

# **UCR Program Verification Standard**

Ver 2.0 Date 08/2022

#### 1. ROLE OF VERIFICATION IN UCR

Universal CO2 Emission And Offset Registry Pvt Ltd (Universal Carbon Registry or UCR) is a private limited company located in India and aims to launch a low cost, simple and robust voluntary carbon standard and accompanying voluntary carbon registry platform (UCR platform or Registry) to enable a sustainable and low carbon world economy. All projects entering UCR are subject to initial project verification by qualified UCR-Approved Verifiers for the duration of the Project's enrollment in UCR, unless prior verification reports are available for the vintage years assessed. UCR rules require approved greenhouse gas (GHG) Offset Projects to undergo an independent verification to confirm project eligibility based on the Approved Postive List of projects and conformance to the approved UCR Standard.

This Verification Standard has been developed based on the requirements of the UCR Program Manual, which is the overarching document that provides links to various UCR documents containing the rules and requirements governing the UCR Program.

UCR Verifiers, when applying this guidance document, shall also ensure compliance with the applicable requirements stipulated in the UCR Program Manual and UCR Standard.

UCR project verifications must be conducted and reported in accordance with the principles and requirements outlined in ISO 14064-2:2019: Specification with guidance at the project level for quantification, monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emission reductions or removal enhancements. It includes requirements for planning a GHG project, identifying and selecting GHG sources, sinks and reservoirs (SSRs) relevant to the project and baseline scenario, monitoring, quantifying, documenting and reporting GHG project performance and managing data quality. This specification is GHG programme neutral.

The Project Proponent or Seller making the GHG assertion is responsible for project conformity to UCR program requirements. The UCR-Approved Verifier is responsible for providing an objective assessment of project eligibility, and for providing a verification statement concerning the Project Proponent's GHG assertion, based on evidence found during the verification.

The Verifier shall evaluate the GHG assertion provided by the Project Proponent against the following two guidelines:

- 1. No errors, omissions, or misrepresentations (i.e., no material discrepancy) exist in the GHG assertion provided by the Project Proponent that would affect the project's eligibility in UCR.
- 2. The verification activities provide a reasonable level of assurance that the Project Proponent's GHG assertion is materially correct as specified in UCR Standard that determine the depth of detail the Verifier must design into their verification plan (i.e., verification requirements of the UCR Standard).

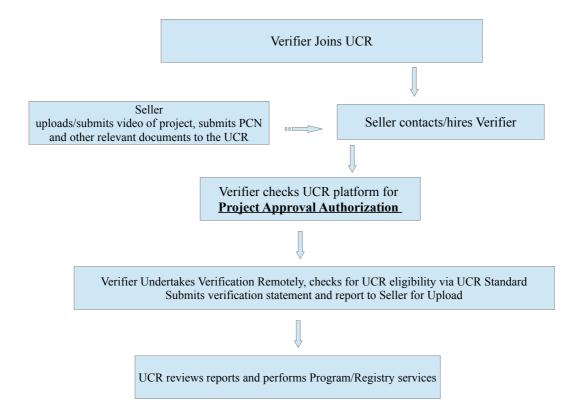
#### 2. UCR OFFSET PROGRAM VERIFICATION OVERVIEW

### **Verification Approach**

In carrying out UCR Project Verifications, UCR Verifiers shall:

- (a) Determine whether registered UCR Project Activities comply with UCR rules and requirements;
- (b) Not perform verifications for registered UCR Project Activities for which Project Verification by another GHG program or CDM verification has been completed.
- (c) Ensure that UCR verification activities start after the publication of the Project Concept Note (PCN) and diplay of UCR authorization for verification on the UCR Project Registry website;
- (d) Assess both quantitative and qualitative information on GHG emission reductions or net anthropogenic GHG removals provided in the project documentation;
- (e) Assess and determine whether the implementation and operation of registered UCR Project Activities, and the steps taken to report GHG emission reductions or net anthropogenic GHG removals, comply with UCR rules and requirements;
- (f) Assess whether data collection systems used meet the monitoring plan requirements provided in the registered PCN and indicated in applied methodologies and tools;
- (g) In addition to the monitoring documentation, the UCR Verifier shall review:
  - (i) The registered PCN, including the monitoring plan;
  - (ii) The Project Verification Report (VR);
  - (iii) Previous Emission Reduction Verification Reports, if any;
  - (iv) The applied methodology(ies) and the other applied methodological tools;
  - (v) Any other data, information and references relevant to the GHG emission reductions or net anthropogenic GHG removals resulting from the registered UCR Project Activity (e.g., IPCC reports, data on electricity generation in the national grid, laboratory analyses, calibration reports, and national regulations).

