

FORM

FORM - DEVIATION REQUEST SUBMISSION

PUBLICATION DATE: 12/11/2024

VERSION: 6.0

NEXT PLANNED UPDATE: 12/11/2026

RELATED DOCUMENTS

– [Deviations Approval Requirements and Procedures](#)

CONTACT DETAILS

The Gold Standard Foundation
International Environment House 2
Chemin de Ballexert 7-9
1219 Châtelaine Geneva, Switzerland
Tel +41 22 788 70 80
Email help@goldstandard.org

1| General Guidelines

1.1 | Applicability

- 1.1.1 | This form is to be completed for projects (project activities/PoAs/VPAs) seeking deviation or is/are at a risk of deviating from any [applicable requirements](#), GS4GG-specific requirements listed in the applicable [Methodologies](#) or any other deviations occurring in any of the various aspects of the project.
- 1.1.2 | Refer to the latest version of [Deviation Request Requirements and Procedures](#) for detailed information on the procedures and requirements.
- 1.1.3 | This form can be used in the following instances i.e.,
 - a. Deviation from GS4GG requirements and/or applicable methodologies prior to submission for certification with GS4GG.
 - b. Temporary changes to a certified project - which include changes from the registered monitoring plan, the applied methodologies or other standard documents - that are expected **not** to occur beyond a given monitoring period.
- 1.1.4 | For any permanent changes to a design certified project, the requirements set in [Design Change Approval Requirements and Procedures](#) shall be followed.

2| Submission of deviation form

- 2.1.1 | This form shall be submitted in Microsoft Word (.doc) format to Gold Standard at deviations@goldstandard.org
- 2.1.2 | Forms with incomplete/inaccurate information shall not be considered for review and shall be returned to the applicant.

3| Implementation of deviation decision

- 3.1.1 | The decision prescribed in this form shall be considered by the entity applying for deviation for further course of action.

Table of Content

| | |
|--|----|
| 1 General Guidelines..... | 2 |
| 1.1 Applicability..... | 2 |
| 2 Submission of deviation form | 2 |
| 3 Implementation of deviation decision | 2 |
| 4 Decision summary | 4 |
| 4.1 General information..... | 4 |
| 4.2 Decision..... | 4 |
| 4.3 Applicability to other activities | 4 |
| 5 Deviation Request Details..... | 6 |
| 5.1 Submitted by..... | 6 |
| 5.2 Details of the entity and its representative submitting the form | 6 |
| 5.3 Background information..... | 6 |
| 5.4 Project deviation history | 7 |
| 6 Deviation detail | 8 |
| 6.1 Standard document reference..... | 8 |
| 6.2 Description of the deviation..... | 8 |
| 6.3 VVB information..... | 9 |
| 6.4 VVB's assessment | 9 |
| 6.5 Documents: | 10 |

4| Decision summary

To be completed by Gold Standard

4.1 | General information

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| DEVIATION REFERENCE NUMBER | DEVQR-231 |
| Date of decision | 26/10/2025 |
| Decision | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved [No precondition to apply the deviation decision] <input type="checkbox"/> Conditionally approved [Decision is subject to compliance with the precondition defined below] <input type="checkbox"/> Not approved [reason for rejection is provided in decision summary] |

4.2 | Decision

4.2.1 | Decision Summary

The Deviation Request is Approved.

The CME can submit a single monitoring report for the 6 VPAs (GS 11950, GS 11951, GS 11952, GS 11953, GS 11954 and GS 11980) with different start dates of monitoring periods. However, for the subsequent verification, CME shall ensure they follow the requirements of Gold Standard VVS 17.2.1.b.

4.2.2 | Directions for the project developer/CME, if applicable

The CME shall note that the decision is based on the information provided in the deviation request form and only against the applicable standard requirement quoted in the form below by the project developer. The CME shall comply with all other applicable standard requirements, including the guidance in the DEVQR-58 and DEVQR-163. The CME shall document the deviation request, its implications, and GS' decision in the appropriate section of the project document.

4.2.3 | Directions for the Validation and Verification Body (VVB), if applicable

The VVB shall, through appropriate means at disposal, evaluate the project's compliance with the above-mentioned conditions and provide VVB opinion in the verification report.

4.2.4 | Directions for the Gold Standard, if applicable

The review team shall check the information reported by the CME and the VVB for appropriateness, accuracy and consistency.

