TEMPLATE

DEVIATION REQUEST FORM

PUBLICATION DATE **11.1.2022**

Version **13.0**

A. To be completed by Gold Standard

1| Decision

1.1 | Date – 16/02/2022

1.2 | Decision

The applied deviation request is partially approved. The PD shall:

1. Ensure that as per the requirements of para 5.1.46 of Principle and Requirements, no issuance can be claimed for a period of delay in design certification renewal.
2. Ensure that the start date of the GS monitoring period is not beyond more than three years from the date of remote/physical site visit by a VVB. For example, if the site visit is concluded on 30/10/2022, the MP cannot start before 30/10/2019 (inclusive). The end date of the monitoring period shall be on/before the last date of the first crediting period i.e 18/07/2020 (inclusive)
3. Document the deviation request, its implications, and GS' decision in the appropriate section of the PDD/Monitoring Report (for the relevant MP).

The verifying VVB shall, through appropriate means at its disposal, evaluate the Project's compliance with the above-mentioned conditions and provide its opinion in the Validation/Verification Report. SustainCert shall review both the PD's response and the VVB's assessment/opinion of the same and take appropriate steps.

1.3 | Is this decision applicable to other project activities under similar circumstances?

No

B. To be completed by the Project Developer/Coordinating and Managing Entity and/or VVB requesting deviation (Submit deviation request form in Microsoft Word format)

2| Background information

Deviation Reference Number	DEV_235	
Date of decision	16/02/2022	
Precedent (YES/NO)	No	
Precedent details	N/A	
Date of submission	11/01/2022	
Project/PoA/VPA	Project	ID – GS1368
Project/PoA/VPA title	Edincik 56.4 MW Wind Power Plant	
Location of project/PoA/VPA	Turkey	
Scale of the project/PoA/VPA	☐ Microscale ☐ Small scale ☒ Large scale	
Gold Standard Impact Registry link of the project/PoA/VPA	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/223	
Status of the project/PoA/VPA	☐ New ☐ Listed ☐ Certified design ☒ Certified project	
Title/subject of deviation		
Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology and version number	ACM0002 Grid-connected electricity generation from renewable sources	
Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)	Start date: End date:	
Submitted by	Contact person name: Gediz KAYA Email ID: gkaya@gaiaclimate.com	
	Organisation:GAIA Climate	
	Project participant: Yes ☒ NO☐	
Validation and Verification body (VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the applicable rules/requirements or request is submitted by the VVB).	Yes ☐ NO☒ If yes; VVB name: Auditor name:	

3| Deviation detail

3.1 | Description of the deviation:

The project has been listed under Gold Standard in 2013. The crediting period of the project expired on 19/07/2020. The last verification was made until 31/10/2016. The capacity increase of the project is 77.40 MW on 06.11.2016.

According to the GS v2.2 requirement, Revalidation 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. Note that review of the Design Certification Renewal may complete after the last date of current crediting period. In this case, the renewal date shall be the first day after the end date of the current certification cycle. In light of the challenges described below, we request a deviation to continue revalidation and verification process of the Edincik 56.4 MW Wind Power Plant project without any loss of rights regarding VER credits.

3.1.1 | Deviation detail (to be completed by Project developer):

The Edincik Wind Power Plant (Edincik WPP) is a 56.4 MW wind farm located on the southern coast of the Sea of Marmara at Bandirma in Balikesir Province, Turkey owned by EDINCIK Enerji Üretim A.Ş. The total installed capacity of the project is 56.4 MWe consisting of 23 turbines. The project has been listed under Gold Standard in 2013. The crediting period of the project expired on 19/07/2020. The last verification was made until 31/10/2016. The capacity increase of the project is 77.40 MW on 06.11.2016. The project was financed by the EBRD loans and the owner signed a binding carbon asset development contract with a project developer assigned by the EBRD in 2014. According to their agreement, the project developer was exclusively mandated with the development of GS VERs in exchange of a success fee. As per the contract, the developer executed the validation and the fist verification of the credits. Nevertheless, the second verification and revalidation due to capacity increase was rejected by the same developer due to very low market prices. However, the project developer neither honored the agreement nor terminated it and not risking the violation of the contract, the project owner did pursue and further efforts before the exit which was finally realized in November 2021 and the project owner was finally free to hire assistance for the development of the credits.

3.1.2 | VVB opinion (to be completed by VVB, if applicable):

N/A

3.2 | Assessment of the deviation:

3.2.1 | Deviation assessment (to be completed by Project developer):

The project is still additional in Turkey where the project owner try to maintain financial feasibility in a "high interest rate and daily currency crash" investment environment. Also, the project contributes significantly to the region's sustainable development in the following ways:

- Reduction of the greenhouse gas emissions in Turkey by replacing electricity otherwise generated by the Turkish grid, which has a large share of fossil fuel power generation.
- Creation of local employment both during the construction and operational phase. At the moment the unemployment level in Turkey is 13.4%.[1] The Project will mainly have a positive impact on the local area.
- Creation of new job opportunities for the local community and support to the regional economy through the employment of different kind of service and material supply (civil and electrical works, operation and maintenance activities, security).
- Technology and know-how transfer as the employees are trained on maintenance, safety, and operational issues.
- Contribution to the reduction of pollutants such as sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and particles resulting from the electricity generation using fossil fuels in Turkey.
- Reduction of Turkish dependency on electricity imports.
- Diversifying the energy generation mix which is currently dependent on natural gas.

As the project activity is contributing to sustainable development and result in real, measurable benefits, the project is developed in line with "Gold Standard" rules and requirements.

[1] https://tr.wikipedia.org/wiki/T%C3%BCrkiye%27de_i%C5%9Fsizlik

3.2.2 | VVB opinion (to be completed by VVB, if applicable):

N/A

3.3 | Impact of the deviation:

3.3.1 | Impact assessment (to be completed by Project developer):

The project would highly benefit from carbon credits, as the additionality is high due to technical difficulties that have required continuous maintenance due to site conditions. The recent economic and financial stress make it harder for the investors to access finance for project revisions and improvements.

3.3.2 | VVB opinion (to be completed by VVB, if applicable):
N/A

3.4 | Documents:

https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/223