In addition to reviewing the monitoring documentation, the UCR Verifier shall determine whether or not the Project Owner(s) has addressed all FARs identified in the PCN or in previous VRs of other GHG programs or CDM Verification Reports. The flow chart below represents an overview of the process that entities must undergo in order to qualify to perform a verification of a particular UCR Offset Project.



#### 3. UCR VERIFIER APPLICATION PROCESS

Prospective UCR-Approved Verifiers are advised to review online, the relevant UCR Standard for the project types under which they wish to verify. A detailed understanding of the UCR Standard and UCR Program Manual is necessary to properly evaluate whether an Offset Project is eligible according to UCR guidelines, and whether the resulting GHG assertion is materially correct.

UCR does not accredit third-party verifiers and hence verifiers can be an auditing agency approved as Designated Operational Entities under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), or approved as Verifiers by any other known GHG program, or involved in Sustainability Reporting Assurance against International Standards such as AA 1000 Accountability Principles or have undertaken verification/audits as per the ISO 14064/65 standard. Verifiers must submit a copy of their credentials along with their application to the UCR Verifier Application Form.

In addition to submitting the UCR-Approved Verifier Application Form, each prospective Verifier is required to submit a UCR-Approved Verifiers General Statement of Potential or Actual Conflicts of Interest (Appendix A) when undertaking verification activities for the Seller. The statement outlines any actual or potential conflicts-of-interest that may be created if the organization becomes a UCR-Approved Verifier. Each prospective Verifier will be notified by UCR of their approval or non-approval within one calendar month of submission.

UCR requires project related information to be reported in English. When source data is not in English, a Member, must, at its own expense, have an English-language version provided.

# **Offset Project Verification**

### Purpose

The purpose of this document is to describe the process of conducting a third-party independent verification of a UCR Project Activity and provide requirements for UCR Verifiers for verifying and certifying the:

- (a) Greenhouse-gas (GHG) emission reductions and removals achieved by the Project Activity;
- (b) Contributions towards achieving voluntary Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) and/or Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and
- (c) Claims that the Project Activity does not cause any net harm to the environment or/and society

### Verification Scope

UCR Verifiers shall conduct Project Verifications of UCR Project Activities based on the UCR rules as stipulated in the:

- (a) International Standards ISO 14064-2 and ISO 14064-3, which provide a broad framework and requirements;
- (b) Verification Standard (this document), which provides specific requirements of the UCR Program, for verifying a Project Activity on various aspects including emission reductions, sustainability and environmental and social do-no-harm criteria; and
- (c) The following specific documents:
  - (i) Program Manual, which provides a broad overview of overall UCR Program and the role of verification;
  - (ii) Procedure for Approval of UCR Verifiers, which provides requirements for selecting the verification team:
  - (iii) UCR Standard, which provides the specific requirements applicable to Project Activities as contained in the project documentation package, including the Project Concept Note and the Project Monitoring Report and Verification Report; and
  - (iv) Applicable UCR Standard emission factors and CDM methodologies and tools.

### General Provisions

Verification of Project Activities by approved UCR Verifiers is a pre-requisite for Project Owners that intend to submit projects for registration and issuance of carbon credits (Carbon Offset Units or CoUs) under the UCR Program. For the UCR Program, a third-party independent external verification of the Project Activity is required to be conducted by approved UCR Verifiers prior to issuance of CoUs.

Under the UCR Program, a UCR Verifier or Verification Body means an individual or an organization approved by the UCR Program to act as a UCR Verifier and provide verification services in accordance with the UCR rules. A UCR Verifier can either be a UCR Project Verifier or a UCR Emission Reduction Verifier. Project Reports shall be prepared and signed by a UCR-approved Verifier in accordance with the provisions of program.

