

Advanced and Indirect Mitigation (AIM) Platform

Meeting Minutes – June 15, 2023

An initiative jointly developed by:



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The Advanced and Indirect Mitigation (AIM) Governing Committee

June 15, 2023 | GC Meeting #4

Attendees:

Governing Committee Members:

- Elena Schmidt (RSB)
- Lisa Spetz (H&M)
- Derik Broekhaff (SEI)
- Chris Davis (Amazon)
- Dan Smith (SFC)
- Tim Juliani (WWF)
- Pierre Bloch (SustainCERT)
- Devon Lake (Meta)
- Peter Skovly (Maersk)
- Alexia Kelly (High Tide Foundation)
- Kelley Kizzier (BEF)

Invited Observers:

- Brad Schallert (Winrock International)
- Candace Vinke (Verra)

AIM Organizers:

- Owen Hewlett (GS)
- Verena Radulovic (C2ES)
- Kim Carnahan (GMA)
- Ash Khetpal (GMA)
- Sam Pearl Schwartz (GMA)
- Edmond Yi (GMA)

Logistics:

1. If you have not done so already, please return the signed GC Member Agreement via docusign.
2. **Optional** times for GC Members to touch base with AIM Organizers should now be on your calendar on a biweekly basis. Attend as you wish. After June 28th, we will move it to a time that better aligns with our European members' work hours.

Summary of Topics Discussed and Substantive Action Items

- GC continued to discuss two elements of Task 4 of the Framework Guidance development process:
 - Task 4: Association with Value Chain
 - AIM Organizers presented a number of straw proposals for feedback, including:
 - The concept of two forms of eligibility criteria to assess adequate association with a value chain (activity-based and physical boundary-based)
 - For activity-based eligibility, a potential requirement that the activity of the intervention must match to the level of the core decarbonization technology(ies)
 - For activity-based eligibility, the concept that source-based eligibility is preferable when most/all suppliers use the same source for a particular commodity (e.g. electricity on a grid) or when a commodity is truly global
 - AIM Organizers also presented 3 existing classification frameworks that could potentially serve as the basis for activity matching under the AIM Guidance.
 - For physical boundary eligibility, the AIM Organizers posited the following for discussion:
 - Boundary requirements should likely differ based on sector.
 - In some sectors, physical boundaries could be imposed based on the market penetration or abatement cost of the decarbonization technology. i.e., when market penetration is very low, no physical boundary would be required for a new decarbonization technology.

- Task 4: Safeguards
 - AIM Organizers:
 - presented a straw proposal that, as a first priority, AIM should set a “standard for standards,” i.e. minimum requirements to be fulfilled by sector-specific standards as appropriate;
 - presented two examples of high-level GHG accounting principles that can translate to value chain interventions for consideration; and
 - posited that, in addition to the high-level principles, AIM would need to develop guidance that addresses these core concepts, at minimum (even if to say they don’t apply):
 - Additionality
 - Double-Counting¹
 - Time-boundedness¹
 - Permanence¹
- GC Members found general alignment on the following topics:
 - Some form of activity-based matching requirement is appropriate, with several members supporting the concept of linking that requirement to the core decarbonization technology(ies).
 - AIM should use the IPCC emissions reporting framework as the fundamental basis for activity-based matching requirements, but sector-specific classifications are likely to also be needed.
 - AIM should develop a “standard for standards” in the first instance and should generally focus on accounting in its guidance and leave most sustainability or quality determinations to sector-specific sustainability standards.
 - At minimum, regulatory additionality should be addressed by these requirements; (extensive) further GC discussion of general additionality and/or causality requirements is needed.
- Next GC Meeting and optional GC Working Times will first focus on the other two Task 4 elements not discussed in depth at this meeting: Need and Ambition. We will then dive back into Association with Value Chain and Safeguards.

¹ The topics of double-counting, permanence or time-boundedness was not discussed in any detail.