

# Renewable Energy Methodology

## *Assessing the greenhouse gas impacts of renewable energy policies*

### List of key recommendations

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This document lists all of the key recommendations related to assessing GHG impacts of policies and actions contained in the ICAT *Renewable Energy Methodology*. Chapter 11 of the guide lists all key recommendations related to reporting, which are not duplicated here.

Key recommendations are intended to assist users in producing credible impact assessments that pursue high quality and are based on the principles of relevance, completeness, consistency, transparency and accuracy.

The *Introduction to the ICAT Assessment Guides* provides further description on how and why key recommendations are used within the ICAT assessment guides, as well as more information about following either the “flexible approach” or the “key recommendations” approach when using the guide.

## KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

### Chapter 2: Objectives of assessing the GHG impacts of RE policies

- Determine the objectives of the assessment at the beginning of the impact assessment process

### Chapter 4: Using the methodology

- Base the assessment on the principles of relevance, completeness, consistency, transparency and accuracy

### Chapter 5: Describing the policy

- Clearly describe the policy (or package of policies) that is being assessed

### Chapter 6: Identifying impacts: How RE policies reduce GHG emissions

- Identify all potential GHG impacts of the policy and associated GHG source categories
- Develop a causal chain
- Include all significant GHG impacts in the GHG assessment boundary
- Define the assessment period

### Chapter 7: Estimating RE addition of the policy ex-ante

- Estimate the technical potential of the policy

- Identify policy design characteristics and account for their effect on the technical potential of the policy
- Identify factors that affect the financial feasibility of RE technologies and account for their effect on the technical potential of the policy
- Identify other barriers not addressed by the policy, and to account for their effect on the technical potential of the policy

#### Chapter 8: Estimating GHG impacts of the policy ex-ante

- Choose the method for estimating GHG impacts based on the objectives of the assessment, and the policy's expected impact and timeframe
- Estimate the emission trajectory using energy models where feasible, and otherwise using the method for limited data availability
- Estimate the GHG impact using a grid emission factor calculated using the CDM combined margin emission factor approach or emission factor modelling

#### Chapter 9: Estimating GHG impacts ex-post

- Estimate achieved RE addition using monitored values for the parameters described in the monitoring plan
- Estimate the GHG impacts of the policy over the assessment period, for each GHG source included in the GHG assessment boundary

#### Chapter 10: Monitoring performance over time

- Identify the key performance indicators that will be used to track performance of the policy over time and define the parameters necessary to estimate GHG emissions ex-post
- Create a plan for monitoring key performance indicators and parameters
- Monitor each of the indicators and parameters over time, in accordance with the monitoring plan

#### Chapter 11: Reporting

- Report information about the assessment process and the GHG impacts resulting from the policy (including the information listed in Section 11.1)