Clauses within ISO 14064-2:2006 and ISO 14064-3:2006, stipulate that the requirements of the UCR Program are additional to the requirements of ISO 14064. The generic requirements of the UCR Program are based on International Standard ISO 14064-2 and ISO 14064-3, whereas the specific mandatory requirements of the UCR Program and Project Activities are stipulated in the Project Standard and verification requirements are stipulated in Verification Standard (this document) and respective CDM methodologies. UCR Verifiers shall refer to the Project Standard, which links requirements with Project Verification.

#### **Verification Approach**

UCR Verifiers shall select a competent team to perform Project verifications for UCR Project Activities as required in the UCR Standard. In carrying out verifications, UCR Verifiers shall:

- (a) Follow this Verification Standard and integrate its provisions into the UCR Verifier's own quality management systems;
- (b) Apply the most recent applicable UCR Project Standard;
- (c) Determine whether or not each UCR Project Activity meets all applicable UCR rules and requirements, including those specified in the Project Standard, applied methodologies/methodological tools and any other requirements;
- (d) Assess the accuracy, conservativeness, relevance, completeness, consistency and transparency of the information provided by the Project Owner(s) in the project documents (e.g., PCN, MR, VR, MVR, etc.) and as required by the Project Standard;
- (e) Base their findings and conclusions on objective evidence and conduct all verification activities in

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accordance with UCR rules and procedures;

- (f) Not omit evidence that is likely to alter the verification opinion;
- (g) Present information in the verification and statement report in a factual, neutral and coherent manner and document all assumptions, provide references to background material, and identify changes made to the documentation and shall only certify GHG emission reductions or net anthropogenic GHG removals that are based on verifiable evidence;
- (h) Safeguard the confidentiality of all information obtained or created during the verification.
- (i) Determine whether information provided by the Project Owner(s) is reliable and credible;
- (j) Apply consistent verification criteria:
  - (i) To the requirements of the selected methodologies and other applied methodological tools throughout the crediting period(s);
  - (ii) To UCR Project Activities with similar characteristics, such as a similar application of the selected methodologies and other applied methodological tools, use of technology, time period or region;
  - (iii) To expert judgements, over time and among UCR Project Activities;

UCR Sellers or Project Owners shall cooperate fully with the verification agency. All relevant data, underlying calculations, receipts or other evidence used to quantify emissions shall be provided promptly upon request of the Verifier. The scope of these shall include (based on the sample selected): (1) the quality of data management and records of underlying data; (2) completeness and accuracy of calculations and baseline emission reports; (3) proper inclusion and documentation of all project locations, (4) correct application of offset rules for filling Baseline Period data gaps; and, (5) other data, methods and procedures deemed necessary to establish the accuracy of emission reductions.

UCR may approve qualified entities to be eligible to provide independent verification of UCR Projects. Unless specifically provided otherwise, each request to issue CoUs for an approved project must be accompanied by a verification statement signed by a UCR-approved Verifier. The verification statement must attest to the UCR eligibility and existence of the registered Project, as well as the descriptive information required by UCR in a form and manner prescribed by the Exchange, including a mobile upload or video of the project ativity. The periodic Project Reports to be filed by Project Owners must be by signed by a UCR-approved Verifier, which shall attest to the accuracy of the information provided in the Project Report. The Verifier must attest to the ongoing operation and maintenance of the Project, and to the quantity of emissions mitigation reported and all associated calculations.

UCR Verifiers must check the <u>Project Approval Authorization</u> displayed on the registry <u>prior</u> to initiating verification. Verifiers will view and cross check the UCR prior to undertaking verification to ensure that the project has been approved for verification.

All UCR offsets are issued carbon offset unitts or CoUs on a retrospective basis (ex-post), with the CoU vintage applying to the program year in which the GHG reduction took place. Verifiers must submit a Project-Specific Conflicts-of-Interest Form, signed by the verifier and Project Proponent, for review in order to conduct the initial verification. A copy of the Project-Specific Conflicts-of-Interest Form is included in **Appendix A.** 

This submission also serves as confirmation to UCR that the Project Owner/Seller has given UCR staff permission to disclose project-specific information (e.g. PCN, Verification Report, Other Documents etc) with the prospective verifier.

If the conflicts-of-interest disclosure is approved, Verifiers must determine whether the project is approved for verification by the UCR. This is done by checking the <u>Project Approval Authorization</u> section on the registry page open to the public.

