) is accessible and transparent.</p> <p>YELLOW: The program meets (a), but not (b) and/or (c).</p> <p>ORANGE: The program does not meet (a).</p>	5.3 Is there an effective, transparent and accessible grievance redress mechanism for the strategy or action plan?	
	Explanation:	

Supporting text		
<i>Copy relevant text from submitted documents below to demonstrate the basis of scoring decisions above</i>		
Criterion	Relevant text	Reference
5		

Assessment Table for Criterion 6

Quick Guidance	Criteria and Subquestions	Assessment (Green, Yellow, Orange)
<p>GREEN: Fully met. The jurisdictional program fully meets the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>Through 2020: Subquestion 6.1 must be assessed as Green or Yellow for this Criterion to be marked Green. Post-2020: Subquestion 6.1 must be assessed as Green for this Criterion to be marked Green.</p> <p>YELLOW: n/a</p> <p>ORANGE: Not met. The jurisdictional program does not yet meet the criterion or subquestion.</p> <p>This criterion should be marked as Orange if subquestion 6.1 is assessed as Orange.</p>	<p>Criterion 6: Location in a country with an ambitious national UNFCCC target (currently called a Nationally Determined Contribution or NDC)</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	
<p>GREEN: The program's country (a) has submitted an NDC which is listed on the UNFCCC registry. (NDC Registry (interim): https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/Pages/Home.aspx)</p> <p>YELLOW: Through 2020 only: the country (b) has submitted an INDC but has not submitted an NDC (i.e. the country has not yet submitted an instrument of ratification/ accession to formally join the Paris Agreement, or has requested that their INDC not convert to an NDC upon ratification).</p> <p>ORANGE: The country does not meet (a) or (b).</p>	<p>6.1 Has the country submitted an ambitious Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)?</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	
<p>FLR in NDCs Analysis spreadsheet provides relevant language on forests and land use in 165 country NDCs as of February 2018: https://infoflr.org/sites/default/files/2018-07/flr_in_ndcs_analysis_table.xlsx</p>	<p>6.2 Does the country's NDC include forests and/ or land use?</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	

<p>GREEN: The country's NDC (a) includes forests, agriculture, and/or land use in their NDC and (b) their inclusion is clearly specified (i.e. in an economy-wide target, a sectoral target, or through other specific commitments).</p> <p>YELLOW: The country meets (a) but not (b).</p> <p>Orange: The country does not meet (a).</p>	
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Supporting text		
<i>Copy relevant text from submitted documents below to demonstrate the basis of scoring decisions above</i>		
Criterion	Relevant text	Reference
6		