



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-443
Date of decision	15/06/2026
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 for the delayed monitoring surveys is conditionally approved. The project developer could apply results from delayed monitoring survey. However, due to the non-force majeure situation, the project developer could only claim and the VVB could only verify the emission reduction for the 2 years period prior to the site visit date as per guidance in section 2.2.2.ii.b of the "RULE UPDATE-Applicability of minimum site visit requirements by VVB": *"Non-Force Majeure, no deviation is allowed. The VVB shall not verify the monitoring period falling before two-year 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	☐ Yes ☒ No
Does this decision set a precedent for future projects with similar circumstances? ²	☐ Yes ☒ No
Precedent details (if applicable to other activities)	

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 :	Bernard Giraud
Email ID ⁴ :	bgiraud@livelihoods-venture.com
Organisation: ⁵	Livelihoods Carbon Fund SICAV RAIF
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	GS12434	GS XXXX GS XXXX	GS XXXX GS XXXX	
Host country(ies)	Nepal			
Project Title	Transforming the Cookstove Market – Benefitting 75,000 households with an improved cookstove in Nepal			
Registry link	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4402			
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 <i>If other, specify here</i>
	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	<i>10/11/2025</i>	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</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

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 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	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 <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	REDUCED EMISSIONS FROM COOKING AND HEATING: Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC)
	Version	V4.0
	Paragraph	Section 4.2: Data and Parameters monitored

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Request for Temporary Deviation for MP1: Delayed Monitoring Survey and Data Representativeness	
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	06/02/2023
	End date	31/03/2024
Summarise the changes	This request seeks approval for a temporary deviation regarding the timing of data collection for the monitoring parameters under MP1. While the annual monitoring frequency stipulated in the approved methodology and validated PDD remains unchanged for the project lifecycle, this deviation addresses the delayed execution of the monitoring surveys for the SDGs indicated below. Specifically, the Project Developer requests approval to utilize the monitored data collected between 24/03/2025 and 18/05/2025 to quantify the achievements of Monitoring Period 1 (06/02/2023 to 31/03/2024). The methodology (TPDDTEC v4.0, Section 4.2) and the Monitoring Plan (PDD Section B.7.1) require annual data collection for key parameters, including: <u>SDG 3 Good health and well being</u> Data/ Parameter: $C_{avg,project}$, (Health Consultations for conditions usually linked to the use of project cookstoves) is monitored through monitoring survey and the frequency is indicated as Every Monitoring survey- Annually. <u>SDG 5 – Gender Equality</u> Data/ Parameter: $T_{avg,project}$ (Time expenditures for cooking and woodfuel collection of households in the project scenario (hours)), is monitored via monitoring surveys and the frequency is Every Monitoring survey- Annually. <u>SDG 13- Climate Action</u> Data/ Parameter: ICS 16 – Presence of stove stacking- It is monitored annually through KPTs Data/Parameter: ICS 26 – $U_{p,y}$ (Weighted average usage rate in project scenario p during year y), and monitored annually. Data/Parameter: ICS 27- $N_{b,p,y}$ (Number of project technology-days included in the project database for baseline b/project p pair in year y), is calculated annually	

	<u>SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy</u> Data/ Parameter: $N_{\text{benef,project}}$ - Number of people benefitting from the project stove <u>SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth</u> Data parameter: $N_{\text{employ,project}}$ - Number of people employed by the project However, this requirement was not adhered to as scheduled, resulting in delayed monitoring. MP1, field data collection was conducted between 24/03/2025 and 18/05/2025, which is outside the prescribed annual monitoring frequency and approximately two years after project start As a result, all parameters intended for annual monitoring were collected after more than a year.
Reason for deviation	The Project Developer (PD) was in the process of developing a Management Information System (MIS) during the first year of implementation to streamline and strengthen data management processes. The MIS was finalized and became operational in October 2024, coinciding with the commencement of the first sampling exercise on 28/10/2024 for MP1. As a result, the establishment and operationalization of the MIS contributed to a delay in initiating the monitoring activities within the originally planned frequency. However, this was undertaken to ensure improved data quality, consistency, and robustness of the monitoring system going forward. In addition, staff transitions, including personnel departures and internal role realignments, resulted in temporary gaps in implementation capacity, which further contributed to delays in conducting the monitoring exercises
Proposed resolution	Use of Monitoring Data for MP1 collected by the Project Developer (PD) between 24/03/2025 and 18/05/2025, including SDG-related indicators, for Monitoring Period 1 (06/02/2023 to 31/03/2024). To ensure data collected remains representative and shows long-term user behaviour rather than a specific snapshot in time of the conditions during MP1, the Project Developer's Monitoring Questionnaire was specifically structured to capture "normal, habitual usage" patterns rather than referencing specific calendar years. This was done by focusing on established household routines (e.g., daily/weekly cooking frequencies, Daily /weekly fuel collection etc) the data reflects long-term, stabilized practices that were already fully active during MP1.

	Also ,the data collection process followed a rigorous, multi-tiered quality control structure to eliminate enumerator bias and ensure data integrity: The enumerators were trained prior the data collection exercise on the questionnaires, to equip them with the knowledge of asking the questions based on the normal cooking habits, supervision of the enumerators was done by the implementation team on ground as part of Quality Check and Monitoring and Evaluation officer was involved in verification of the Raw data received. Final analysis of the Data was done by the Carbon technical team. More importantly, the Project Developer will not claim any emission reductions (ERs) for the period prior to 06/02/2023 or post 31/03/2024 for Monitoring Period 1. Although the monitoring survey was conducted in 2025, zero emission reductions will be claimed for the period after 31/03/2024 for MP1. The data collected was used to quantify the achievements of MP1 (06/02/2023 to 31/03/2024), including all relevant SDG indicators, ensuring a conservative and bounded approach to the vintage.".						
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>XYZ tCO₂e</td><td>XYZ tCO₂e</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table> ☐ 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	No impact results on the Project and or design. The results of the Project in terms of SDGs have been assessed by the VVB on site.						
Insert text here							

6.3 | VVB information

Is a VVB opinion on the deviation request required?	Yes ☐ No ☒
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VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the requirements under Deviations Request Requirements and Procedures or request is submitted by the VVB.	If answer is yes, fill the information in section 6.4 below.
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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. GS12434-Deviation-Request-Submsiion -Form-MP1

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