FORM

FORM - DEVIATION REQUEST SUBMISSION

PUBLICATION DATE: **20/05/2026**
VERSION: **6.1**
NEXT PLANNED UPDATE: **15/05/2028**

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 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 Secretariat

4.1 | General information

DEVIATION REFERENCE NUMBER	DEVRQ-483
Date of decision	31/08/2026
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 since the sample size does not meet methodology requirements.

The usage survey conducted comprised 85 sample households. However, para 4.1.5 of the applicable methodology (v4.0) states: "*The project surveys have the **same sample sizing** and data collection guidelines **as the baseline scenario survey**. Refer to section 4.3*".

Section 4.3 of the methodology prescribes a minimum sample size of 100 households for Baseline scenario surveys. As project usage surveys are explicitly required to follow the same sample sizing guidelines, the 100-household minimum applies equally to all Project surveys, including the usage survey for Up,y.

The secretariat notes the project developer's contention that a statistical precision-based calculation (90/10 confidence/precision) yields a required sample of n = 68, with a 20% non-response buffer resulting in 85 samples. However, para 4.1.5's direct cross-reference to section 4.3 establishes the 100-household threshold as an explicit methodological floor that cannot be substituted by precision-formula sampling alone.

The submitted sample of 85 households therefore does not satisfy the minimum requirement of the methodology.

Furthermore, as per the distribution database (https://assurance-platform.goldstandard.org/project-documents/GS12677), the VPA distributed the stoves from 27-04-2023 to 28-05-2024, in which the distributed stoves in first year was 40,437 and in the second year was 26,792, therefore the VPA shall classify 2 age groups for the monitoring survey for covering 2 age groups.

4.2.2 | Directions for the project developer/CME, if applicable

The CME shall:

- conduct additional usage survey meeting the minimum 100-household sample requirement per para 4.1.5 and section 4.3 of the methodology;
- conduct separate usage survey for 2 age groups as per distribution data to ensure the methodology requirement on average age at time of survey.

4.2.3 | Directions for the Validation and Verification Body (VVB), if applicable

N/A

4.2.4 | Directions for the Gold Standard, if applicable

N/A

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] :	Mr. Monil Shrivastava
Email ID[4] :	monil.shrivastava@enkingint.org
Organisation:[5]:	EKI Energy Services 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
GS ID	NA	GS 12602	GS 12677
Host country(ies)	Nigeria		
Project Title	GS12602 VPA-1 Powerstove Multiple Fuel Project		
Registry link	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4511		
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 *Under Design review*
	14/05/2024	*dd/mm/yyyy*	*dd/mm/yyyy*	01/07/2026[8]

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-421		
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** NA

[6] Design certification date
[7] Date of first issuance approval by Gold Standard
[8] The end date of the 1st round of review as per the review type followed for design review.

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	METHODOLOGY 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, Data/parameter ID: ICS 26

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Deviation Request for Extension of the Monitoring Frequency of Parameter "Up,y" (Usage Rate)	
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)
	Deviation seeks here is only for this current monitoring period	
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	01/07/2024
	End date	31/12/2025
	☐ NA	

Summarise the changes

The Project Developer (PD) requests a deviation from the monitoring frequency requirement for parameter Up,y (Usage Rate), which is required to be monitored at least annually under the applied methodology.

The project monitoring period is 01 July 2024 to 31 December 2025. The usage survey was conducted between 11 July 2025 and 18 July 2025, resulting in monitored values applicable up to July 2025. The PD requests approval to apply the monitored Up,y value for the remaining period 19 July 2025 to 31 December 2025, thereby covering the complete monitoring period under this verification.

As requested by the Secretariat, the Project Developer provides the following information and clarification in support of the deviation request:

Secretariat's Request	Project Developer's Response
Number of age groups surveyed in July 2025	One (1) age group was covered through the usage survey conducted in July 2025.
Number of samples surveyed for each age group	85 samples The sample size was determined for this age cohort in accordance with the general sampling requirements specified in Section 4.4. A total of 85 samples were surveyed,

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>
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<tr><td></td><td>thereby fulfilling the minimum requirement of 30 samples for the project technologies.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Number of age groups applicable at the end of the monitoring period (31 December 2025)</td><td>One (1) age group would be applicable at the end of the monitoring period. Therefore, no additional age group would arise during the remaining monitoring period that would require separate monitoring.</td></tr>
<tr><td>VVB opinion on the deviation request</td><td>The VVB has provide its opinion on the proposed deviation in the present DEVRQ form.</td></tr>
</table>

Justification:
The project technologies included in the usage survey were distributed within a relatively narrow time window, spanning approximately a single year. Based on the project database as of the survey start date, the age of the project technologies ranged from 1.12 to 2.21 years. Therefore, only a single age group was established for the purpose of the usage survey.