UCR retains the right to reject any GHG project that does not adhere to the above project approval process. If UCR approves the conflicts-of-interest form before conducting the initial verification, the verifier does not need to submit this form to UCR prior to each verification in the future for the same project activity, provided that no substantive changes have occurred in the nature of the relationship between the Verifier and Project Proponent/Owner/Aggregator.

#### **DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY**

As a first step, Verifiers must confirm that the Seller/Project Owner is an eligible entity that has registered the PCN and uploaded the necessary video or mobile upload of the Project Activity on the Registry and has recieved the Project Approval Authorization that will be displayed on the UCR platform.

# **Dates of Registration Offset Projects**

Only Project types that conform to the Positive Approved List within the UCR Standard may be eligible for verification and registration. All UCR projects must:

- (a) Be implemented or commissioned on or after January 01, 2002;
- (b) Seek verification for the vintage years starting from January 01, 2013 onwards; and
- (c) Seek issuance of CoUs from previous GHG verification periods from January 01, 2013 onwards only provided the Seller can demonstrate that they strictly satisfy the UCR Standard, double counting issues from prior GHG program registrations. Prior to issuance of CoUs.

### **Project Location**

Projects Activities located in Annex I countries under the Kyoto Protocol are ineligible to be included in the UCR platform and registry.

### Use of applicable Forms and Templates

UCR Verifiers contracted to conduct project verification for registration of a proposed UCR Project Activity shall prepare a Project Verification Report (VR) using the valid version of the relevant VR form/template, on the reference date stipulated by the Project Standard.

UCR Verifiers contracted to conduct ex-post emission-reduction verifications for specified monitored periods of registered UCR Projects shall prepare the Verification Statement as provided at the end of this document and also include the form provided in Appendix A of this document.

### **Verification using Standard Auditing Techniques**

UCR Verifiers shall assess the information provided by Project Owner(s) and shall apply the means of verification as specified in ISO 14064-2 and ISO 14064-3, this Verification Standard and, where appropriate, standard auditing techniques, including, but not limited to:

- (a) Document review, involving:
  - (i) A review of data and information;
  - (ii) Cross checks between the information provided in the PCN and information from sources other than those used; if available, the UCR Verifier's sectoral or local expertise; and, if necessary, independent background investigations;
- (b) Follow-up actions (e.g., telephone or video-call or e-mail interviews), including:
  - (i) Interviews with relevant stakeholders in the project host country, such as personnel with knowledge of the project design and implementation; and
  - (ii) Cross checks between information provided by interviewed personnel (i.e., by checking sources or other interviews) to ensure that no relevant information has been omitted;
- (c) Reference to available information related to projects or technologies similar to the proposed UCR Project Activity under verification;
- (d) Review, based on the selected methodologies and applied methodological tools, of the appropriateness of formulae and accuracy of calculations;
- (e) Sampling approaches in accordance with the CDM Standard "Sampling and surveys for CDM project activities and programme of activities"; and
- (f) Review of the claims regarding the additional certification labels
- (g) Review information that GHG emission reductions for the vintage years being verified have not been retired or sold prior to verification and must address the issue of double counting.

#### **Criteria for Site Visits**

It is not mandatory for UCR Verifiers to conduct on-site visit and inspections during project verification for proposed UCR Project Activities. However, the UCR Verifier shall describe the alternative means of verification used (such as video-call or e-mail interviews) and can request the Seller for updated mobile videos to showcase current operations of the Project Activity apart from the mandatory video uploaded on the Registry of the Project Activity. Verification is to be conducted remotely in view of the COVID pandemic across the world. Site visits are not required under the UCR program in the interest of health and safety concerns. This criteria for site visits is left at the sole discreation of the UCR verifier in case the COVID pandemic ends in the future.

## Non-conformities and corrective action requests

If the UCR Verifier identifies issues that require further elaboration, research or expansion in order to determine whether the Project Activity meets UCR rules and requirements and can achieve credible GHG emission reductions or net anthropogenic GHG removals, the UCR Verifier shall ensure that these issues are accurately identified, formulated, discussed and concluded in the VR. The UCR Verifier shall raise corrective action request (CAR) if any of the following situations occur:

- (a) The PCN or PDD contains errors that influence the ability of the proposed UCR Project Activity to achieve real, measurable, verifiable and additional GHG emission reductions or net anthropogenic GHG removals:
- (b) Applicable UCR rules and requirements have not been met;
- (c) There is a risk that GHG emission reductions or net anthropogenic GHG removals cannot be monitored or calculated:
- (d) There is a risk that the claims made in the PCN or MR regarding contributions to ssutainable actions or goals may not be achieved or cannot be demonstrated; or
- (e) There is a risk that the claims made in the PCN regarding environmental and social safeguards may not be effective, or that the Project Activity may lead to net-harm to the environment and/or society.

