



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-370
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 deviation request for 3-month extension of the VVB site visit requirement is approved considering the situation of the host country.

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
Does this decision set a precedent for future projects with similar circumstances? ²	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

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.

Precedent details (if applicable to other activities)

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 :	Rohit Lohia
Email ID ⁴ :	rohit.lohia@climate-secure.com
Organisation: ⁵ :	Climate Secure
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PoA GSXXXX	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VPA
GS ID		GS 10833	VPA 01- GS10974, VPA 02- GS10976, VPA 03- GS10977, VPA 04- GS10978, VPA 05- GS10979, VPA 06- GS10980, VPA 07- GS10981, VPA 08- GS10982

Host country(ies) Republic of Bangladesh

Project Title PoA (GS 10833): Improved Cooking Stoves in Bangladesh
 VPA 01 - GS10974: Improved Cooking Stoves in Bangladesh – CPA No.12 "SZ Consultancy Services Ltd."
 VPA 02 - GS10976: Improved Cooking Stoves in Bangladesh – CPA No.13 "SZ Consultancy Services Ltd."
 VPA 03 - GS10977: Improved Cooking Stoves in Bangladesh – CPA No.14 "SZ Consultancy Services Ltd."
 VPA 04 - GS10978: Improved Cooking Stoves in Bangladesh – CPA No.15 "SZ Consultancy Services Ltd."
 VPA 05 - GS10979: Improved Cooking Stoves in Bangladesh – CPA No.16 "SZ Consultancy Services Ltd."
 VPA 06 - GS10980: Improved Cooking Stoves in Bangladesh – CPA No.17 "SZ Consultancy Services Ltd."
 VPA 07 - GS10981: Improved Cooking Stoves in Bangladesh – CPA No.18 "SZ Consultancy Services Ltd."

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

VPA 08 - GS10982: Improved Cooking Stoves in Bangladesh – CPA No.19 “SZ Consultancy Services Ltd.”				
Registry link	GS 10833: https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/2822			
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	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified design	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified project	<input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>If other, specify here</i>
	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	15/05/2024	<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
Transition date, if applicable	From previous GS version to GS4GG		<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	
	From another standard to GS4GG		20/09/2021	
	Name of another standard	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Reference number	Deviation relevant for the current crediting period is as follows: COVID_DEV 306 DEV_694		
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 <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
	Version	2.0
	Paragraph	3.3.1 and 3.1.2

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Request for extension of physical site visit requirement Due to Security and Travel Restrictions in Bangladesh											
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)										
	Deviation sought due to current safety / travel risk situation in the host country											
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	13/01/2023										
	End date	29/04/2024										
Summarise the changes	Extension to the deadline of mandatory physical site visit date, due to the exceptional circumstances outlined below.											
Reason for deviation	<p>SZ Consultancy Services Ltd. (SZCSL), the CME of the PoA (GS 10833) and the 8 VPAs, intends to undertake the verification for CP2 MP2 (13/01/2023 to 29/04/2024).</p> <p>As per Section 3.3.1 and 3.1.2 of the Site Visit and Remote Audit Requirements and Procedures dated 30/05/2023, a physical site must be conducted within three years of the previous physical site visit. The last physical site visit was conducted by the VVB during the verification of CP2 MP1 (13/01/2021 to 12/01/2023) on 06/04/2023. Accordingly, the next physical site visit is due on 05/04/2026, and therefore VVB is required to conduct a physical on-site audit visit before the deadline.</p> <p>The prevailing security situation in Bangladesh has not been considered safe for physical travel since 2024 and continues to remain so to date. Following the violent regime change in Aug 2024, the overall security situation in Bangladesh had deteriorated. Several incidents, including the deaths of political leaders, triggered widespread protests and violent unrest across the country.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Link 1:</td> <td>https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c623rzzenmyo</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Link 2:</td> <td>https://www.msn.com/en-in/news/world/days-after-osman-hadis-killing-another-bangladesh-student-leader-shot-in-head/ar-AA1SO1GK?ocid=BingNewsSerp</td> </tr> </table> <p>In addition, multiple incidents of mob violence were reported across Bangladesh, posing serious security risks to foreign nationals. Several reports highlight incidents of lynching, targeted attacks, and violence linked to political and social unrest.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Link 3:</td> <td>https://www.indiatoday.in/world/story/bangladesh-hindu-man-dipu-chandra-das-lynching-shocking-details-colleagues-handed-him-over-to-islamists-2839729-2025-12-22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Link 4:</td> <td>https://news.abplive.com/news/world/bangladesh-women-attacked-for-not-wearing-hijab-after-osman-hadi-s-killing-1817583</td> </tr> </table> <p>Furthermore, the U.S. Government issued a travel Advisory on 18 April 2025, classified Bangladesh under Level 4: Do Not Travel due to ongoing civil unrest, crime, terrorism, and security risks. Reissued on 20 Jan 2026, classified Bangladesh under Level 3: Reconsider Travel.</p> <p>Similarly, the UK government's travel advisory advises against all but essential travel to parts of Bangladesh.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Link 5:</td> <td>Bangladesh Travel Advisory</td> </tr> </table>		Link 1:	https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c623rzzenmyo	Link 2:	https://www.msn.com/en-in/news/world/days-after-osman-hadis-killing-another-bangladesh-student-leader-shot-in-head/ar-AA1SO1GK?ocid=BingNewsSerp	Link 3:	https://www.indiatoday.in/world/story/bangladesh-hindu-man-dipu-chandra-das-lynching-shocking-details-colleagues-handed-him-over-to-islamists-2839729-2025-12-22	Link 4:	https://news.abplive.com/news/world/bangladesh-women-attacked-for-not-wearing-hijab-after-osman-hadi-s-killing-1817583	Link 5:	Bangladesh Travel Advisory
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Link 2:	https://www.msn.com/en-in/news/world/days-after-osman-hadis-killing-another-bangladesh-student-leader-shot-in-head/ar-AA1SO1GK?ocid=BingNewsSerp											
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Link 5:	Bangladesh Travel Advisory											

