



Gold Standard[®]
for the Global Goals

FORM

FORM - DEVIATION REQUEST SUBMISSION

PUBLICATION DATE: 12/11/2024

VERSION: 6.0

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RELATED DOCUMENTS

– [Deviations Approval Requirements and Procedures](#)

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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-431
Date of decision	03/06/2026
Decision	☒ Approved [No precondition to apply the deviation decision] ☐ Conditionally approved [Decision is subject to compliance with the precondition defined below] ☐ Not approved [reason for rejection is provided in decision summary]

4.2 | Decision

4.2.1 | Decision Summary

The temporary deviation from the annual SDG monitoring frequency for GS11817 is approved, subject to the following conditions:

- The consolidated SDG monitoring exercise shall be completed covering the full period from 01/12/2023 to 30/12/2025.
- The CME shall apply the most conservative SDG monitoring results where multiple data points or approaches are available for any given parameter.
- The SDG monitoring methodology, sampling approach, and data quality requirements shall remain fully consistent with the approved VPA-DD and applicable Gold Standard Safeguarding Principles & Requirements.
- This deviation is temporary and applies only to the specified monitoring period. The CME shall resume annual SDG monitoring in accordance with the approved monitoring plan for all subsequent periods.

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 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. The review team shall check the information reported by the CME and the VVB for appropriateness, accuracy and consistency.

4.2.4 | Directions for the Gold Standard, if applicable

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4.3 | Applicability to other activities

Is this decision applicable to other projects under similar circumstances? ¹	☐ Yes ☐ No
Does this decision set a precedent for future projects with similar circumstances? ²	☐ Yes ☐ No

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 :	Ben Jeffreys
Email ID ⁴ :	bjeffreys@atecglobal.io
Organisation: ⁵ :	ATEC Australia-International Pty Ltd
Are you an authorized project participant as per the cover letter submitted for this activity?	☐ Yes ☐ No

5.3 | Background information

Type	☐ Project activity	☐ PoA GSXXXX	☐ VPA
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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.

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

GS ID	GS11815		GS11817	
Host country(ies)	Bangladesh			
Project Title	Electric Cooking Program in Bangladesh by ATEC-VPA02			
Registry link	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/3838			
Scale	☐ Microscale (GS) ☐ Small scale ☐ Large scale ☐ Other, if applicable please specify below <i>Insert text here</i>			
Certification Status and corresponding date of latest status	☐ Listed	☐ Certified design	☐ Certified project	☐ Other
			12/07/2023	
Applied version of Standard	☐ GS4GG			
	☐ Previous version of Gold Standard	Version no.		
	☐ 1.0	☐ 1.1	☐ 1.2	☐ 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	☐ CDM		
		☐ Other		
Applicable activity requirement	☐ Renewable Energy Activity Requirements ☐ Community Services Activity Requirements ☐ Land-use and Forests Activity Requirements ☐ Other			

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.			☐ Yes ☐ No
Reference number	N/A		
Status of the deviation	☐ Approved	☐ Rejected	☐ 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?	☐ Yes ☐ No		
	Summary of the findings N/A		

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 for the Global Goals (GS4GG) – Safeguarding Principles and Requirements Approved Project Design Document (PDD) for PoA GS11815
	Version	GS4GG V1.2 PDD version V2.1
	Paragraph	PDD section specifying annual SDG monitoring frequency, section B.2.

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Temporary Deviation from Annual SDG Monitoring Frequency	
Confirm the nature of changes related to deviation	☐ Temporary (e.g. not expected to occur beyond one monitoring period)	☐ Permanent (e.g. deviation from requirements prior to submission for certification)
	This deviation applies only to a specific monitoring period impacted by external constraints. Annual SDG monitoring will resume thereafter in accordance with the approved PDD.	
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	01/12/2023
	End date	30/12/2025
Summarise the changes	As per the approved Project Design Document (PDD), SDG monitoring is required to be conducted annually. However, SDG monitoring was not carried out during part of the monitoring period (01/12/2023–27/08/2024) due to external constraints. In line with the latest Deviation Request Requirements and Procedures V2.0, the project proposes a temporary deviation and will conduct a consolidated SDG monitoring exercise in June 2026, covering the period from 01/12/2023 to 30/12/2025. This alternative approach ensures that SDG monitoring remains complete, accurate, and conservative, while maintaining alignment with Gold Standard requirements and the intent of the monitoring framework.	
Reason for deviation	The deviation is due to external constraints related to political instability and safety concerns in Bangladesh during the monitoring period ⁶ . Field operations were disrupted by civil unrest (including the July 2024	

