



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.

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4| Decision summary

To be completed by Gold Standard

4.1 | General information

DEVIATION REFERENCE NUMBER	DEVRQ-314
Date of decision	05/01/2026
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 CME could conduct the monitoring survey for the first monitoring period 10/10/2024 to 31/12/2025 at the latest by 28/02/2026.

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
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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.

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

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 :	Abhishek Goyal
Email ID ⁴ :	abhishek.goyal@agscarbon.com
Organisation: ⁵ :	AGS Carbon Advisory
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 23422
Host country(ies)	Republic of Rwanda		
Project Title	GS23301 VPA-2 Rwanda Safe Water Filter project		
Registry link	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/5347		
Scale	<input type="checkbox"/> Microscale (GS) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small scale <input type="checkbox"/> Large scale <input type="checkbox"/> Other		
Certification Status and corresponding date of latest status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Listed 31/10/2025	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified design	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified project <input type="checkbox"/> Other

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

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		dd/mm/yyyy	
	From another standard to GS4GG		dd/mm/yyyy	
	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			

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Reference number	N/A		
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 N/A		

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	Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply
	Version	V 1.0
	Paragraph	Section 4.1

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Extension of monitoring frequency from Annual to 14 months	
Confirm the nature of changes	<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)

related to deviation	-	
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	10/10/2024
	End date	31/12/2025
Summarise the changes	<p>The purpose of the VPA is to disseminate Household Water Treatment (HWT) technologies in households and Institutional Water Treatment Technologies (IWT) in Early Childhood Development Centres (ECD) in Rwanda. They are distributed to households & ECDs which were earlier using either wood and/or charcoal on rudimentary stoves for boiling water or were consuming untreated water. The project makes the beneficiaries energy efficient and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions otherwise resulting from the burning of non-renewable woody biomass and/or charcoal for boiling unsafe water to make it safe for consumption.</p> <p>The frequency of monitoring and reporting for most of the parameters is annual as per the monitoring plan in the VPA-DD and as per the applied methodology for the VPA (Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply, ver 1.0). The first HWT under the VPA was distributed to household on 10/10/2024, marking it as the VPA start date.</p> <p>CME is now considering the first Monitoring period from 10th October 2024 till 31st December 2025 and plans to carry out the Monitoring activities between January and February 2026. Considering the PA Alignment requirements recently published by GS, the VPA Implementer, SPOUTS wishes to close the Monitoring period by 31st December 2025. However, due to unavailability of funds it will not be possible for Spouts to comply with the annual monitoring frequency and carry out the monitoring twice for Monitoring period 10/10/2024 to 09/10/2025 and for Monitoring period between 10/10/2025 to 31/12/2025. Further, since the project is still under Validation this extension will enable Spouts to fine tune the Monitoring plan which will help in carrying out the monitoring. Therefore, CME seeks deviation to carry out the monitoring activities for a period of 14 months instead of Annual monitoring.</p> <p>The requested deviation will not have any impact on the accuracy and completeness of the surveys and tests, the data to be monitored, the sample size, and all the other elements of the monitoring plan like survey methods shall remain the same as per the details mentioned in the VPA-DD.</p>	
Reason for deviation	<p>While, the frequency of monitoring and reporting as per the monitoring plan in the VPA-DD and as per the applied methodology (Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply, ver 1.0) is annual, the CME is finding it financially difficult to comply with the annual monitoring frequency i.e. undertake the monitoring twice (which includes water quality tests, project & usage surveys, and hygiene surveys) covering a period of 14 months, due to shortage of funds.</p> <p>Secondly, with the new fNRB guidelines kicking in from 1st January 2026 and revised PA aligned methodology, CME will also have to re-evaluate the viability of the project. CME would like to claim the benefits from the project for the Monitoring period ending 31/12/2025 so that the rural households and early-age children (3-6 years) in ECDs in Rwanda continue to get access to safe drinking water.</p>	

	<p>Going forward, the CME intends to tune in subsequent monitoring & verification with calendar years (01/01 to 31/12) for the rest of the crediting period if project viability is established with the new fNRB values and revised methodology.</p> <p>Hence, this adjustment will also facilitate the synchronization of the monitoring periods with calendar years which will be administratively and economically convenient for the CME while adhering to the frequency requirement as per the monitoring plan.</p>				
Proposed resolution	<p>As per CME’s assessment, the temporary deviation will not impact the accuracy and completeness of the surveys & tests because the sampling, the data to be monitored, and all the other elements of the monitoring plan like survey methods, including QA/QC shall be as per the details mentioned in the VPA-DD.</p> <p>All the monitoring activities such as Usage and Project Surveys, Water quality tests, and Water hygiene surveys shall be conducted after the end of 14-month period i.e. between January-February 2026.</p> <p>As per CME’s assessment, the values of monitoring parameters would be conservative for the 14-month monitoring period under consideration, because the results of the monitoring which will be undertaken during January-February 2026 will be applied to the entire monitoring period i.e. 10/10/2024 to 31/12/2025. Further, the VPA Implementer shall ensure that there is sufficient gap between the annual hygiene campaign and the annual usage survey.</p>				
Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of deviation on other aspects of the project?	<p>Select the relevant area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Project design <input type="checkbox"/> Local stakeholder consultation <input type="checkbox"/> Safeguarding principles <input type="checkbox"/> SDG assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory compliance <input type="checkbox"/> Additionality <input type="checkbox"/> Applicability of methodology <input type="checkbox"/> Annual emission reduction volume (<i>if yes, fill the table below</i>) <table border="1" data-bbox="327 1411 1292 1579"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="327 1411 805 1534">Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th> <th data-bbox="805 1411 1292 1534">Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="327 1534 805 1579">XYZ tCO₂e</td> <td data-bbox="805 1534 1292 1579">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				
Summary of the impact	<p>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.</p> <p>There will be no impact of the temporary deviation on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Project design ii) Local stakeholder consultation iii) Safeguarding principles iv) SDG assessment v) Regulatory compliance vi) Additionality 				

vii) Applicability of methodology

Further, the temporary deviation will not have any impact on annual emission reduction volume.

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 type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>If answer is yes, fill the information in section 6.4 below.</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	N/A	
VVB’s assessment of impact of deviation request	N/A	
VVB recommendation	N/A	
VVB details	VVB name:	N/A
	Auditor name(s):	N/A
	Email (s):	N/A

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.

Document 2.

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