

FORM

FORM - DEVIATION REQUEST SUBMISSION

PUBLICATION DATE: 12/11/2024

VERSION: 6.0

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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-434
Date of decision	08/06/2026
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 deviation request is **not approved** as the CCP labelling requirement (Section 6.1.5 of the Requirements: Core Carbon Principles Labelling of Gold Standard Verified Emission Reductions, version 3.0) specifically states that baseline fuel consumption shall be determined using a baseline Kitchen Performance Test (KPT). Furthermore, the scope of baseline reassessment does not only cover the amount of fuel consumption but also the baseline technologies, baseline fuels, etc. as required by the methodology. Therefore, even though the baseline reassessment was not conducted prior to the monitoring period, the project developer must conduct the baseline reassessment, including KPT prior to the issuance.

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 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 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	☐ Yes ☒ No
Does this decision set a precedent for future projects with similar circumstances? ²	☐ Yes ☒ No
Precedent details (if applicable to other activities)	
NA	

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 :	Jean-Claude Tsafack
Email ID ⁴ :	tsafack@pci-cameroon.org
Organisation: ⁵ :	Pro Climate International
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
GS ID	GS5444		
Host country(ies)	Cameroon		
Project Title	The Cameroon Heat Retention Cooker Project		
Registry link	https://assurance-platform.goldstandard.org/projects/GS5444		
Scale	☒ Microscale (GS) ☐ Small scale ☐ Large scale ☐ Other, if applicable please specify below <i>Insert text here</i>		
Certification Status and corresponding	☐ Listed	☐ Certified design	☒ Certified project ☐ 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	08/08/2017				
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		12/06/2019		
	From another standard to GS4GG				
	Name of another standard	☐ CDM ☐ Other Name of the Standard – Insert text here			
Applicable activity requirement	☐ Renewable Energy Activity Requirements ☒ Community Services Activity Requirements ☐ Land-use and Forests Activity Requirements ☐ Other Insert name here				

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	Insert Text here
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 Summary of the CL, CAR, FAR not more than 200 words. Include reference to document, page number

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	1) Deviation request requirements and procedures 2) PDD of the project
	Version	1) V.2.0 2) V4
	Paragraph	PDD section B.6.2

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Usage of baseline default factor for fuelwood consumption in order to comply with ICVCM guidelines	
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)
	Insert Text here (if required) to support the selection	
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	01/12/2023
	End date	21/07/2025
Summarise the changes	PD would like to request the following deviation from the registered project design of GS5444: Usage of a default factor for fuelwood consumption in the baseline scenario to comply with ICVCM guidelines. In the registered project design the value of 10.8 kg/household/day was a fixed ex-ante factor for the quantity of air-dry fuelwood consumed by households in the baseline scenario (see PDD section B.6.2, parameter $P_{b,y}$). The methodology of TPDDTEC version 2.0. accepted the application of a default baseline value for the overall crediting period. Thus, the application of the value of 10.8 kg/household/day was followed throughout all previous Monitoring Periods and foreseen till the end of the crediting period (21/07/2025). In the context of this last Monitoring period (01/12/2023 - 21/07/2025) of the project's crediting period, PD wants however to ensure that the relevant criteria and requirement for CCP-approval of the project's carbon credits are met in order to fulfil the integrity and conservativeness principles for the generated carbon credits. On 22/05/2025 the ICVCM Board decided that the methodology TPDDTEC, v. 2-3.1 meets the relevant criteria and requirements for CCP-approval, if certain conditions are fulfilled. One of the conditions that need to be fulfilled is that "<i>a reassessment of baseline emissions has been conducted at least once within the five years immediately preceding the start of an issued monitoring period</i>".	

The re-assessment and change of the parameter of $B_{b,y}$ would involve a deviation from the registered project design. However, the conditions of CCP-approval have only been published (22/05/2025) right before the end of the project's crediting period (21/07/2025). Thus, PD could not carry out specific additional surveys for the mentioned baseline reassessment within this Monitoring period.

In order to comply with the CCP-approval conditions, PD would therefore like to make use of the default value defined in version 4.0. of the TPDDTEC methodology for fuelwood consumption. The methodology defines "*the specific fuel consumption for an individual baseline technology in baseline scenario b during year y converted to tons/baseline/technology*days, based on default factor of 0.5 tonnes/capita*year of fuelwood ($SFC_{b,y}$)*".

