



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

The Gold Standard Foundation
International Environment House 2
Chemin de Balexert 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	7
6.1 Standard document reference.....	7
6.2 Description of the deviation.....	8
6.3 VVB information.....	11
6.4 VVB’s assessment	11
6.5 Documents:	12

4| Decision summary

To be completed by Gold Standard

4.1 | General information

DEVIATION REFERENCE NUMBER	DEVREQ-328
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 to shorten the invitation period is approved, given that:

- the grouped stakeholder meeting for VPA1 has been conducted, and
- the additional local stakeholder consultation, including SFR, has been conducted in accordance with the Gold Standard requirements, and
- all groups have been invited.

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 Gold Standard's decision in the appropriate section of the project document.

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

The validating VVB shall, through appropriate means at disposal, evaluate that the project's compliance with the above-mentioned conditions and provide VVB opinion in the validation 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 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)	
<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 (Project representative)

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

Item	Information
Name ³ :	Zeynep Pinar Ozturk
Email ID ⁴ :	Pinar.ozturk@ceres-tr.com
Organisation: ⁵ :	Ceres Enve
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	GS XXXX GS XXXX	GS XXXX GS XXXX	GS23448
Host country(ies)	Uganda		
Project Title	GS12087 GS12088 RVPA-1 Uganda Safe Drinking Water Project, Phase 2		
Registry link	N/A		
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	<input type="checkbox"/> Listed	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified design	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified project <input checked="" 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

date of latest status				<i>Under validation by VVB.</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 checked="" 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 <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	Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements
	Version	V2.1
	Paragraph	para 3.4.2

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Deviation request for means of inviting stakeholders	
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)
	Deviation request is related stakeholder consultation	
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	Dd/mm/yyyy
	End date	Dd/mm/yyyy
Summarise the changes	<p>This deviation request seeks approval for the shorter invitation period for the stakeholder consultation process that did not fully align with the requirements outlined in the Gold Standard Stakeholder Consultation & Engagement Requirements (v2.1).</p> <p>The project is the second VPA under GS12087 SCIF for Sustainable Living and Public Health Programme that aims to refurbish the unfunctional boreholes in rural Uganda. The boreholes in Lyantonde, Kalungu and Kabarole District have been included in the VPA. As part of the Stakeholder Consultation process, one live Local Stakeholder Meeting was conducted on 8 May 2024 in Kabarole. That is followed by an online consultation organized on 14 May 2024. Then a complimentary seminar organized on 24 July 2024 in Masaka inviting local stakeholders in Lyantonde and Kalungu. The stakeholders were invited to the events 11-18 days prior rather than the required minimum of 30 days. Despite the shorter notice, the meetings achieved high attendance and active engagement.</p>	
Reason for deviation	<p>The CME has conducted a grouped stakeholder live meeting for all project activities to be developed under the PoA: GS12087 SCIF for Sustainable Living and Public Health Programme on 01/11/2022. The geographical boundary was indicated as Republic of Uganda and district authorities from regions including Kalungu, Lyantonde, Semababule, Wakisu, Nakasongola, Nabilatuk and Nakapiriprit have been invited. The meeting has been reported under the real case VPA GS 12088: GS12087 Uganda Safe Drinking Water Project VPA1. The PoA and the first real case VPA is registered on 26/04/2024. The</p>	

stakeholders from all categories were invited to the meeting 30 days before and no violation of the referred requirement occurred.

For the second phase of the project, the CME has extended the project activities to Kabarole in addition to Lyantonde and Kalungu and organized a stakeholder consultation meeting on 08 May 2024. The invitations were sent on 26-27 April 2024 to the stakeholders at district level and sub-county level in Kabarole. Parish chiefs, coordinators, village council were all invited in-person to attend the meeting.

During the meeting, the commissioning date of boreholes were announced as late May 2024 and submission of project documents to GS was planned on June 2024. The meeting was organized as a good practice assuming the grouped meeting would be valid at the time of inclusion. Attendance to the meeting was high, hitting 262 people; 101 of which were women.

Following the live meeting, an online consultation has been organized for the other stakeholders including National government authorities, DNA of the country, local NGOs, GS and GS supporting NGOS and the district authorities in Lyantonde and Kalungu. The session took place on 14 May 2024 after 18 days of sending the invitation emails on 26 April 2024. There were no attendees to the meeting. We did not receive any further comments from those stakeholders through email or other means.

Later after the live meeting in Kabarole, a separate seminar was conducted on 24 July 2024 to introduce the launch of second phase that is expected to be operational on Q3 2024. The stakeholders from 3 categories were invited to the seminar: a) Central government and NGO participants b) District leadership

	<p>c) Sub-county participants on 16-17 July 2024. A team dedicated for following up the invitations, reminded the participants about the meeting (Please see Masaka Meeting Mobilization Report attached). The agenda of the meeting was in line with the GS requirements. Please see Section C.3 Other consultations of the Stakeholder Consultation Meeting Report attached.</p> <p>Due to delays in the project implementation, the additional VPA could not be included as initially planned. The water points become operational on late March 2025 due to unexpected technical problems. The list of selected boreholes was renewed several times. Meanwhile, the validity of the grouped consultation expired on 01/11/2024, as two years had passed since the first physical meeting, in accordance with paragraph 4.9.3(d) of the Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements.</p> <p>Although the notice period was shorter than 30 days, attendance records demonstrate full representation of all key community and local administrative levels. This is due to the programme maintaining close communication with the local stakeholders.</p> <p>The stakeholder feedback round will be held 16 January 2026 to 16 February 2026 for 30 days as per para 3.6.1 (b) Stakeholder Consultation Requirements v 2.1 (14/06/2022). All stakeholders invited to the live meeting will be included in the feedback round through email. The comments received will be reported once the round is completed.</p>
<p>Proposed resolution</p>	<p>Both the additional stakeholder meeting in Kabarole, and the seminar followed the same agenda as GS requirements. The stakeholders were informed about the project activities, impact of carbon finance. The presentations explained how the project will generate credits and the transfer of carbon rights. The minutes of meetings, attendance sheets, photographs, and</p>

	<p>evaluation forms have been provided to the VVB during the validation process. Please see the meeting report attached for more details.</p> <p>Although the notice period was shorter than 30 days, attendance records demonstrate full representation of all key community and local administrative levels. This is due to the CME maintaining close communication with the local stakeholders. Therefore, we kindly request that the meeting and the seminar to be considered eligible for Gold Standard certification despite the shorter invitation period.</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> <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="472 1189 1441 1346"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="472 1189 951 1301">Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th> <th data-bbox="951 1189 1441 1301">Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 1301 951 1346">XYZ tCO₂e</td> <td data-bbox="951 1301 1441 1346">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>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>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 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	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.*)

GS23448-Stakeholder-Consultation-Report_v1.1

Masaka Seminar_Mobilization Report_2024_ET (002)

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