## **Key Project Information for the Verified Carbon Standard project**

"Strengthening capacity through regenerative solutions for native sugarcane farmers in Maharashtra, India"

The proposed project is located in the central Indian state of Maharashtra, a state with a high sugarcane productivity. The region's tropical climatic conditions see a long growing season with more equitable and favourable conditions. In the current, or pre-project cultivation practice the majority of farmers burn the sugarcane crop residue post-harvest, and there are high levels of input of synthetic nitrogenous fertilisers. Continuous, long-term unsustainable practices have resulted in decreased harvests and contributed to land degradation and decreased soil health. Decades of conventional farming practices have depleted the soils which reduces the innate immune system of plants and the capacity to withstand erratic weather patterns. Higher temperatures and prolonged dry spells are leading to increased pest attacks, disease outbreaks and lower yields in sugarcane.

Adopting more sustainable practices based on a holistic approach are key to addressing the issues with current cultivation patterns. The objective of the proposed VCS Sustainable Agricultural Land Management (SALM) project activity aims to transition the farmers into practicing more sustainable cultivation practices in sugarcane production. The SALM project is expected to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions or increase sequestration of carbon in soil and biomass in the following ways:

- i. Reduction of nitrous oxide emissions by reducing usage of synthetic chemical fertilizer, improved fertilizer management
- ii. Avoidance of crop residue burning.
- iii. Increased application of organic manures
- iv. Mulching/shredding of harvest residue with the help of decomposers.

The main focus of work by the PPs VNV and Shramjivi Janata Sahayyak Mandal is to facilitate the promotion of local natural resource-based livelihoods through the formation of formal cooperatives.

The project activity has adopted the VCS methodology VM0017: "VM0017 Adoption of Sustainable Agricultural Land Management, v1.0". The PP will use the carbon credits to assist the community in facilitating soil tests, provide agricultural equipment, provide bio/organic fertilisers and establishing vermicompost units. This will assist the farmers in adapting sustainable agriculture practices.

## **Declaration by the Project Proponents:**

## TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN

The Project Proponents, Value Network Ventures Advisory Services Pte. Ltd (VNV)., and Shramjivi Janata Sahayyak Mandal (SJSM) of the VCS Project titled "Strengthening capacity through regenerative solutions for native sugarcane farmers in Maharashtra, India", VCS Project Reference no. 4259 hereby confirm that:

- Value Network Ventures Advisory Services Pte. Ltd and Shramjivi Janata Sahayyak Mandal (SJSM) are the owners of the project
- The project activity has not been rejected by any other GHG program
- The project neither has nor intends to generate any other form of GHG related environment credit for GHG emission reductions claimed under the VCS program.
- The project has been listed as VCS project titled "Strengthening capacity through regenerative solutions for native sugarcane farmers in Maharashtra, India" (VCS Project Reference 4259). The PPs will not claim emission reductions achieved from this project in multiple GHG programs, hence avoiding double counting.

Furthermore, we would like to declare that the Carbon credits may be issued through Verified Carbon Standard project VCS 4259 for the greenhouse gas emission reductions or removals associated with Value Network Ventures Advisory Services Pte. Ltd. and Shramjivi Janata Sahayyak Mandal (SJSM), whose emissions footprint is changed by the project activities.

For, Value Network Ventures Advisory Services Pte. Ltd.

Mr. Sandeep Roy Choudhury

Director, VNV Advisory