



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-327
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 has been approved for the delayed submission of the annual report for the 2023 verification period.

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

The project developer shall establish and implement a process/procedure to ensure that Annual Reports are submitted annually, no later than the end of the year.

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

The verifying VVB shall verify compliance with this requirement, as stipulated in the applicable version of Principles & Requirements.

4.2.4 | Directions for the Gold Standard, if applicable

The review team shall check the information reported by the project developer 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does this decision set a precedent for future projects with similar circumstances? ²	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Precedent details (if applicable to other activities)	
NA	

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 :	Natasha Rathore
Email ID ⁴ :	natasha.rathore@vvnv.earth
Organisation: ⁵ :	Value Network Ventures Advisory Services Pte.Ltd.
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project activity	<input type="checkbox"/> PoA GSXXXX	<input type="checkbox"/> VPA	
GS ID	GS10788	NA	NA	
Host country(ies)	Nepal			
Project Title	Sustainable Market Development of Improved cooking in rural Nepal by Practical Action			
Registry link	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/2745			
Scale	<input type="checkbox"/> Microscale (GS) <input checked="" 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 NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified design NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified project 19/12/2024	<input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>If other, specify here</i> NA

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		NA	
	From another standard to GS4GG		NA	
	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 Insert name here			

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	NA	
Status of the deviation	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input checked="" 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 Summary of the CL, CAR, FAR not more than 200 words. Include reference to document, page number	

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	Gold Standard Principles and Requirements
	Version	V2.1
	Paragraph	para 5.1.39 to 5.1.44

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Deviation Requested for delay in Annual Report submission	
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	22/06/2023
	End date	31/12/2023
Summarise the changes	<p>The project developer seeks approval for a deviation from the standard annual reporting timeline for Annual Report, covering the period 22/06/2023 to 31/12/2023, which forms part of Monitoring Period 05 (22/06/2023- 21/06/2024).</p> <p>The deviation relates solely to the timing and structuring of monitoring and annual reporting period.</p> <p>This deviation does not affect the approved methodology, baseline scenario, additionality, project boundary, monitoring parameters, or the accuracy, completeness, and conservativeness of the emission reduction calculations. All monitoring activities continue to be implemented in accordance with the approved monitoring plan.</p>	
Reason for deviation	<p>Carbon market dynamics for clean cooking projects: Evolving conditions in the voluntary carbon market for clean cooking projects, including uncertainty around demand, buyer-side constraint, valuation, and timing of credit issuance, influenced internal certification planning and reporting priorities. These market dynamics affected the project developer’s ability to take a definitive and timely decision regarding monitoring period continuity and the associated annual reporting. While the project developer initially considered temporarily placing the project on hold, this decision was subsequently kept open. This period of uncertainty directly contributed to delays in finalizing the monitoring period and, consequently, in submitting the Annual Report for the period - 22/06/2023 to 31/12/2023.</p> <p>Extended timeline between project issuance and market realization: The above-mentioned uncertainties led to a delay in the credit issuance for the monitoring period 04: 22/06/2022 to 21/06/2023, which happened in January 2025. Given that the project relies substantially on revenue generated from the sale of VERs, only after issuance and realization of these VERs did the long-term outlook of the project become sufficiently clear to support continuation into the subsequent monitoring period. This directly influenced decisions related to monitoring period definition and annual reporting timelines.</p> <p>Lack of Clarity on Monitoring Year definition in Annual Reporting GS Requirements: Additionally, there was a lack of clarity regarding the alignment between monitoring periods and calendar-year annual reporting, particularly where monitoring periods span multiple calendar years. This aspect was discussed through email correspondence with SustainCERT and can be provided as supporting evidence if required.</p>	

	<p>Further, this deviation request is being formally submitted in line with guidance received from Gold Standard, as communicated via email upon submission of the Annual Report for the 2025 calendar year, wherein the project developer was advised to seek deviation approval in order to proceed further. In view of the reasons and circumstances outlined above, the project developer hereby requests a deviation from Clause 5.1.39 of the Gold Standard Principles and Requirements v2.1.</p> <p>The approach adopted is consistent with the Gold Standard Principles and Requirements v2.1, and the applicable Deviation Approval Requirements and Procedures. Accordingly, this deviation request is formally submitted in line with applicable Gold Standard requirements.</p>				
<p>Proposed resolution</p>	<p>The project developer confirms that this deviation is temporary in nature and commits to transparently documenting the circumstances and corrective actions in the Monitoring Report, in accordance with <i>the Gold Standard Deviation Request Requirements and Procedures v2.0</i>. As per Para 3.2.4 of the Optional Requirement – Deviation Request Requirements and Procedures v2.0: <i>“Project developers shall confirm in the monitoring report that the changes have occurred due to reasons beyond their control but is temporary in nature and the project will revert back to its original design after a given monitoring period.”</i> In line with this requirement, the MP05 Monitoring Report will explicitly state the same.</p> <p>Further, the project developer commits to the following corrective and preventive measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission of Annual Report for the period: 22/06/2023 to 31/12/2023, covering the delayed period with full transparency. • Alignment of future monitoring periods and annual reporting with Gold Standard requirements. • Early engagement with Gold Standard for clarification in case of any future ambiguity regarding monitoring period boundaries or reporting timelines. • Maintenance of complete monitoring records to ensure that no data gaps or inconsistencies arise due to the approved deviation. 				
<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="464 1912 1452 2069"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="464 1912 951 2029">Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th> <th data-bbox="951 1912 1452 2029">Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="464 2029 951 2069">XYZ tCO₂e</td> <td data-bbox="951 2029 1452 2069">XYZ tCO₂e</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	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				

	NA
	<input type="checkbox"/> any other matrix, please specify...
Summary of the impact	NA
NA	

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	NA	
VVB's assessment of impact of deviation request	NA	
VVB recommendation	NA	
VVB details	VVB name:	NA
	Auditor name(s):	NA
	Email (s):	NA

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. - Annual Report for the period 22/06/2023 to 31/12/2023

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