In order to derive to the baseline consumption of kg/hh/day, PD would like to use the default value of 0.5 tonnes/capita/year and multiply it with the monitored household size from this monitoring period number 7 (6.2 people/hh; see section D.2 of the Monitoring report). This would lead to the following equation:

$$P_{b,y} = 0.5 \text{ tonnes/capita/year} * 6.2 \text{ people/hh}$$

$$P_{b,y} = 3.1 \text{ tonnes/hh/year}$$

To derive at the consumption per day and kg, as defined in the PDD of this project, the value needs to be divided by 365 days (daily consumption) and multiplied by 1000 (consumption in kg).

$$P_{b,y} = 3.1 \text{ tonnes/hh/year} / 365 \text{ days}$$

$$P_{b,y} = 0.0085 \text{ tonnes/hh/day} * 1000$$

	$P_{b,y} = 8.5 \text{ kg/hh/day}$ Consequently, PD would like to use the value of 8.5 kg/hh/day instead of 10.8 kg/hh/day for parameter $B_{b,y}$. PD is therefore asking GS for the acceptance of the two following deviation requests: 1) The approval by Gold Standard that the usage of the above-mentioned default factor for baseline fuelwood consumption in the context of this monitoring period is accepted, in order to fulfil the ICVCM conditions for CCP-Approval: <i>"a reassessment of baseline emissions has been conducted at least once within the five years immediately preceding the start of an issued monitoring period"</i>. 2) The application of the mentioned default factor of 0.5 tonnes/capita/year for this given Monitoring Period. This leads to a more conservative baseline value of fuelwood consumption per household per day of 8.5 kg instead of 10.8 kg/hh/day (as per the registered project design, see PDD).
Reason for deviation	As mentioned above, the deviations from the registered project design are requested, since PD wants to ensure that the relevant criteria and requirement for ICVCM / CCP-approval of the project's carbon credits are met in order to fulfil the integrity and conservativeness principles for the generated carbon credits. One central challenge has been however that the conditions for ICVCM approval were only published shortly prior to the end of the overall crediting period and the last Monitoring Period of the project. Moreover, the applied methodology TPDDTEC, v.2.0., accepted the application of the ex-ante parameter and value for the overall crediting period. A re-assessment of the baseline emissions has therefore not been carried out within the previous MPs. Therefore, no re-assessment within the five years preceding the start of an issued Monitoring Period have been conducted. Due to the late response by the ICVCM on TPDDTEC, v.2.0., no re-assessment could be carried out by PD for this Monitoring Period.

	Thus, a deviation request for the acceptance of applying the default factor of TPDDTEC (v.4) as a re-assessed value for baseline emissions is submitted to GS. Additionally, PD asks GS to accept the values' application as a fulfillment to the ICVCM guidelines and conditions for CCP-approval.				
Proposed resolution	As explained in the deviation's summary, the proposed resolution is the application of the default factor of baseline fuelwood consumption defined in TPDDTEC methodology, version 4. From PD's point of view this can be seen as a conservative approach, since the application of the new default factor leads to a lower baseline fuelwood consumption than the original value from the registered PDD (8.5 kg/hh/day vs. 10.8 kg/hh/day). Thus, its application ensures a conservative and lower result of generated carbon credits (see further below for comparison). Further, the methodology TPDDTEC, version 4, has been published on 07/10/2021. This has been around 2 years after the first issuance of the project (08/2019). So, the default value would meet the timeframe of <i>"within the five years immediately preceding the start date of an issued monitoring period."</i> Additionally, the value has been compared to other sources of data that PD found. For example, the official data of the UN on fuelwood consumption by households as well as the population size of Cameroon lead to a similar result as the applied default factor of TPDDTEC, v.4., (see Monitoring Report, p. 13). The UN data results in a fuelwood consumption of 0.57 tonnes/capita/year. Thus, the applied default value of 0.5 tonnes/Capita/year is even more conservative than the official UN data for Cameroon.				
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> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th><th>Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation	Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation		
Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation	Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation				

	6,877 tCO ₂ e (in 2024)	4,900 tCO ₂ e (in 2024)
	☐ 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.	

1. Project Design: The overall project design is not impacted by this temporary deviation, since only the applied value for the baseline consumption of fuel wood is changed. This leads to lower baseline emissions and thus to lower annual emission reductions. See also the ER calculation sheet and the Monitoring Report for MP7.
2. Annual Emission Reduction volume: The total amount of emission reductions for MP7 is lower when using the new value for B_{b,y} compared to the former value of B_{b,y}. Hence, the application of the default value (0.5 t/capita/year) can be seen as a conservative approach and has no other impacts on the project than the overall emission reduction generation. See also the ER calculation sheet and the Monitoring Report for MP7.