The UCR Verifier shall raise a clarification request (CL) if information is lacking or insufficiently clear to determine whether the applicable UCR rules and requirements have been met. All CLs or CARs must be completed and closed by the Seller prior to uploading and submission of the VR and VS on the UCR platform and Registry prior to issuance of CoUs. The UCR Verifier shall not raise a FAR that relates to UCR rules and requirements for registration of the Project Activity.

### **Application of Materiality**

Materiality, as defined in ISO14064-3, shall be applied in the context of the UCR Program. The materiality thresholds will be as per the UCR Verifier stipulations as deemed applicable.

### **Specific Verification Requirements**

UCR Verifiers for approved UCR Scopes and GHG Sectoral scopes shall conduct thirdparty independent verifications of UCR Project Activities as per the Verification Standard, to assess how Project Activities comply with applicable UCR rules and requirements.

#### **GHG Verification Requirements**

The UCR Project Standard provides specific requirements on GHG applicable to projects that intend to develop project documentation, including PCN and MR, VR or MVRs. UCR Verifiers shall conduct third-party independent verifications of the GHG reducing component of the UCR Project Activities as per the requirements in the Project Standard.

### **Sustainability Verification Requirements**

In addition to reducing GHGs, the UCR Program also provides an opportunity for Seller or Project Owners to voluntarily choose to demonstrate that their Project Activity contributes to achieving Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs) including no net harm to the environment and society.

## **Verification or Certification Statement**

UCR Verifiers shall provide verification and/or certification statements in their VRs.

#### **Qualifications / Limiting Conditions**

Verification reports should not be submitted with qualifications or limiting conditions. Verifiers may address any qualifications or limiting conditions and may document the resolution of these qualifications or limiting conditions in the verification report.

### **Conservative Estimate**

All carbon credits or CoUs must be rounded down when applying the final quantity of emission reductions calculated for each vintage year.

#### **Verification Report Submittal**

Verifiers should submit completed Vrs and VSs electronically to the seller to be uploaded in pdf directly for review to the UCR staff. The final VR should be reviewed by both the Verifier and Seller/Project Owner prior to submission to UCR. Signatures must be provided from both parties in the Verification Statement.

### **Review of Submitted Verification Reports**

If the verification report satisfies the review by UCR staff, the verification report will be uploaded on the UCR Registry. Questions or requested clarifications will be communicated by the UCR staff. Post review, the UCR Issuance Department will issue the verified CoUs into the registry account of the Seller and will directly notify the Seller of the issuance.

#### **Cost of Verification Services**

The costs of Project Activity verification services and report preparation is to be paid by the Seller to the UCR Verifier directly as per the terms and conditions agreed upon between the counterparties. UCR and its staff are not party to such agreements between Verifier and Seller.

# Verification Report and Statement

Verification reporting requirements by UCR are consistent with those outlined in ISO 14064-3 Annex B, Validation and Verification Statement.

The verification report should be formatted in the following format and include the verification statement included in this document:

- An opening or introductory statement including:
  - (a) Identification of the Project Proponent's assertions and UCR Program and verification requirements against which the verification was conducted.
  - (b) A statement of the roles and responsibilities of the organization-level or GHG projectl evel management, and the roles and responsibilities of the Verifier including full contact information.
- A section detailing the scope of the verification work including:
  - (a) Reference to the principles and requirements of the applicable UCR program, which may be accompanied by an approved PCN or Project Design Document, or documented UCR verification requirements against which the verification was conducted.
  - (b) Reference to the verification scope, objectives, and criteria (i.e. project boundaries, period of time in which the reductions occurred and data sources), including the level of assurance required.
  - (c) A description of the work the verification team performed, including the techniques and processes used to test the GHG information and associated GHG assertion prepared by the Project Proponent.
- A section detailing the conclusions containing:
  - (a) A reference to the UCR Program and approved PCN requirements used to prepare the GHG assertion.
  - (b) GHG information and performance verified (e.g. project plan, baseline GHG emissions or removals, emissions reductions, removal enhancements).
  - (c) The level of assurance provided by the verification, consistent with the agreed verification scope, objectives, time period, and criteria assertion.
  - (d) Presentation of the resolution of any qualifications.
  - (e) Conclusions on the GHG assertion.
- A completed UCR verification checklist corresponding to the appropriate project type. The completeness, accuracy, and quality of evidence of each checklist item should be described in this section to ensure that the level of verification was performed such that no material discrepancy exists at the level of assurance required by UCR rules. For each item in the checklist, the Verifier should state the methods by which the criteria were evaluated, including:
  - (a) Review of documentation, records, equipment, data, or measurements.
  - (b) An elaboration of virtual -site inspections.
  - (c) Interviews and meetings conducted remotely with dates.
  - (d) The identification of and resolution to any corrective action requests.
  - (e) Other relevant evidence utilized by the Verifier to reach their conclusion.
- A Verification Statement, attached below, containing the statements, signatures, and information in the form outlined in this document.

#### **UCR Verification Statement**

Each verification report submitted to UCR must include the following Verification Statement as provided below.

	Verification	Statement
This statement is seed 1		(LICD V:C.A t. d. LICD D
Projective is to confirm that		(UCR Verifier) to the UCR Program and (UCR Verifier) has evaluated the GHG
Registry is to confirm that		(Project Proponent/Seller) covering the period from
(DD/MM/YY) to	(DD/MM/YY	(Project Proponent/Seller) covering the period from () according to the protocols outlined in the UCR Program
and in conformity with ISO 14064-3	B.	(UCR Verifier) confirms all
verification activities have been comp	oleted and concludes	without any qualification or limiting conditions that the
GHG assertion by		(Project Proponent/Seller) is without material reasonable level of assurance prescribed by UCR program
discrepancy and that the verification as	ctivities provided the	reasonable level of assurance prescribed by UCR program
rules that the GHG assertion is materia	lly correct.	
		(D. 1. 1. D. 1. (G. 11. ) 1
The GHG assertion provided by	. 1 1	(Project ProponentOwner/Seller) has ancement of:
resulted in the removal, emission reduc	ction, or removal enha	ancement of:
Vintage:2013	Metric Tons CO2e:	
Beginning (DD/MM/YY):		End (DD/MM/YY):
Vintage:2014	Metric Tons CO2e:	
Beginning (DD/MM/YY):		End (DD/MM/YY):
Vintage:2015	Metric Tons CO2e:	
Beginning (DD/MM/YY):		End (DD/MM/YY):
Vintage:2016	Metric Tons CO2e:	
Beginning (DD/MM/YY):		End (DD/MM/YY):
Vintage: 2017	Metric Tons CO2e:	
Beginning (DD/MM/YY):		End (DD/MM/YY):
Vintage: 2018	Metric Tons CO2e:	
Beginning (DD/MM/YY):		End (DD/MM/YY):
Vintage:2019	Metric Tons CO2e:	
Beginning (DD/MM/YY):		End (DD/MM/YY):
Vintage: 2020	Metric Tons CO2e:	End (DD/MM/YY):
Vintage: 2021	Metric Tons CO2e:	
Beginning (DD/MM/YY):	Wietire Tons CO2C.	End (DD/MM/YY):
Attestation:		
Lead Verifier (Print Name)	Senior Interna	al Reviewer (Print Name)
Lead Verifier (Signature)	Senior Interna	al Reviewer (Signature)
Zeua (enginaria)	5 <b>4</b> 61 <b></b>	
Date (DD/MM/YY)	Date (DD/M	M/VV)
	Date (DD/M)	WI/ I I )
Project Proponent Authorization:		
I,	(UCR member(	Owner/Aggregator), authorize the above-named verifier to submit
this Verification Evaluation to the UCR.		
Member/Owner/Aggregator (Print Name)		aber/Owner/Aggregator (Signature)
	Date (DD/MM/Y	(Y)

#### APPENDIX A

#### VERIFIERS STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL OR ACTUAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Requirement to Submit a Statement of Conflicts of Interest: Before a Verifier begins any verification work for a Project, the Verifier must submit to a statement of any potential or actual conflicts of interest that may result from undertaking such verification work.