4.3 | Applicability to other activities

| | |
|---|---|
| Is this decision applicable to other projects under similar circumstances? ¹ | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Does this decision set a precedent for future projects with similar circumstances? ² | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Precedent details (if applicable to other activities) | |
| <hr/> | |

¹ If this is marked yes, this means that any other project (PoA/VPA/PA) in similar situation may apply the decision of this deviation to their project as well. The project developer/VVB may quote this deviation decision in the relevant certification documents. This is relevant to only the projects which have already entered the certification cycle with GS4GG.

² If this is marked yes, it means the decision is valid to all the future projects which will enter the certification cycle with the similar situation. This is relevant to all the projects which are not yet design certified with GS4GG or have not submitted their documents for preliminary review yet.

5| Deviation Request Details

To be completed by the entity requesting deviation - (Project Developer/Coordinating and Managing Entity and/or VVB)

5.1 | Submitted by

- ☒ Project developer
☐ CME
☐ VVB
☐ Other (specify...)

5.2 | Details of the entity and its representative submitting the form

| Item | Information |
|--|--|
| Name ³ : | Alexia Timmermans |
| Email ID ⁴ : | a.timmermans@southpole.com |
| Organisation: ⁵ : | South Pole |
| Are you an authorized project participant as per the cover letter submitted for this activity? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

5.3 | Background information

| Type | <input type="checkbox"/> Project activity | <input type="checkbox"/> PoA GSXXXX | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VPA |
|-------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| GS ID | GSXXXX GSXXXX | GS XXXX GS XXXX | GS 11950 GS 11951 GS 11952 GS 11953 GS 11954 GS 11980 |
| Host country(ies) | Burkina Faso | | |
| Project Title | GS1340 - Efficient cookstoves in Burkina Faso - Solidagro F3PA cookstoves in Boulkiemdé - VPA-40 GS1340 - Efficient cookstoves in Burkina Faso - Solidagro F3PA cookstoves in Boulkiemdé - VPA-41 GS1340 - Efficient cookstoves in Burkina Faso - Solidagro F3PA cookstoves in Boulkiemdé - VPA-42 GS1340 - Efficient cookstoves in Burkina Faso - Solidagro F3PA cookstoves in Boulkiemdé - VPA-43 | | |

³ Name of the individual representing the entity requesting the deviation

⁴ Email ID for further correspondence related to the deviation request

⁵ The name of the entity requesting the deviation

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|-------------|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | GS1340 - Efficient cookstoves in Burkina Faso - Solidagro F3PA cookstoves in Boulkiemdé - VPA-44 | | | | | | | | | |
| | GS1340 - Efficient cookstoves in Burkina Faso - Solidagro F3PA cookstoves in Boulkiemdé - VPA-45 | | | | | | | | | |
| Registry link | https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4004 https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4006 https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4008 https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4005 https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4009 https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4010 | | | | | | | | | |
| Scale | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Microscale (GS) <input type="checkbox"/> Small scale <input type="checkbox"/> Large scale <input type="checkbox"/> Other, if applicable please specify below <i>Insert text here</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Certification Status and corresponding date of latest status | <input type="checkbox"/> Listed <i>dd/mm/yyyy</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Certified design <i>dd/mm/yyyy</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified project <i>09/11/2023</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>If other, specify here</i> <i>dd/mm/yyyy</i> | | | | | | |
| Applied version of Standard | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GS4GG <input type="checkbox"/> Previous version of Gold Standard | | | | | | | | | |
| | <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Version no.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 1.0</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 1.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 1.2</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 2.2</td> </tr> </table> | | | | Version no. | | <input type="checkbox"/> 1.0 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1.1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1.2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2.2 |
| Version no. | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1.0 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1.1 | | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1.2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2.2 | | | | | | | | | |
| Transition date, if applicable | From previous GS version to GS4GG | | <i>dd/mm/yyyy</i> | | | | | | | |
| | From another standard to GS4GG | | <i>dd/mm/yyyy</i> | | | | | | | |
| | Name of another standard | | <input type="checkbox"/> CDM <input type="checkbox"/> Other Name of the Standard – Insert text here | | | | | | | |
| Applicable activity requirement | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy Activity Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Services Activity Requirements <input type="checkbox"/> Land-use and Forests Activity Requirements <input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>Insert name here</i> | | | | | | | | | |

5.4 | Project deviation history

| | |
|--|--|
| Is there any deviation request(s) for the same project activity/PoA/VPA(s) that was submitted to GS previously? If yes, below information. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Reference number | DEVQR-58 (VPA 40-46) and DEVQR-163 |

| | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Status of the deviation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected | <input type="checkbox"/> Under review |
| Were there any findings (CL, CAR, FAR) raised during any certification step (preliminary review, design and/or performance review etc.) that are relevant to this deviation request? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Summary of the findings <i>Summary of the CL, CAR, FAR not more than 200 words. Include reference to document, page number</i> | | |