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	Since those conditions of CCP-approval have been published right before the end of the project's crediting period (21/07/2025), no specific additional surveys could be carried out by PD for the mentioned baseline reassessment. Further, TPDDTEC version 2.0. of the methodology accepted the application of a default value as baseline for the overall crediting period. Thus, this approach was followed throughout all other Monitoring Periods 1 till 6. In order to be able to comply with the condition defined by the ICVCM board in terms of the baseline emissions, PD consequently decided to use for this Monitoring Period the default value defined in version 4.0. of the methodology for fuelwood consumption. The methodology defines "the specific fuel consumption for an
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*individual baseline technology in baseline scenario b during year y converted to tons/baseline/technology*days, based on default factor of 0.5 tonnes/capita*year of fuelwood ($SFC_{b,y}$)". The verification team has checked the MR /02/ and ER sheet /04/ to confirm the same.*

To prove that the default value of 0.5 tonnes/capita*year is coherent and conservative with other sources and data, the official UN data on fuelwood consumption and population size of Cameroon has been used:

According to the United Nations Statistic Division and its published data on Energy, the fuelwood consumption by households in Cameroon is 22,917,000 m³.⁶ The verification team reviewed UN DATA /44/ and confirmed that fuelwood consumption by households in Cameroon is consistent.

Using an average conversion factor for woodfuel of 0.725 tonnes/m³ from FAO data⁷, the fuelwood consumption by households in Cameroon equals 16,614,825 tonnes of fuelwood per year. The verification team reviewed the FAO DATA /45/ and confirmed that average conversion factor for woodfuel. Based on published data by the United Nations Population Division from 2024, the population size of Cameroon was 29,120,000 people.⁸ The verification team reviewed the United Nations Population Division from 2024 /46/ and confirmed that population size of Cameroon is consistent.

Thus, the average fuelwood consumption per person per year can be calculated by dividing the fuelwood

⁶ <https://data.un.org/Data.aspx?q=fuelwood&d=EDATA&f=cmID%3aFW>

⁷ https://www.fao.org/4/j2132e/j2132e15.htm#:~:text=Table_title:%20Appendix%205%20%E2%80%93%20Table%205.1.%20General,Sawlogs%20and%20Veneer%20logs%20%7C%20%7C%20%7C

⁸ https://data.un.org/ Docs/SYB/PDFs/SYB67_1_202411_Population,%20Surface%20Area%20and%20Density.pdf

consumption with the overall population size in Cameroon. This equals to:

$$16,614,825 / 29,120,000 = 0.57 \text{ tonnes/capita/year}$$

Considering this calculated value of 0.57 tonnes/capita/year, the default value of 0.5 tonnes/capita/year from TPDDTEC, v.4.0 can be seen as conservative for the application in the project. The verification team confirms that 0.5 tonnes/capita/year from TPDDTEC, v.4.0 /47/ is conservative.

Thus, the TPDDTEC methodological default value of 0.5 tonnes/capita*year for fuelwood consumption is applied. In order to derive to the baseline consumption of kg/hh/day, PD used the default value and multiplied the default value with the monitored household size from this monitoring period (6.2 people/hh; see section D.2 of the MR /02/). This leads to the following equation:

$$P_{b,y} = 0.5 \text{ tonnes/capita/year} * 6.2 \text{ people/hh}$$

$$P_{b,y} = 3.1 \text{ tonnes/hh/year}$$

To derive at the consumption per day and kg, as defined in the PDD of this project, the value was divided by 365 days (daily consumption) and multiplied by 1000 (consumption in kg).

$$P_{b,y} = 3.1 \text{ tonnes/hh/year} / 365 \text{ days}$$

$$P_{b,y} = 0.0085 \text{ tonnes/hh/day} * 1000$$

$$P_{b,y} = 8.5 \text{ kg/hh/day}$$

The baseline value used for the fuelwood consumption per household per day in this monitoring period is 8.5 kg. This value can additionally be seen as conservative, since it is lower than the baseline value that has been defined in the PDD for the overall crediting period (10.8 kg/hh/day). The verification team has checked the calculation and found ok.

		Thus, the verification team confirms that the project complies with ICVCM “reassessment of baseline emissions” condition /41/, /42/, /43/ (refer verification report references). The verification team confirms that the project fulfils all ICVCM requirements outlined in Requirements: Core Carbon Principles Labelling of Gold Standard Verified Emission Reductions Version 3.0 (dated 22 December 2025) /41/, ICVCM decision GS_TPDDTEC_v2-3.1_2025 /42/, and ICVCM decision GS_TPDDTEC_v4_2025 /43/. The project is therefore eligible to claim CCP-labelled GS VERs for this monitoring period.
VVB’s assessment of impact of deviation request		VVB would like to confirm that even though the assessment in 5 years is not done still a conservative baseline value (based on methodology default value) is used which is below the calculated UN/FAO data and the default value fixed in the PDD.
VVB recommendation		VVB hereby recommend to approve the deviation considering the conservative approach taken.
VVB details	VVB name:	4K Earth Science Pvt. Ltd.
	Auditor name(s):	Chetan Swaroop Sharma
	Email (s):	chetan@4kearthscience.com

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: GS5444 PCI Wonder Cooker 7th monitoring period - ER calculation_comparison.xlsx

Document 2: GS5444 PCI Wonder Cooker 7th Monitoring Period - Monitoring Report_v.5.0.docx

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