⁶<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LqCkSrJeieU>

	uprising⁷), movement restrictions⁸, and limited access⁹ to project areas. These conditions created security risks¹⁰ for field staff and beneficiaries and caused logistical challenges for in-person data collection. In addition, the pre-election environment¹¹ leading up to the 2026 national elections contributed to continued uncertainty¹² and access limitations¹³ in certain regions. As a result, conducting SDG monitoring during this period would likely have led to incomplete or non-representative data. The deviation was therefore necessary to ensure data quality and safeguard personnel.
Proposed resolution	A comprehensive SDG monitoring exercise will be conducted in 2026, covering the full period from 01/12/2023 to 30/12/2025. This approach ensures: • Complete and representative data collection • Alignment with emission reduction monitoring cycles • Consistency between SDG and carbon reporting All SDG indicators will be assessed in accordance with approved methodologies. Data collection, validation, and reporting will fully comply with Gold Standard requirements. The approach is conservative, as delayed monitoring avoids the risk of incomplete or biased data and does not lead to overestimation of SDG outcomes.
Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of deviation on other aspects of the project?	Select the relevant area: ☐ Project design ☐ Local stakeholder consultation ☐ Safeguarding principles ☐ SDG assessment ☐ Regulatory compliance ☐ Additionality ☐ Applicability of methodology ☐ Annual emission reduction volume <i>(if yes, fill the table below)</i>

⁷https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2024_Bangladesh_quota_reform_movement

⁸<https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/jul/19/bangladesh-imposes-communications-blackout-as-protest-violence-continues>

⁹<https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/bangladesh-army-enforces-curfew-student-led-protests-spiral-2024-07-20/>

¹⁰<https://www.euaa.europa.eu/coi/bangladesh/2025/country-focus/annex-1-timeline-protests-july-august-2024/20-july-2024-shoot-sight-curfew>

¹¹<https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/bangladesh-election-this-year-may-be-difficult-due-unrest-says-head-youth-led-2025-03-06/>

¹²[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangladesh_post-resignation_violence_\(2024%E2%80%932026\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangladesh_post-resignation_violence_(2024%E2%80%932026))

¹³<https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/bangladesh-main-opposition-warns-instability-if-elections-delayed-beyond-2025-03-31/>

	Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation	Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation
	N/A	N/A
	□ 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.	

The deviation impacts only the timing of SDG monitoring and does not affect project design, emission reduction calculations, or compliance with the applied methodology.

No overestimation of SDG outcomes is expected. On the contrary, conducting monitoring at a later stage ensures more complete and representative data, reducing the risk of incomplete or biased responses.

The deviation is temporary and does not compromise safeguarding principles or regulatory compliance. Overall, the integrity, accuracy, and conservativeness of SDG reporting are maintained.

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 □ No □ <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	The VVB confirms that the proposed deviation is temporary, as it is limited to the specific monitoring period from 01/12/2023 to 30/12/2025 and is not expected to extend beyond this duration. The PD has confirmed that annual SDG monitoring will resume thereafter in accordance with the approved PDD.
VVB's assessment of impact of deviation request	The VVB has assessed the justification and supporting information provided by the PD regarding the temporary deviation from annual SDG monitoring frequency. The deviation is attributed to external constraints, including political instability, civil unrest, and restricted access to project

	areas in Bangladesh, which are considered circumstances beyond the control of the PD. The VVB acknowledges that these conditions could reasonably hinder the implementation of field-based SDG monitoring activities and pose risks to personnel safety. The VVB confirms that the deviation does not impact: ☐ Project design and implementation; ☐ Applicability of the selected methodology; ☐ Additionality; ☐ Emission reduction/removal calculations; or ☐ Regulatory compliance. The impact is limited solely to the timing of SDG monitoring activities. Furthermore, the VVB considers the proposed consolidated SDG monitoring approach (covering 01/12/2023–30/12/2025) to be methodologically acceptable, provided that: ☐ The sampling approach ensures representativeness across the entire monitoring period; ☐ Data collection procedures are consistent with the approved monitoring plan; and ☐ Any potential recall bias or data gaps are appropriately addressed and transparently documented. The VVB agrees that conducting monitoring under constrained conditions could lead to incomplete or non-representative data, and therefore, the delayed monitoring approach is conservative and aligned with the intent of ensuring data integrity. No adverse impact on safeguarding principles has been identified based on the information provided.
VVB recommendation	The VVB recommends approval of the temporary deviation request. This recommendation is made on the condition that the PD: ☐ Conducts the consolidated SDG monitoring exercise in June 2026 as proposed; ☐ Ensures that the monitoring results are complete, transparent, and representative of the entire monitoring period;

		□ Clearly documents any limitations, assumptions, or uncertainties associated with retrospective data collection; and □ Demonstrates compliance with all applicable Gold Standard monitoring requirements during verification.
VVB details	VVB name:	Earthood Services Limited
	Auditor name(s):	Team Leader: Rahul Dev Gautam TA Expert 3.1 (Energy Efficiency): Rahul Dev Gautam GS Approved Auditor: Rahul Dev Gautam Verifier: Rahul Dev Gautam Digital Systems Specialist: Treeshali Sharma Sensor Technology Specialist: Ananya Mishra Local Expert (Bangladesh): Akkas Aki
	Email (s):	operations@earthood.in

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: - 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