

Aim: To set out how the GOF-C-GOLD Sourcebook and the GFOI Methods and Guidance Document relate.

The GOF-C-GOLD Sourcebook (the Sourcebook)¹ and GFOI's Methods and Guidance Document (the MGD)² both address estimation of greenhouse gases associated with land use, especially forests, and in particular the activities identified by the UNFCCC under its agenda item related to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and other activities (REDD+)³. Both aim to be consistent with the guidance and guidelines provided by the IPCC. They are produced in consultation and are intended by GOF-C-GOLD and GFOI to be used together and provide complementary functions, namely the purpose of the:

- Sourcebook is to provide an annually updated review of the science related to estimating emissions and removals associated with forests, consistent with IPCC guidance. The Sourcebook provides conceptual and practical information on acquiring key data. It incorporates examples and documented experiences including capacity building and community based forest monitoring experiences. It has a focus on what is scientifically feasible at the national level, with up-to-date information on evolving technologies, taking account of GFOI's review of R&D⁴.
- MGD is to provide step-by-step advice on how to estimate emissions and removals associated with REDD+ activities, which are systematically described and linked to IPCC guidance. The MGD describes the use of remotely sensed and ground based data in combination and provides advice in support of countries in designing their national forest management systems. It focuses on methods that are ready for implementation, linked to data made freely available by the Space Agencies via Space Data Coordination Group established for this purpose.

In practice the MGD is a manual and the Sourcebook a scientific and technical review synthesized for the purpose of IPCC- guided estimation. It is expected that in implementing a national forest monitoring system national experts might follow the steps set out in the MGD and cross-reference the Sourcebook for further scientific advice. The Sourcebook is intended mainly for the technical experts actually engaged the analysis. The MGD is also relevant to those planning and managing the process.

¹ The Sourcebook is available at http://www.gofcgold.wur.nl/redd/sourcebook/GOF-C-GOLD_Sourcebook.pdf

² The MGD is available at <http://www.gfoi.org/methods-guidance-documentation>

³ The full list of REDD+ activities is (a) Reducing emissions from deforestation; (b) Reducing emissions from forest degradation; (c) Conservation of forest carbon stocks;(d) Sustainable management of forests; (e) Enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

⁴ GFOI's R&D Review is available at http://www.gfoi.org/sites/default/files/GFOI_ReviewPriorityRDTTopics_V1.pdf

Box: Headline Messages

GOFC-GOLD Sourcebook and GFOI Methods and Guidance Document

- Sourcebook an annually updated review of science
- MGD step-by-step advice on readily implementable approaches
- They are *complementary!* – use them together to provide estimates of REDD+ activities consistent with IPCC Guidance as required by the UNFCCC COP.

This module was prepared by:

Simon Eggleston – GFOI

Carly Green – EAS

Martin Herold – Wageningen University

Jim Penman – University College London

Curtis Woodcock – Boston University

With review comments from:

Brice Mora - Wageningen University/GOFC-GOLD Office

Pontus Olofsson – Boston University