



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-366
Date of decision	25/03/2026
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 applied deviation request is approved. The Project Developer may continue with the design review of the project. However, the project cannot claim credits beyond 2 years from the date of Project Design Certification. The project developer must follow the requirement from paragraph 5.1.37 of the GS principles and requirements version 2.1 and the GS requirement "Applicability of Minimum Site Visit Requirements by VVB" that the VVB shall not verify the monitoring period falling before two years of the site visit date.

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

The project developer 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 project developer. The project developer shall comply with all other applicable standard requirements until unless specifically mentioned in the deviation decision. The project developer 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 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 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 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 :	Lívia Demier Mauri
Email ID ⁴ :	livia.mauri@combio.com.br
Organisation: ⁵ :	ComBio Energia
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	GS11243	GS XXXX GS XXXX	GS XXXX GS XXXX
Host country(ies)	Brazil		
Project Title	ComBio Renewable Biomass Project - Piracicaba		
Registry link	https://assurance-platform.goldstandard.org/projects/GS11243		
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Listed	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified design	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified project <input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>If other, specify here</i>

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	05/03/2026	dd/mm/yyyy	dd/mm/yyyy	dd/mm/yyyy
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy Activity Requirements			
	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Reference number	DEV_392
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
	Summary of the findings

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	GS4GG Validation and Verification Standard, Version 2.0
	Version	V 2.0
	Paragraph	Para 6.3.3, section 6.3

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Physical Site Visit Conducted More Than Two Years After Project Start Date
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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)
	n/a	
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	n/a
	End date	n/a
Summarise the changes	The change requested is the conduction of the physical site visit after two years of project start date.	
Reason for deviation	<p>The project start date is defined as 01/07/2020, which coincides with the global COVID-19 pandemic period. During this time, the development and advancement of the carbon credit project activities faced significant operational constraints due to restrictions on travel and on-site activities, as well as budgetary and personnel limitations resulting from the pandemic context. It is important to note that these constraints affected the carbon project development process, including documentation and coordination for third-party validation. As a result, these circumstances substantially affected the ability to organize third-party validation activities within the initially expected timeframe.</p> <p>In addition, it is important to note that the project was officially listed by Gold Standard on 24 May 2023. Prior to the listing date, the project was not eligible to proceed with validation activities, including the VVB site visit. The successful listing of the project indicated that the project met the eligibility requirements to proceed within the Gold Standard framework and therefore encouraged Combio to continue the certification process, including the engagement of a VVB and the commitment of the necessary financial resources to conduct the validation. It is important to highlight that such investment in validation would not have been undertaken if the project had not been accepted for listing.</p> <p>Following the listing, the project developer initiated coordination with the VVB to arrange the site visit. However, due to the significant backlog of validation and verification activities accumulated after the pandemic, the VVB's audit teams had limited availability. As a result, the earliest feasible date for the physical site visit was 05 December 2023, when the VVB team was able to conduct the on-site assessment. Considering these circumstances, namely the pandemic-related constraints, the project listing date by Gold Standard, and the limited availability of VVB auditors due to post-pandemic backlog, the timing of the site visit represents the earliest practical opportunity for the validation team to perform the physical inspection.</p>	
Proposed resolution	The proposition is that the validation remains applicable despite the timing of the physical site visit occurring more than two years after the project start date.	
Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of deviation on other	Select the relevant area: <input type="checkbox"/> Project design <input type="checkbox"/> Local stakeholder consultation <input type="checkbox"/> Safeguarding principles <input type="checkbox"/> SDG assessment	

aspects of the project?	<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" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr style="background-color: #00a6c9; 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> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">XYZ tCO₂e</td> <td style="text-align: center;">XYZ tCO₂e</td> </tr> </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				
	<input type="checkbox"/> any other matrix, please specify...				
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.				
n/a					

6.3 | VVB information

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>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>If answer is yes, fill the information in section 6.4 below.</i>
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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.*)

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