



Gold Standard[®]
for the Global Goals

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

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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	7
6.1 Standard document reference.....	8
6.2 Description of the deviation.....	8
6.3 VVB information.....	10
6.4 VVB’s assessment	10
6.5 Documents:	10

4| Decision summary

To be completed by Gold Standard

4.1 | General information

DEVIATION REFERENCE NUMBER	DEVREQ-277
Date of decision	28/01/2026
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 VVB team may continue with the future verification as the design change under the issuance track is related to mandatory change in fNRB application and the minor change on typo mistakes as mentioned in the submitted Verification reports:

- FVR.GS.VER.24_Resub 2_Public_v3.0_CLEAN_Final_171225-2108251.pdf
- FVR_GS.VER.23.90_Honduras_VP15_12_11_non-confidential_Public_Clean_171125-1449550.pdf

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 CME. The CME shall comply with all other applicable standard requirements until unless specifically mentioned in the deviation decision. 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 verifying VVB shall, through appropriate means at disposal, evaluate that 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 :	Shifali Guleria
Email ID ⁴ :	shifali.guleria@earthood.in
Organisation: ⁵ :	Earthood Services Limited
Are you an authorized project participant as per the cover letter submitted for this activity?	<input 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	GS2758 GS12798
Host country(ies)	Honduras		
Project Title	1. Proyecto Mirador Enhanced Distribution of Improved Cookstoves in Latin America: First VPA for Distribution of Dos por Tres Cookstoves in Honduras 2. Proyecto Mirador Enhanced Distribution of Improved Cookstove in Latin America – Fourth VPA for Distribution of Dos por Tres Cookstove in Honduras		
Registry link	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/1575 https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4930		

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

Scale	<input type="checkbox"/> Microscale (GS) <input type="checkbox"/> Small scale <input checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified design	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified project	<input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>If other, specify here</i>
	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>
Applied version of Standard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GS4GG			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Previous version of Gold Standard	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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Reference number	Insert Text here
Status of the deviation	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> No
	Summary of the findings No previous deviation submitted by VVB for this project

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	Validation and Verification Standard (VVS)
	Version	V2.0
	Paragraph	Para 6.8.1 (independence of verification and validation/design-change teams)

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Eligibility of same VVB assessment team for future verifications after issuance-track design change review.	
Confirm the nature of changes related to deviation	<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary (e.g. not expected to occur beyond one monitoring period)	<input checked="" 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	Dd/mm/yyyy
	End date	Dd/mm/yyyy
Summarise the changes	<p>The same Earthood assessment team conducted both the verification and the issuance-track design change review during the most recent verification of VPA GS2758 and VPA GS12798. The design change consisted primarily of the mandatory fNRB update required by the Gold Standard rule update, along with a small number of minor editorial corrections in the PoA-DD and VPA-DD.</p> <p>This deviation request seeks approval for members of the same assessment team to remain eligible to conduct future verifications, since the only non-mandatory changes reviewed were purely editorial and had no material impact on the project’s design, additionality, baseline, methodology applicability, emission reductions, or SDG impacts.</p>	
Reason for deviation	<p>Gold Standard VVS Paragraph 6.8.1 requires that verification teams must be entirely different from teams performing validation or design-change review, to ensure independence and avoid conflicts of interest. However, in CLRQ-230, Gold Standard clarified that if the design change relates exclusively to the mandatory fNRB update, the same VVB team is allowed to continue future verifications.</p> <p>In this case, the design change included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory fNRB update (explicitly permitted per CLRQ-230) Minor editorial corrections (typos, clarifications, alignment of parameter tables) <p>These editorial updates were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-material in nature • Did not alter any eligibility conditions • Had no effect on additionality or baseline • Did not affect any parameter used in ER calculations • Were performed solely to correct documentation inconsistencies <p>Without a deviation, para 6.8.1 would unintentionally restrict team continuity based on edits that are administrative and non-substantive, which is not the intent of the impartiality safeguard.</p>	

<p>Proposed resolution</p>	<p>Earthood requests Gold Standard to approve that: The same assessment team that performed the previous verification and issuance-track design change review may be allowed to conduct future verifications of VPA GS2758 and VPA GS12798, given that the only non-mandatory design changes reviewed were minor editorial corrections with no material impact.</p> <p>This proposal maintains full compliance with VVS principles because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Editorial corrections do not constitute a substantive validation function. • Integrity and impartiality are unaffected. • No change involved methodology interpretation, additionality judgment, or baseline adjustments. • The mandatory fNRB update is already permitted per CLRQ-230. • No monitoring parameter, ER volume, SDG reporting, or safeguarding condition is affected. <p>The approach remains conservative, transparent, and consistent with the intent of GS rules.</p>				
<p>Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of deviation on other aspects of the project?</p>	<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" data-bbox="480 1301 1449 1458"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="480 1301 959 1413">Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th> <th data-bbox="959 1301 1449 1413">Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="480 1413 959 1458">XYZ tCO₂e</td> <td data-bbox="959 1413 1449 1458">XYZ tCO₂e</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				
<p>Summary of the impact</p>	<p>There is no temporary or permanent impact on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • project design, • additionality, • baseline and monitoring methodology, • emission reductions, • SDG outcomes, or • any operational or safeguarding parameter. <p>Editorial corrections do not influence any element subject to VVB impartiality concerns.</p>				
<p>Insert text here</p>					

6.3 | VVB information

<p>Is a VVB opinion on the deviation request required? <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(Submitted by VVB)</i></p>
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6.4 | VVB’s assessment

The below information is to be completed by VVB, if applicable.

VVB’s assessment of deviation request	Same as above	
VVB’s assessment of impact of deviation request	Same as above	
VVB recommendation	Same as above	
VVB details	VVB name:	Earthood Service Limited
	Auditor name(s):	Shifali Guleria
	Email (s):	shifali.guleria@earthood.in

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. CLRQ-230 (GS clarification on mandatory fNRB change and auditor eligibility)

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