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

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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-494
Date of decision	14/08/2026
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.

The CME shall submit the request for renewal of crediting period and transition of PAA methodology by 04/11/2026 as per P&R: Requirements for Paris Agreement Alignment, paragraph 3.3.2:

"3.3.2 | However, if a required PA-Aligned Methodology is unavailable by a project's required submission deadline, the project shall be granted an automatic exemption from that deadline. In such cases, the project shall be required to complete Submission within six (6) months after the relevant PA-Aligned methodology is published."

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

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] :	Subha Niranjan
Email ID[4] :	subha.niranjan@infosys.com
Organisation:[5]:	Infosys Limited
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	*GSXXXX*	*GS XXXX*	*GS11722*
Host country(ies)	India		
Project Title	GS10655 GS10710 Promotion of clean cooking solutions in rural India by Infosys – VPA 2		
Registry link	**https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/3853**		
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	*dd/mm/yyyy*	*01/10/2025*	*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	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] 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	PRINCIPLES & REQUIREMENTS
	Version	V2.1
	Paragraph	Para 5.1.45

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	*Request for deviation from para 5.1.45 of principles and requirements*	
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)
	The crediting period renewal shall begin (defined by the submission of a Renewal opinion by a VVB for Design Review to Gold Standard) no later than the last date of current certification cycle.	
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	Dd/mm/yyyy
	End date	Dd/mm/yyyy
	☐ NA	
Summarise the changes	The VPA (GS11722) is currently undergoing renewal of its crediting period. In accordance with Paragraph 8.9.3 and 8.9.4 of Programme of activity requirements and procedures, Version 3.0, "*A PoA and VPA must undergo Design Certification Renewal process every 5 years*". Further, in accordance with paragraph 5.1.45 of the Gold Standard Principles & Requirements v2.1, "*To maintain Gold Standard Certified Project status beyond five years, a Project must undergo Design Certification Renewal. This process shall begin (defined by the submission of a Renewal opinion by a VVB for Design Review to Gold Standard) no later than the last date of current certification cycle*". The current certification cycle of the regular VPA (GS11722) is 29/09/2021 to 28/09/2026. As per the para 5.1.45, the re-validation must be completed on or before 28/09/2026. The POA (GS10655) and first real case VPA (GS10710) completed crediting period renewal during September 2025 using non-PA aligned methodology. As VPA-2 (GS11722) is a regular VPA, the design certification renewal would require an updated POA and VPA in line with latest PA aligned AWMS methodology (Version 2.0) which was released on 05 May 2026. To complete the renewal process, the project documentation would require substantial revision, including updates to the PoA-DD, real-case	

	VPA-DD, and the regular-case VPA-DD, along with reassessment of the baseline survey to comply with the revised methodological requirements. In order incorporate new changes and comply with requirements, the project developer requests a temporary deviation from paragraph 5.1.45 of the Gold Standard Principles & Requirements v2.1 and extend the renewal deadline till December 31st 2026.
Reason for deviation	The project developer is required to complete design certification renewal of PoA and a real case VPA before a regular case renewal. As the there is a deadline for regular case VPA renewal, the project developer requests extension to complete design certification of POA, real case and regular case VPA together. The documents need to updated in line with newly published Gold Standard AWMS Methodology (Version 2.0) which was published only on 5th May 2026. Compliance with the revised methodology requires comprehensive updates to the PoA-DD, real-case VPA-DD, and the current regular-case VPA-DD, including a reassessment of the baseline survey and incorporation of the revised methodological provisions. These activities require additional time for technical assessment, documentation, and validation, making it impracticable to complete the Design Certification Renewal before the end of the current certification cycle on 28/09/2026.
Proposed resolution	Considering the requirement for change of methodology and the updating of project documents, the Project Developer requests an extension till 31st December 2026 to complete design renewal process. The delay is mainly attributed to incorporation and implementation of the newly published methodological requirements. This does not affect compliance of the project with all GS4GG requirements except section 5.1.45 of GS4GG Principles and requirement, v2.1 for which the deviation is sought. Also, there is no impact in accuracy, completeness and conservativeness. The requested extension relates only to the timing of the renewal process and will not affect the implementation of the project activity, monitoring procedures, additionality, or environmental integrity of the emission reductions.
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 ☐ any other matrix, please specify… ☒ NA
Summary of the impact	The requested deviation has no significant impact on accuracy, completeness and conservativeness. The deviation request seeks to extend the timeline for implementing the updated AWMS Methodology Version 2.0 for crediting period renewal. The extension until 31/12/2026 is requested to ensure full compliance with the revised methodological requirements.
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.

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