The samples for the usage survey were selected through simple random sampling from this single age group. The sampled cookstoves had an age ranging from 1.12 to 2.08 years, with an average age of 1.33 years, which also falls within the same age group defined in accordance with TPDDTEC v4. Since all surveyed technologies belong to the same age group, the weighted average usage rate based on age distribution is equivalent to the observed usage rate for that single age group, and therefore no additional weighting calculation is required.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Reason for deviation</td><td>The PD intends to transition the project to comply with the Paris Agreement (PA) Alignment requirements prior to the next verification. Consequently, subsequent monitoring and verification activities covering emission reductions from 2026 onwards will be conducted under the updated PA Alignment requirements, including compliance with the applicable monitoring frequency requirements.

As this verification represents the final verification before the transition, conducting an additional standalone usage survey solely for the remaining approximately five-month period would impose a disproportionate administrative and financial burden without materially improving the accuracy of the monitored usage rate. The PD therefore requests an extension of the validity of the July 2025 usage survey results to cover the remainder of the current monitoring period.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Proposed resolution</td><td>The PD proposes that the Up,y value determined from the usage survey conducted between 11 July 2025 and 18 July 2025 be applied for the period 19 July 2025 to 31 December 2025.

The following considerations support this request:

• The project implementation, technology, beneficiary population, and operating conditions remained unchanged during the remaining monitoring period.
• No changes in project design, distribution approach, or monitoring arrangements occurred that would reasonably be</td></tr>
</table>

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>expected to materially affect stove usage after completion of the survey.
• From the next verification onward, the project will be monitored in accordance with the PA Alignment requirements, including compliance with the prescribed monitoring frequency.
• The usage survey conducted in the July 25 has shown 100% usage and PD has used 90% value in line with the "Requirements and Guidelines: Usage Rate Monitoring", v.2.0. So, PD has already considered a conservative value for ER calculation.
• VVB also verified the result of usage survey during the site audit (Feb 2026) and confirmed the validity of the results of the usage survey conducted in the month of July 2025 in their verification report (submitted for design and performance approval).

The proposed approach maintains the completeness and conservativeness of the emission reduction calculations, as the monitored usage rate is based on latest actual field survey data.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of deviation on other aspects of the project?</td><td>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)

<table><tr><th>Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th><th>Annual emission reduction/ removal after applying deviation</th></tr><tr><td>XYZ tCO_2e</td><td>XYZ tCO_2e</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table>☐ any other matrix, please specify…
☐ NA</td></tr>
<tr><td>Summary of the impact</td><td>The requested deviation is limited to the extension of the applicability of the monitored Up,y value for approximately five months and does not affect the project boundary, baseline scenario, monitoring methodology, emission reduction calculation approach, or any other monitored parameters.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Insert text here</td></tr>
</table>

6.3 | VVB information

Is a VVB opinion on the deviation request required?	Yes ☒ No ☐ *If answer is yes, fill the information in section 6.4 below.*

VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the requirements under Deviations Request Requirements and Procedures or request is submitted by the VVB.	

6.4 | VVB's assessment

The below information is to be completed by VVB, if applicable.

VVB's assessment of deviation request		The deviation requested by the Project Developer relates to the monitoring frequency requirement for parameter Up,y (Usage Rate). Under the applied methodology (TPDDTEC v4), the usage survey is required annually. The PD conducted the latest survey between 11–18 July 2025, covering the applicable age group with a sufficient sample size. The PD seeks approval to extend the validity of this survey to cover the remainder of the monitoring period (19 July 2025 – 31 December 2025), after which surveys will be conducted under the newly published PACM-aligned methodology.
VVB's assessment of impact of deviation request		The July 2025 survey was conducted in full compliance with TPDDTEC v4 requirements. The technologies were distributed within a narrow time window, resulting in a single age group throughout the monitoring period. A total of 85 samples were surveyed through simple random sampling, exceeding the minimum requirement of 30 samples. Since only one age group exists, the weighted average usage rate is equivalent to the observed usage rate, and no additional weighting or separate monitoring is required. Extending the survey validity for the remaining 5.5 months would not affect the representativeness or accuracy of the monitoring results.
VVB recommendation		Based on the above assessment, the VVB is of the opinion that the deviation request is reasonable and should be approved. The July 2025 survey was conducted appropriately under TPDDTEC v4, and its extension until 31 December 2025 will not compromise data integrity or monitoring accuracy. Acceptance of this deviation will also avoid unnecessary duplication of effort and optimize resources. The VVB therefore recommends approval of the deviation request, with the understanding that subsequent surveys will be conducted in line with the PACM-aligned methodology.
VVB details	VVB name:	RINA Services S.p.A.

	Auditor name(s):	Vinay Singh
	Email (s):	vinay.rina@gmail.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.

Document 2.

Document n.

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