



# Technical Contribution from the Bouaké Ville Durable Project

## Non-permanence provisions in draft methodology A6.4-MEP014-A04, section 10.2

City of Bouaké, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire | July 2026

**Position put forward: the Bouaké Ville Durable Project supports the management of reversal risk. It nevertheless requests that the share of credits allocated to the buffer pool be limited, justified by reliable data and tailored to clean cooking projects.**

### 1. Purpose of the note

This note presents the observations of the Bouaké Ville Durable Project on section 10.2 of draft methodology A6.4-MEP014-A04. This section provides for a portion of emission reductions from clean cooking activities to be transferred to a reversal risk buffer pool account in order to cover a potential future reversal.

The Project supports the objective of protecting environmental integrity. Its concern relates to the way the buffer contribution is calculated. The rate applied should reflect the risk genuinely linked to the project, without making households or the programme bear forest carbon losses caused by other actors.

### 2. Why Bouaké is concerned

The African Improved Cookstove Initiative in Bouaké plans to distribute 50,000 wood and charcoal cookstoves in the city of Bouaké and the Gbêkê Region. The first phase covers 25,000 units. The programme's public documentation indicates an estimated potential of 840,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions for this phase.

A survey conducted in 2022 also showed that improved cookstoves were the ecological solution of greatest interest to residents. A total of 10,664 people, representing 66% of respondents, expressed interest in this solution.

## Key programme data

| Indicator                                         | Value                           |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Planned cookstoves                                | 50,000                          |
| First phase                                       | 25,000 cookstoves               |
| Announced emission reductions for the first phase | 840,000 tCO <sub>2</sub>        |
| 2022 survey result                                | 10,664 people, representing 66% |

### 3. The issue raised by section 10.2

An improved cookstove reduces the amount of wood or charcoal needed to prepare meals. The methodology considers that part of this benefit may be lost if the biomass preserved is destroyed at a later stage. It therefore requires a share of credits to be set aside in a reversal risk buffer pool account.

This rule creates a difficulty for clean cooking projects. The programme controls cookstove quality, distribution, use and household monitoring. It does not control forests, agricultural clearing, commercial timber harvesting, fires, droughts or decisions taken by third parties.

A carbon stock loss observed within a region should therefore not be automatically attributed to the project. The calculation should distinguish the risk linked to the clean cooking activity from other causes of landscape degradation.

### 4. Possible effects on the Bouaké programme

The buffer contribution directly reduces the number of credits available. It may reduce the resources allocated to cookstove subsidies, household awareness, equipment monitoring, maintenance and benefit sharing.

#### Simulation for the first phase

| Buffer contribution rate | Credits set aside | Credits remaining available |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 10%                      | 84,000            | 756,000                     |
| 15%                      | 126,000           | 714,000                     |
| 20%                      | 168,000           | 672,000                     |

These figures are simulations. They illustrate how the buffer level may affect the programme's ability to reach the targeted households.

## 5. Position of the Bouaké Ville Durable Project

- **The principle of the buffer pool is accepted.** The Project recognises the need to cover a genuine reversal risk.
- **The rate should remain proportionate.** An improved cookstove project should not be treated in the same way as a forestry project that directly controls land and carbon stocks.
- **Risk should be correctly attributed.** Losses caused by third parties or external events should not be automatically assigned to the programme.
- **Local data should be used.** The actual wood or charcoal sourcing area should guide the assessment whenever reliable data are available.
- **The same risks should not be deducted twice.** The buffer pool should not duplicate deductions already applied for uncertainty, leakage or the fraction of non-renewable biomass.
- **The rate should be reviewable.** Regular updates should be possible when better data become available.

## 6. Requests to the Methodology Expert Panel

1. Establish a specific cap for buffer pool contributions from clean cooking projects.
2. Base the calculation on risks that can be linked to the credited emission reductions.
3. Do not automatically attribute to the project carbon losses caused by third parties or events beyond its control.
4. Allow the use of subnational or project-specific data where they better represent the fuel sourcing area.
5. Take account of local risk reduction measures, including fuelwood management, fire prevention, traceability and reforestation.
6. Confirm that the buffer contribution does not duplicate deductions already included in the methodology.
7. Publish the data, assumptions and method used to calculate the buffer contribution rate.
8. Review risk values at regular intervals.
9. Assess the effects of the selected rate on cookstove prices and the number of beneficiary households.

## 7. Proposed wording for section 10.2

*"The level of reversal risk and the contribution to the reversal risk buffer pool account shall be proportionate to the reduction in carbon stock loss that is demonstrably attributable to the activity and shall be based on verifiable data relating to the actual fuelwood sourcing area."*

## 8. Final position

The Bouaké Ville Durable Project supports a rule that safeguards the quality of carbon credits. The rule should also reflect the actual operating conditions of clean cooking projects.

For Bouaké, the proposed position is clear: accept the principle of the buffer pool, limit the rate, use reliable data, avoid double counting and include only risks that can be linked to the project.

This approach protects environmental integrity while maintaining household access to a cooking solution identified as a territorial priority.

### Bouaké Ville Durable Project

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