

**Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM) / Designated National Authority (DNA)**

**Rwanda Sustainable Development Criteria**

The below sustainable development criteria are used to evaluate CDM projects in Rwanda. The sustainable development criteria are organized in four categories: fundamental principles, environmental good practice, social aspects and economic benefits. Within these categories, there are “mandatory criteria” and “other relevant criteria.”

In order to receive a Letter of Approval, the project developer must demonstrate that **all** **of the mandatory criteria are met**. The mandatory criteria include all of the **fundamental principles** which discuss crucial principles of all projects in Rwanda. In addition, in the sustainable development checklist, ***at least one “other relevant*** ***criterion” from two of the three remaining categories*** – **environmental good practice,** **social aspects and economic benefits** – is met. This could be demonstrating, for instance, one environmental criterion and one economic criterion *or* one social and one economic criterion. In order to demonstrate each criterion, a concise but sufficiently detailed explanation of the plan of implementation of the criterion must be provided. Please limit each explanation to a maximum of 100 words. The implementation plan will be carefully considered in deciding whether the criterion is met or not. Any necessary reference documentation should be provided. Each time a verification of the project is conducted, an updated sustainable development checklist must be provided to the DNA (*Verification by the DOE will not be required*), demonstrating how the sustainable development criteria are being met once the project is operating.

References are listed in Annex 1. Following each criterion, the number of the relevant reference is listed in [ ].

**Fundamental principles**

***Mandatory criteria***

1. Benefits from the project will be sustained even after the lifetime of theproject activity. [13, 19]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Stakeholders, particularly local communities, including men, women, and youth, have been consulted and a plan is in place to communicate and consult stakeholders throughout the lifetime of the project. [19, 25, 20]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. There is no involvement or complicity in corruption. [7, 27]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. There is a promotion of international, national and local strategies, plans and policies relevant to sustainable development. [13, 20, 25]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

**Environmental good practice**

***Mandatory criteria***

1. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are reduced. [5]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. A precautionary approach is taken in regards to environmental challenges and is not complicit in practices contrary to the precautionary principle. [8, 19]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Where required, an environmental impact assessment (EIA) has been conducted and approved, in accordance with legislation. If an EIA is not required, please describe any negative environmental benefits that may occur and how they will be remediated. [14, 19]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Any banned substances that deplete the ozone layer are not used. [15, 16]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Manufacturing, using, importing and selling of polythene bags will not occur unless written authorization from REMA has been given. [11]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Classified forests shall be protected against any form of degradation or destruction from licensed or unlicensed utilization. [19, 22]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Any waste, including wastewater, will be collected, treated and changed in a manner that it does not degrade the environment or have adverse effects on human health, natural resources, flora and fauna and on the nature of the environment. [8]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Land will be used in a rational and efficient manner which prevents land degradation. [24]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

***Other relevant criteria***

1. Air pollution is reduced. [19]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Biodiversity is improved. [2, 3]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Forest resources are used sustainably. [19, 22]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Soil and subsoil will be preserved from all kinds of degradation and used in a sustainable manner. Rotation and intercropping is encouraged. [2, 8, 18, 24]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Water from the sewage system and any liquid waste will be collected in a treatment plant for purification before being released into a river, stream, lake or pond. [2, 8]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

**Social aspects**

***Mandatory***

1. International and African proclaimed human rights including dignity, equality, peace, liberty, cultural property and uniqueness and rights of indigenous people are respected. There is no complicity in Human Rights abuses. [1, 26]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. There is no involvement or complicity in any form of discrimination based on race, ethnicity, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion or political opinion. [6]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. There is no involvement or complicity in the alteration, damage or removal of any critical cultural heritage. [19]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Health and safety regulation is followed or exceeded resulting in the protection of human health. [2, 6, 12, 21]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Workers’ rights are respected, as required by legislation. This includes meeting at least the minimum standards of: all laborers are over the age of sixteen; forced labor does not occur; and employees have the freedom of association and right to collective bargaining. For equal working conditions, professional qualification and cost effectiveness, the salary is equal for all employees regulated by this law whatever be their origin, sex or age. [6, 12]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. All activities (e.g. planning, implementation and monitoring) will be gender mainstreamed, ensuring promotion of gender quality. Gender disaggregated data on impacts is provided. [2, 4, 12, 20]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Expropriation, when necessary, is to be carried out only by the Government and only in the public interest and with prior consent and just compensation. [10]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

***Other relevant criteria***

1. There is a contribution to gender equality by providing either equal or greater employment opportunities to women than men or by creating and/or directly supporting women owned business. [4, 19, 20]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Employment of staff between the ages of 18-35 is encouraged. [17, 19]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Human health is improved. [2]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Community infrastructure is improved. [19, 25]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Rural communities will benefit. [19, 20, 25]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

**Economic benefits**

***Mandatory criteria***

1. Local staff is trained and employed so that local capacity is increased. [9]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Technology transfer and capacity development regarding the technology will occur. [5, 9]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

***Other relevant criteria***

1. Local businesses and industries are used. [9]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Dependence on fossil fuels or non-renewable biomass (energy projects) is reduced. [19]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

1. Labor based technology that reduces dependence on expensive construction equipment and creates employment is used. [21]

Explanation of how criterion is met:

**Annex 1**

**References for Sustainable Development Criteria**

1. African Charter on Humans and People's Rights
2. Agenda 21, United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 1992.
3. Convention on Biological Diversity, United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 1992.
4. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.
5. Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

1997.

1. Law N° 51/2001 of 30/12/2001 Establishing the Labor Code.
2. Law N° 23/2003 of 07/08/2003 Related to punishment of corruption and related offences.
3. Law N° 04/2005 of 08/04/2005 Organic Law determining the modalities of protection, conservation and promotion of environment in Rwanda.
4. Law N° 26/2005 of 17/12/2005 relating to investment and export promotion and facilitation, 2005.
5. Law N° 18/2007 of 19/04/2007 relating to expropriation in the public interest.
6. Law N°57/2008 of 10/09/2008 relating to the prohibition of manufacturing, importation, use and sale of polythene bags in Rwanda.
7. LAW N°13/2009 of 27/05/2009 regulating labor in Rwanda.
8. Millennium Development Goals in Rwanda, 2000.
9. Ministerial Order N° 004/2008 on Establishing the list of works, activities and projects that have to undertake an environmental impact assessment.
10. Ministerial Order N° 006/2008 on Regulating importation and exportation of ozone layer depleting substances, products and equipment containing such substances.
11. Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer, 1987.
12. National Action Plan on Youth Employment, 2007.
13. Organic Law N°08/2005 of 14/07/2005 determining the use and management of land in Rwanda.
14. Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 1992.
15. Rwanda Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS), 2007.
16. Rwanda National Construction Industry Policy, 2009.
17. Rwanda National Forestry Policy, 2004.
18. Rwanda National Gender Policy, 2010 (expected approval).
19. Rwanda National Land Policy of February 2004.
20. Rwanda Vision 2020, 2000.
21. United Nations Declaration on Human Rights, 1948.
22. United Nations Convention Against Corruption, 2003.