



**Gold Standard**<sup>®</sup>  
for the Global Goals

**FORM**

## **FORM - DEVIATION REQUEST SUBMISSION**

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**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](mailto: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-360  |
| Date of decision           | 09/03/2026   |
| Decision                   | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Approved</b> [No precondition to apply the deviation decision]<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Conditionally approved</b> [Decision is subject to compliance with the precondition defined below]<br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Not approved</b> [reason for rejection is provided in decision summary] |

### 4.2 | Decision

#### 4.2.1 | Decision Summary

The deviation request is conditionally approved. The CME could proceed with verification but cannot claim credits beyond 2 years from the date of the site visit.

#### 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 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 VVB shall not verify the monitoring period falling two years before the site visit date.

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? <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes<br><input type="checkbox"/> No |
|---|---|

<sup>1</sup> 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? <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes<br><input type="checkbox"/> No |
|---|---|

Precedent details (if applicable to other activities)

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<sup>2</sup> 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 <sup>3</sup> :  | Alexia Timmermans  |
| Email ID <sup>4</sup> :  | <a href="mailto:a.timmermans@southpole.com">a.timmermans@southpole.com</a> |
| Organisation: <sup>5</sup> :   | CO2logic (a South Pole company)  |
| Are you an authorized project participant as per the cover letter submitted for this activity? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes<br><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<br>GSXXXX   | GS XXXX<br>GS XXXX                  | GS 11990 (VPA 48)<br>GS 11991 (VPA 49)  |
| Host country(ies) | Burkina Faso   |                                     |   |
| Project Title     | - GS1340 Efficient cookstoves in Burkina Faso— tiipaalga F3PA cookstoves in Center-South Protected Areas — VPA 48 (GS11990)<br>- GS1340 Efficient cookstoves in Burkina Faso— tiipaalga F3PA cookstoves in Center-South Protected Areas — VPA 49 (GS11991) |                                     |   |

<sup>3</sup> Name of the individual representing the entity requesting the deviation

<sup>4</sup> Email ID for further correspondence related to the deviation request

<sup>5</sup> The name of the entity requesting the deviation

|  |   |   |  |   |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| Registry link  | <a href="https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/3963">https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/3963</a><br><a href="https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/3965">https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/3965</a>                      |   |  |   |
| Scale  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Microscale (GS)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Small scale<br><input type="checkbox"/> Large scale<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other, if applicable please specify below<br><i>Insert text here</i>  |   |  |   |
| Certification Status and corresponding date of latest status | <input type="checkbox"/> Listed   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified design  | <input type="checkbox"/> Certified project | <input type="checkbox"/> Other<br><i>If other, specify here</i> |
|  | <i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>   | <b>GS 11990 (VPA 48) : 11/03/2024</b><br><b>GS 11991 (VPA 49) : 11/03/2024</b>                            | <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<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other<br>Name of the Standard – Insert text here |  |   |
| Applicable activity requirement                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy Activity Requirements<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Services Activity Requirements<br><input type="checkbox"/> Land-use and Forests Activity Requirements<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other<br><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<br><input type="checkbox"/> No  |
| Reference number   | DEVRQ-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  |   |
|  | <b>Summary of the findings</b><br><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     | 'Site Visit and Remote Audit Requirements and Procedures'<br>'Programme of activity requirements and procedures' |
|                             | Version   | V2.0<br>V3.0   |
|                             | Paragraph | 3.1.1<br>8.5.5   |

### 6.2 | Description of the deviation

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Title  | Delay in physical site visit requirement   |  |
| Confirm the nature of changes related to deviation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temporary<br>(e.g. not expected to occur beyond one monitoring period)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent<br>(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   | 01/01/2024   |
|  | End date   | 31/12/2024   |
| Summarise the changes                              | <p>Clause 3.1.1 of 'Site Visit and Remote Audit Requirements and Procedures – V2.0' states "At minimum, the VVB shall conduct physical site visit within two years of project start date". In this context, the project start date is defined as the date of installation of the first cookstove under the VPA. The relevant start dates are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VPA 48: March 19, 2023</li> <li>• VPA 49: March 10, 2023</li> </ul> <p>A on-site visit by the VVB (Carbon Check) is being scheduled between 23/03/2026-01/04/2026, covering these VPAs as well as VPAs 18–24 and VPA 47. However, for these VPA's, this date falls nearly 3 years months after its project start date. The VVB has pointed out that this timing exceeds the two-year limit and that a deviation request is therefore required.</p> |  |
| Reason for deviation                               | <p>The delay in conducting the site visit within two years of the project start date is primarily due to recent team changes within our organization, which unfortunately led to an oversight in this matter. Additionally, the verifications for these projects are carried out collectively for the entire group of VPAs (VPA 18–24 and VPA 47-49). A delay in the previous verifications (vintage 2022, VPAs 18-22 and vintage 2023, VPAs 18-24 and 47) subsequently impacted the timeline for the current verification. We acknowledge the importance of timely compliance and are</p>   |  |

|  | making every effort to catch up and stay on track moving forward.   |   |  |                       |                       |  |  |
|--|---|---|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Proposed resolution  | We aim to carry out the site visit with the VVB as soon as possible to avoid any further delays in the verification cycle and ensure timely compliance moving forward.<br>The PD would like to suggest the same resolution as in DEVRQ-163, meaning the PD cannot claim any credits beyond 2 years from the date of site visit.   |   |  |                       |                       |  |  |
| Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of deviation on other aspects of the project? | Select the relevant area:<br><input type="checkbox"/> Project design<br><input type="checkbox"/> Local stakeholder consultation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Safeguarding principles<br><input type="checkbox"/> SDG assessment<br><input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory compliance<br><input type="checkbox"/> Additionality<br><input type="checkbox"/> Applicability of methodology<br><input type="checkbox"/> Annual emission reduction volume ( <i>if yes, fill the table below</i> ) <table border="1" style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #00a651; color: white;"> <th style="width: 50%;">Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>XYZ tCO<sub>2e</sub></td> <td>XYZ tCO<sub>2e</sub></td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <input type="checkbox"/> any other matrix, please specify... | Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation | Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation | XYZ tCO <sub>2e</sub> | XYZ tCO <sub>2e</sub> |  |  |
| Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation  | Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation  |   |  |                       |                       |  |  |
| XYZ tCO <sub>2e</sub>  | XYZ tCO <sub>2e</sub>   |   |  |                       |                       |  |  |
|  |   |   |  |                       |                       |  |  |
| 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

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

### 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 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"> <li>- date of listing, design certification, transition</li> <li>- standard version</li> <li>- specific reference to a requirement deviated from</li> <li>- any previous deviations/design changes approved</li> <li>- Guidance on VVB opinion</li> </ul> |
| 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   |