



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-344
Date of decision	25/03/2026 (Initial) 10/04/2026 (Revised)
Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved [No precondition to apply the deviation decision] <input type="checkbox"/> Conditionally approved [Decision is subject to compliance with the precondition defined below] <input type="checkbox"/> Not approved [reason for rejection is provided in decision summary]

4.2 | Decision

4.2.1 | Decision Summary

The deviation request is approved.

Gold Standard acknowledges that the proposed VPA (GS12246) was intended to be included as a real case VPA under the PoA (GS12102) at the time of PoA Design Certification, with sufficient evidence of prior consideration provided.

While the *Programme of Activity Requirements and Procedures* require a Design Change for inclusion of a new real case VPA post PoA Design Certification, in this case, the requirement is procedural and does not impact the integrity or eligibility of the PoA or VPA. The VPA applies an already included methodology, and its scope (technology and geography) is consistent with the PoA, with no impact on key parameters such as additionality, baseline, or emission reductions.

Accordingly, an exemption from the Design Change requirement is granted, and the VPA may proceed with Design Review under the PoA.

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

The project developer/CME shall ensure that the VPA GS12246 fully complies with all applicable requirements under the Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG), including all relevant rules, methodologies, safeguards, and MRV requirements.

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	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does this decision set a precedent for future projects with similar circumstances? ²	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 :	Gianluca Persia
Email ID ⁴ :	g.persia@southpole.com
Organisation: ⁵ :	Carbonsink Group s.r.l. A South Pole company
Are you an authorized project participant as per the cover letter submitted for this activity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

5.3 | Background information

Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Project activity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PoA GSXXXX	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VPA
GS ID	GSXXXX	GS 12102	GS 12246
Host country(ies)	Mozambique		
Project Title	GS12102 - PoA - Energy-Efficient Development for Africa GS12246 - GS12102 VPA-3 Supply of safe water in rural areas of Tete province, Mozambique		
Registry link	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4465 https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4467		
Scale	<input type="checkbox"/> Microscale (GS) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small scale <input type="checkbox"/> Large scale <input type="checkbox"/> Other, if applicable please specify below <i>Insert text here</i>		
Certification Status and corresponding	<input type="checkbox"/> Listed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified design	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified project <input type="checkbox"/> Other

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	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	12/12/2024	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	<i>If other, specify here</i>
Applied version of Standard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GS4GG				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Previous version of Gold Standard	Version no.			
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1.0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1.1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1.2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2.2	
Transition date, if applicable	From previous GS version to GS4GG			<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	
	From another standard to GS4GG			<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	
	Name of another standard		<input type="checkbox"/> CDM <input type="checkbox"/> Other Name of the Standard – Insert text here		
Applicable activity requirement	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy Activity Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Services Activity Requirements <input type="checkbox"/> Land-use and Forests Activity Requirements <input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>Insert name here</i>				

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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Reference number	DEV_631
Status of the deviation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected <input type="checkbox"/> 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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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	Programme of Activity Requirements and Procedures
	Version	3.0
	Paragraph	4.12.3

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	<i>Exemption from Design Change of PoA GS12102 to include Real Case VPA 3 (GS12246)</i>	
Confirm the nature of changes related to deviation	<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary (e.g. not expected to occur beyond one monitoring period)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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	N/A
	End date	N/A
Summarise the changes	<p>The Real-Case VPA GS12246 was meant to be certified along with its Small Scale GS PoA GS12102 and hence be included as a Real-Case of the PoA applying version 1.0 of GS Methodology 'Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply' and located in Mozambique. The mentioned methodology is already applied by VPA 1, while Mozambique is location also of the other Real-Case VPAs 2 and 4 (respective IDs GS12163 and GS12247, both already Design Certified). Whereas details and title of the VPA were already included in the final version (# 05) of the PoA GS12102, the Design Certification of the PoA was concluded before the Design Certification of the specific VPA could be initiated.</p>	
Reason for deviation	<p>As stated by Gold Standard ARM Team during the Completeness Check of the request for Design Certification of the VPA GS12246 (request ID 32653 on GS Assurance Platform), for any new Real-Case VPA that involves new technologies/measures, a new methodology, or a combination of new methodologies submitted after the PoA's Design Certification, the CME must comply with the applicable Design Change rules to formalize its inclusion in the PoA. CME is aware of the need to perform a Design Change process to include new Real-Case VPA in a PoA which is already Design Certified, however CME is also capable of demonstrating that prior consideration occurred for inclusion of the mentioned VPA 3, and indeed wants to refer to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Title of the VPA was structured in line with section 3.4.2 of the GS PoA Requirements and Procedures (v 3.0) with reference to VPA number and type (Real/Regular) along with PoA GS ID explicitly inserted; 2) Preliminary Reviews of both VPA 3 and PoA GS12102 were concluded on 14/02/2024; so VPA was listed even before Design Certification of the PoA was initiated; 3) Details of the VPA and its technologies and location were included in both Stakeholder Consultation Report of the VPA and Design Consultation Report of the PoA; 4) GS ID and title of VPA 3 are included in the Design Certified PoA-DD (refer to section E.1 and 'Key Project Information') 5) Technologies included in the VPA and host country are already mentioned in the PoA-DD 	
Proposed resolution	<p>CME requests to be exempted from the need to perform a Design Change to the PoA GS12102 to include its Real case VPA GS12246. The Design Change would indeed imply no changes to the contents and details already provided In version 05 of the PoA-DD. Delays in initiating the</p>	

	<p>Design Review process of the VPA are indeed attributable to delays in (i) implementation rates of the projects (ii) validation process of the VVB that led to final redaction of the VPA FVR.</p> <p>Moreover, a similar process took place smoothly for VPA 2 (GS12163) which resembles a similar case, as its Design Review was initiated by GS after the Design Certification of the same PoA was finalized.</p> <p>As prior consideration is solidly evidenced, GS is requested to allow initiation of Design Review for VPA 3, which has already been listed and is indeed linked to the PoA also on GS Assurance Platform.</p> <p>Note that also VVB opinion is perusable on GS Platform Conversation (request 32653).</p>						
<p>Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of deviation on other aspects of the project?</p>	<p>Select the relevant area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Project design <input type="checkbox"/> Local stakeholder consultation <input type="checkbox"/> Safeguarding principles <input type="checkbox"/> SDG assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory compliance <input type="checkbox"/> Additionality <input type="checkbox"/> Applicability of methodology <input type="checkbox"/> Annual emission reduction volume <i>(if yes, fill the table below)</i> <table border="1" data-bbox="464 1003 1453 1160"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="464 1003 954 1115">Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th> <th data-bbox="954 1003 1453 1115">Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="464 1115 954 1160">XYZ tCO₂e</td> <td data-bbox="954 1115 1453 1160">XYZ tCO₂e</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="464 1160 954 1205"></td> <td data-bbox="954 1160 1453 1205"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><input type="checkbox"/> any other matrix, please specify...</p>	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						
<p>Summary of the impact</p>	<p>No impact foreseen on any aspect of either VPA or PoA designs.</p>						
<p>Insert text here</p>							

6.3 | VVB information

<p>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></p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <i>If answer is yes, fill the information in section 6.4 below.</i></p>
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6.4 | VVB's assessment

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

<p>VVB's assessment of deviation request</p>	<p>Please confirm the nature of deviation.</p>
<p>VVB's assessment of impact of deviation request</p>	

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. – Completeness Check – Conversation with GS ARM Team (request ID 32653 on GS Assurance Platform)

Document 2.

Document n.

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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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