FORM

FORM - DEVIATION REQUEST SUBMISSION

PUBLICATION DATE: **15/05/2026**
VERSION: **6.1**
NEXT PLANNED UPDATE: **15/05/2028**

RELATED DOCUMENTS
– Deviations Approval Requirements and Procedures

CONTACT DETAILS
The Gold Standard Foundation
International Environment House 2
Chemin de Balexert 7-9
1219 Châtelaine Geneva, Switzerland
Tel +41 22 788 70 80
Email help@goldstandard.org

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 help@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 Secratariat

4.1 | General information

DEVIATION REFERENCE NUMBER	DEVRQ-479
Date of decision	30/07/2026
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 approved. The monitoring period for MP2 of GS12434 may be extended to be 01/04/2024 - 31/12/2025, subject to the following conditions:

1. The PP shall maintain the segregated monitoring questionnaire design as proposed, with clearly distinguished sub-periods:
    - Sub-Period A: 01/04/2024 – 31/03/2025 (Year 1)
    - Sub-Period B: 01/04/2025 – 31/12/2025 (Remaining 9 months)
2. To ensure conservativeness, the usage rate applied to Sub-period A shall be the lower of: (i) the usage rate achieved for Sub-period A; and (ii) the usage rate achieved for Sub-period B.
3. Data and parameters for each sub-period shall be independently estimated and reported.
4. The monitoring survey sampling shall adhere to the 90/10 precision rule. The increased sample size (minimum 150 households) shall be maintained.
5. The VVB verification site visit must be conducted within the applicable timelines under the Site Visit and Remote Audit Requirements and Procedures.
6. Monitoring survey frequencies for all subsequent monitoring periods shall be conducted in full compliance with the approved monitoring plan and the applicable methodology following the methodology transition.

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)	

[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* *GSXXXX*	*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 *Insert text here*		

[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

Certification Status and corresponding date of latest status	☐ Listed	☒ Certified design[6]	☐ Certified project[7]	☐ Other *If other, specify here*
	dd/mm/yyyy	*10/11/2025*	*dd/mm/yyyy*	*dd/mm/yyyy*

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 ☐ Agriculture Activity Requirements ☐ Blue Carbon and Freshwater Wetlands Activity Requirements ☐ Engineered removals 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	DEVRQ-443		
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] Design certification date
[7] Date of first issuance approval by Gold Standard

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 a Temporary Deviation from the Registered Monitoring Plan for MP2: Extension of Monitoring Period Boundaries and Post-Facto Survey Realignment	
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)
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	01/04/2024
	End date	31/12/2025
	☐ NA	
Summarise the changes	The Project Participant (PP) requests a temporary deviation from the registered Monitoring Plan regarding the monitoring frequency and timelines for Monitoring Period 2 (MP2). As per the validated PDD (Version 1.6) and methodology *TPDDTEC v4.0*, the project is required to conduct annual monitoring. The initial schedule for MP2 was set for the window between 01/04/2024 and 31/03/2025 Due to cascading delays resulting from the data collection of MP1, extreme climatic and political factors and the necessity to align the project with the upcoming Methodology Transition / Post-Approval Change requirements, the PP proposes to extend the MP2 timelines. The revised MP2 timelines will run from 01/04/2024 to 31/12/2025 (a total duration of 1 year and 9 months), thereby surpassing the standard annual monitoring frequency. Data collection for this extended period is scheduled for July 2026 to avoid the severe three-month Monsoon season (starting July 2026 and intensifying by August,2026). As per the validated PDD (Version 1.6) and methodology TPDDTEC v4.0 (Section 4.2), the following parameters will be affected since they are required to be monitored annually: • ICS 26: Up,y (Weighted average usage rate) • ICS 27: Nb,p,y (Number of project technology-days)	