The statement shall include proposed steps that may be taken to avoid, mitigate or neutralize the potential or actual conflict of interest.

The statement shall be signed by the Project Owner. The statement shall also refer to any appearance of conflict of interest that may arise even if this does not lead, in the opinion of the parties signing the statement, to a substantive conflict of interest. UCR Staff shall evaluate statements of potential or actual conflicts of interest on a case-by-case basis and make recommendations on an appropriate course of action.

The Verifier shall make full disclosure in writing to UCR immediately of any change in circumstances that may lead to the emergence of any conflict of interest in the provision of verification services. This disclosure shall include a description of actions taken or that will be taken to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate the actual or potential conflict of interest.

#### Circumstances that Present an Actual or Potential Conflict of Interest

Performance of the following services for a Project Owner or Seller <u>may result</u> in a conflict of interest for a Verifier wishing to provide verification services to that Project Owner or Seller:

- 1. Designing, developing, implementing, or maintaining a GHG emissions inventory.
- 2. Designing or developing GHG information systems.
- 3. Developing GHG emissions factors or other GHG-related engineering analysis.
- 4. Designing energy efficiency, renewable energy, or other projects which explicitly identify GHG reductions as a benefit.
- 5. Preparing or producing GHG-related manuals, handbooks, or procedures specifically for the project activity.
- 6. Appraisal services of GHG liabilities or assets.
- 7. Brokering in, advising on, or assisting in any way in carbon or GHG-related markets.
- 8. Management over health, environment and safety functions.
- 9. Legal and expert services unrelated to verification for UCR purposes.
- 10. Verifier and Owner share board members or senior management.
- 11. If there is a financial, functional or structural link (e.g. common ownership, contractual arrangement, or informal contract) between the parties, whether directly or through affiliated organizations (e.g. holding companies, parent companies etc).

Other factors that may constitute a conflict of interest include, without limitation: subsidiaries, formal partners, affiliates, etc.

Verifier/s must not be involved in any commercial, financial or other processes with the owner or aggregator of the project activity that might influence their judgment and render it not impartial or not objective.

# **Process for Evaluating Statement of Conflicts of Interest:**

The statement must be sent to the UCR Program or concerned department of the UCR via email displayed on the website. This statement is to be filled out by the Verifier.

website. This statement is to be in	ned out by the vermer.
Verifier Providing Verification Services (Personnnel names)	
Verifier Organization Name	
Verifier Organization Website	
Verifier Mailing Address	
Project Owner Name	
Project Owner Company	
Project Type	
Project Name	
Project Location	
Has your organization provided certification or verification services for the above project owner in connection with any other GHG trading, registry or other system during the previous three years? If yes, list the years and nature of the verification services provided.	
Has your organization provided any non-verification services to the project owner during the previous three years? Are there any plans or contracts for your organization to continue to provide such services on an ongoing basis or in the future? If yes, what was the nature of the work performed? When was it performed? What was the scale of the work performed.	
Identify all potential sources of conflict of interest that may arise if your organization performs verification services for the abovenamed project owner. If the potential conflict of interest may arise indirectly through an affiliated organization, please describe the nature of that link.	
Please provide a list of names of the staff that are providing verification services to the above- named Project Owner. For these staff, are there any instances of personal or professional relationships or financial interests that may represent a potential conflict of interest? If yes, please detail. •	
Are there particular reasons why this work should be considered sensitive, highly visible or subject to special scrutiny (e.g., press coverage, special interest, prior controversy, etc.)?	

We hereby warrant the truthfulness of the answers to all questions on this form and the attached statement and documentation and to any other questions that may be asked by UCR or its designated representatives. We agree to maintain the accuracy and completeness of the information contained in this form and the attached statement and documentation. We undertake to immediately notify UCR in writing about any material change in any information contained in this form and the attached statement and documentation. We authorize UCR or its designated representatives to obtain information from sources that they deem appropriate in order to adequately evaluate and process this form and the attached statement and documentation and to ensure the integrity and effective operation of the UCR and UCX in the future. We understand that failure to provide full and accurate information may result in the delay or rendering invalid of any decision made in response to the information contained in this form and the attached statement and documentation.

Verifier Name:	Project Owner Name/ Company
Γitle	Title
Signature of Verifier	Project Owner/Aggregator Signature