Link 6: [Safety and security - Bangladesh travel advice - GOV.UK](#)

Also, Government of India issued a Travel Advisory on 04/08/2024, after the regime change, strongly advising Indian nationals against travelling to Bangladesh until further notice. The advisory further instructs Indian nationals currently in Bangladesh to exercise extreme caution, restrict movement, and remain in close contact with the High Commission of India in Dhaka. As at date, the advisory still remains valid, as listed below:

Link_7: https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/38095/Advisory_for_Bangladesh



Furthermore, due to unforeseen circumstances, all consular services and visa issuance at the Bangladesh High Commission in Delhi were suspended for a period, which made it impossible to arrange travel during that time.

Link 8: <https://en.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/26qzwwjowqz>

Given the continued political uncertainty, and the temporary suspension of visa services, CME was unable to host VVB physically and conduct verification for the VPA.

More recently, after the national elections in feb 2026, a new government has been established, and it resumed visa services. The overall situation still remains highly unpredictable, and public events or political developments may escalate into violence, including incidents of arson, vandalism, and clashes in towns and cities, potentially resulting in injuries or fatalities.

Proposed resolution Considering the active travel advisory as stated above and the unstable security environment, conducting a physical site visit before the due date is not feasible and poses significant safety and security risk.

Therefore, CME hereby seeks a 3-month extension to allow sufficient time for planning and arranging for the verification audit site visit in line with GS4GG Site Visit and Remote Audit Requirements and Procedures ver 2.0, dated 30/05/2023.

Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of Select the relevant area:
 Project design

deviation on other aspects of the project?	<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="464 465 1452 611"> <tr> <th data-bbox="464 465 951 568">Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th> <th data-bbox="951 465 1452 568">Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation</th> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="464 568 951 611">XYZ tCO₂e</td> <td data-bbox="951 568 1452 611">XYZ tCO₂e</td> </tr> </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 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	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.				

This deviation will have no impact on the aspects of the PoA/VPAs listed above, as it involves merely conducting verification audit site visit remotely.

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 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							
VVB’s assessment of impact of deviation request							
VVB recommendation							
VVB details	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="363 1451 646 1491"> VVB name: </td> <td data-bbox="646 1451 1452 1491"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="363 1491 646 1532"> Auditor name(s): </td> <td data-bbox="646 1491 1452 1532"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="363 1532 646 1568"> Email (s): </td> <td data-bbox="646 1532 1452 1568"></td> </tr> </table>	VVB name:		Auditor name(s):		Email (s):	
VVB name:							
Auditor name(s):							
Email (s):							

6.5 | Documents:

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