	• Nbenef,project (Number of beneficiaries) • Nemploy,project (Number of people employed) • SDG-related indicators (SDG 3, SDG 5, SDG 13)
Reason for deviation	Due to the retrospective nature of the data collection for Monitoring Period 1 (MP1), which was finalized late due to the establishment and operationalization of an MIS which contributed to a delay in initiating the monitoring activities within the originally planned frequency, also there were staff transitions, and internal role realignments, resulting to temporary gaps in implementation capacity, which further contributed to delays in conducting the monitoring exercises. This led to project's verification cycle experienced an unavoidable administrative shift, requiring an extension of timelines to align the monitoring periods. Secondly the project is currently preparing for a Post-Approval Change / Methodology Transition to align its monitoring frameworks with updated Gold Standard requirements, thus extending the monitoring period 2 to 31/12/2025 allows the project to execute a structured, single-stage transition to the updated methodological requirements, ensuring long-term data consistency and compliance without creating unnecessary reporting gaps. In addition to the aforementioned factors, macro-environmental constraints significantly hindered project operations during the 2024–2025 period. Specifically, extreme climatic conditions and political updates within the country directly disrupted the planned monitoring timelines by restricting access to rural communities in the target sub-counties. The direct impact of these events on the survey schedules is validated by the supporting documentation listed below. 1. Apr–May 2024: Nationwide Severe pre-monsoon weather events which caused Crop damage, house damage, power disruptions in the areas hindering movements as well.https://www.icimod.org/ 2. Jun–Sep 2024: Nationwide Heavy rainfall which triggered disasters like Road blockages, displacement, agricultural loss. Link and Link 3. Jul–Aug 2025: The Monsoon-triggered slope failures- Road isolation, transport disruption, temporary displacement, blocked highways, restricted field access, around the Hill districts of Karnali, Sudurpaschim) The link. 4. 8–13 Sep 2025: Nepal experienced major Gen Z protests, violence, curfews and institutional disruption. This led to temporary disruption to national level coordination, travel, approvals, field level activities, staff safety, and partner communications. The link to the updates Link 5. 9 Sep 2025- There were political crisis in Nepal causing the resignation of the PM then followed Government transition Link

Proposed resolution	Monitoring Questionnaire Segregation: The monitoring surveys deployed via Kobo Toolbox will utilize a strictly segregated, block-structured design. For every affected parameter and SDG indicator, questions will be cleanly separated into two clear sub-periods: • Sub-Period A: 01/04/2024 – 31/03/2025 (Year 1) • Sub-Period B: 01/04/2025 – 31/12/2025 (Remaining 9 Months) This guarantees independent estimation of usage rates, hours saved and other sustainable development contributions without cross-contamination. The execution of the survey will see, training of the enumerators, daily supervision of the field team, and Quality check and controls by the Monitoring and Evaluation in the move to ensure the data collected is accurate, reliable and a representation of real outcomes. Secondly, the sampling and analysis will strictly adhere to the 90/10 precision rule (90% confidence interval / 10% error margin) to ensure complete statistical correctness and representative sampling. The PD will equally increase the sample from the bare minimum of 100 to 150 samples which will be proportionally distributed across the age group, with a minimum of 30 samples per age group. Use of a larger sample size will increase data representation. Kitchen Performance Test (KPT) Application: Instead of using MP1 fuel consumption metrics from 2025, the PP will conduct a fresh Kitchen Performance Test (KPT) during the June 2026 field campaign. Because biomass cookstoves experience material degradation and efficiency declines over time, fuel consumption under the project scenario naturally *increases* as the stoves age. By conducting the KPT later (in 2026) and applying those higher fuel consumption values retroactively to the 2024–2025 monitoring windows, the calculated specific fuel savings will be lower. This ensures that the emission reduction calculations remain highly conservative and fully aligned with Gold Standard principles.
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 *(if yes, fill the table below)*

	Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation	Annual emission reduction/ removal after applying deviation
	XYZ tCO_2e	*XYZ* tCO_2e
	113,189 tCO2e	205,605 tCO2e
	☐ any other matrix, please specify… ☐ NA	
Summary of the impact	No impact results on the Project and or design. The results of the Project in terms of SDGs will be assessed by the VVB on site and the field results will transparently be reported.	
Insert text here		

6.3 | VVB information

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

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 -Submission- MP2 V1.1

Document 2. Nepal MP2-Ex-ante Draft 1.1

Document 3.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

VERSION NUMBER	RELEASE DATE	DESCRIPTION
6.1	15.05.2026	Editorial and structural changes to the template
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