6| Deviation detail

To be completed by the entity requesting deviation (Project Developer/Coordinating and Managing Entity and/or VVB)

6.1 | Standard document reference

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|--|
| Standard document reference | Title | Program of Activities Requirements and Procedure |
| | Version | V3.0 |
| | Paragraph | 8.5.8 |

6.2 | Description of the deviation

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Title | Verification of VPA's with different MP start and end date | |
| Confirm the nature of changes related to deviation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temporary (e.g. not expected to occur beyond one monitoring period) | <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent (e.g. deviation from requirements prior to submission for certification) |
| | Insert Text here (if required) to support the selection | |
| Relevant monitoring period, if applicable | Start date | 01/01/2023 and 09/06/2023 |
| | End date | 31/12/2023 |
| Summarise the changes | The PD would like to request that it be made possible to conduct a combined verification of VPA 40–46, despite the two different start dates of the monitoring periods (01/01/2023 and 09/06/2023). The end date is identical for all 6 VPA's. | |
| Reason for deviation | The VVB audit for this monitoring period was delayed due to changes within the PD's team. As a result, it was later identified that no on-site visit had been conducted for VPA 43–45 within two years of the project start date. Following a deviation request, GS approved the on-site audit under the condition that no credits would be claimed beyond two years from the date of the site visit (DEVREQ-163). Consequently, the monitoring periods of VPA 43–45 had to be adjusted to begin on 09/06/2023. However, at the same time, the VVB was already conducting the batched verification of the six VPAs (VPA 40–45). | |
| Proposed resolution | We would like to request approval to proceed with the batched verification of the six VPAs (VPA 40–45) together. The PD will ensure that all SDGs are accurately determined for the group of VPAs in line with the respective start date of each VPA, and that no credits are claimed for VPA 43–45 beyond the two years prior | |

| | to the on-site visit (09/06/2023). This situation will occur only once; from the next monitoring period onwards, the start and end dates of all VPAs will be aligned. | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|------------------------|------------------------|--|--|
| Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of deviation on other aspects of the project? | <p>Select the relevant area:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project design</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Local stakeholder consultation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Safeguarding principles</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SDG assessment</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory compliance</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additionality</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Applicability of methodology</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Annual emission reduction volume <i>(if yes, fill the table below)</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th><th>Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>XYZ tCO₂e</td><td>XYZ tCO₂e</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><input type="checkbox"/> any other matrix, please specify...</p> | Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation | Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation | XYZ tCO ₂ e | XYZ tCO ₂ e | | |
| Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation | Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation | | | | | | |
| XYZ tCO ₂ e | XYZ tCO ₂ e | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Summary of the impact | Describe the impact of the deviation on each relevant aspect of the project as selected above. Please substantiate the impact assessment with relevant and verifiable data/information. | | | | | | |
| Insert text here | | | | | | | |

6.3 | VVB information

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Is a VVB opinion on the deviation request required?</p> <p><i>VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the requirements under Deviations Request Requirements and Procedures or request is submitted by the VVB.</i></p> | <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>If answer is yes, fill the information in section 6.4 below.</i></p> |
|---|--|

6.4 | VVB's assessment

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| The below information is to be completed by VVB, if applicable. | | |
| VVB's assessment of deviation request | Please confirm the nature of deviation. | |
| VVB's assessment of impact of deviation request | | |
| VVB recommendation | | |
| VVB details | VVB name: | |
| | Auditor name(s): | |
| | Email (s): | |

6.5 | Documents:

6.5.1 | List of documents provided (*note that once a decision has been made by Gold Standard, this deviation form will be made public on the Gold Standard website. Kindly refrain from including any confidential information in the form.*)

Document 1. DEVRQ-163

Document 2. DEVRQ-58

Document n.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

| VERSION NUMBER | RELEASE DATE | DESCRIPTION |
|-------------------|--------------|--|
| 6.0 | 12.11.2024 | Editorial and structural changes to the template |
| 5.0 | 11.04.2022 | Additional information added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - date of listing, design certification, transition - standard version - specific reference to a requirement deviated from - any previous deviations/design changes approved - Guidance on VVB opinion |
| 4.0 | 14.01.2021 | Editorial changes |
| 3.0 | 16.07.2020 | Editorial changes |
| 2.0 | 03.05.2018 | Editorial changes |
| 1.0 | 01.07.2017 | Initial adoption |