

TEMPLATE

DEVIATION REQUEST FORM

PUBLICATION DATE **11.04.2021**

Version **5.0**

A. To be completed by Gold Standard

1 | Decision

1.1 | Date –12/08/2022

1.2 | Decision

The applied deviation request is approved for the monitoring period of 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2021. However, PD shall:

1. Ensure and demonstrate that GHG emission reductions will not be overestimated as a result of the deviation. Where required, the PD shall apply conservative assumptions and/or discount factors to the calculations to the extent required to ensure conservativeness.
2. Document the deviation request, its implications, and GS' decision in the appropriate section of the GS Monitoring Report (for the relevant MP).

The verifying VVB shall, through appropriate means at its disposal, evaluate the Project's compliance with the above two conditions and provides its opinion in the 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_286	
Date of decision	12/08/2022	
Precedent (YES/NO)	No	
Precedent details	N/A	
Date of submission	02/08/2022	
Project/PoA/VPA	Project	ID – GS5463
	<input type="checkbox"/> PoA	ID – GSXXXX
	<input type="checkbox"/> VPA	ID – GSXXXX
Project/PoA/VPA title	Oromia Cookstove Distribution Project	
Date of listing	Not known	
GS Standard version applicable	Gold Standard for the Global Goals	
Date of transition to GS4GG (if applicable)	09/03/2020	
Date of transition to Gold Standard from another standard (e.g. CDM) (if applicable)	N/A	
Date of design certification/inclusion (if applicable)	14/06/2017	
Location of project/PoA/VPA	Host country(ies) Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia	
Scale of the project/PoA/VPA	<input type="checkbox"/> Microscale <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small scale <input type="checkbox"/> Large scale	
Gold Standard Impact Registry link of the project/PoA/VPA	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/967	
Status of the project/PoA/VPA	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Listed <input type="checkbox"/> Certified design <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified project	
Title/subject of deviation	Deviation from the Monitoring Plan with regard to the monitoring frequency for MP3	
Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodolog	Gold Standard Methodology: Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal	

y, with exact paragraph reference and version number	Energy Consumption, Version 2.0 Section III. Monitoring Methodology 1. Monitoring Procedure
Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)	Start date 01.01.2020 End date 31.12.2021
Submitted by	Contact person name: Sven Bratschke
	Email ID: sven@bridge-builders.de
	Organisation: Bridge Builders
	Project participant: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Validation and Verification body (VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the applicable rules/requirements or request is submitted by the VVB).	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes; VVB name: 4KEarthscience VVB Staff name(s): Chetan Swaroop Sharma
Any previous deviations approved for the same project activity/PoA/VPA(s)?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

3 | Deviation detail

3.1 | Description of the deviation:

**Guidance* Use the space below to describe the deviation and substantiate the reason for requesting deviation from applicable rules/requirements. Please include all relevant information in support of the request. You are requested to follow the principles for requesting deviations, given in the [Deviation Approval Procedure/ Design Change Requirements](#).*

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

Based on the methodology TPDDTEC, version 2.0, and the Monitoring Plan of project GS5463, parameters need to be monitored according to a specific monitoring frequency. Based on the methodological and project design requirements, monitoring for the Usage and Monitoring Survey as well as the KPT should have been conducted for MP3 in July/August 2021. However, due to the COVID-19 situation in Ethiopia as well as the ongoing conflict in the project region, PP was not able to conduct the Monitoring for MP3 during this period and had to postpone monitoring activities.

In case of project GS5463 requirements in terms of the frequency relate to the following parameter and timing:

- a) $P_{p,y}$ to be updated every two years, or more frequently (last survey has been conducted in August 2018; based on the approved deviation under COVID-19 interim measure due date was August 2021)
- b) $U_{p,y}$ to be updated annually or more frequently (last survey conducted in June - August 2020 for MP2; hence, due date was August 2021)

On 11/07/2021 a random sample has been drawn for assessing the usage and fuelwood consumption for MP3. The sample has been provided to PP on the same day. Due to the ongoing conflict in the Oromia region, monitoring could however not start in July 2021 (see also other deviation request "Application of the Conflict and Emergency Zone Procedure for MP3" for further details).

The conflict in the Oromia region is already ongoing for several years leading to a very volatile security situation in the project area. PP and Bridge Builders remained in close contact and assessed the situation closely. In early July it still seemed as if the respective monitoring surveys, including the KPT which requires visits to households in 3 consecutive days, were possible. However, only shortly after the sample was drawn and sent to PP, the ongoing conflict worsened when the Oromo Liberation Army (OLA) declared war in the project area. The biggest attack happened in August 2021, when more than 210 people got killed in different locations around Oromia region and across several days of violence.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/8/26/ethiopia-rights-commission-says-150-killed-in-attack-in-oromiya>.

The declaration of war and the violent conflict made movements between villages difficult to nearly impossible for the staff of PP and the field workers. The combination of the COVID-19 pandemic and the difficult security situation put a pause on all monitoring activities for MP3 in August 2021.

The situation remained tense for several months with attacks and massacres in the project area. PP and Bridge Builders remained in close contact. However, it was clear that Monitoring can only start once again the security situation allows it and does not put staff of PP or users/households of the ICS at risk. It was only in January 2022 when the field staff was able to continue with the Monitoring activities. It required a

very detailed planning and thorough assessment on a daily basis which also led to the situation that the Monitoring activities were conducted between January and March 2022. Since almost no stove distribution happened between 11/07/2022 and 31/12/2022 due to the security situation, no new sample has been drawn prior to the monitoring activities.

Therefore, we would like to ask Gold Standard/SustainCert to allow us to deviate from the required Monitoring frequency defined in the Monitoring Plan and to apply the monitored values from January-March 2022 for MP3 under the consideration of data accuracy, completeness and conservativeness.

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

**Guidance* If required by SustainCERT or Gold Standard for this particular deviation, please add here the VVB's opinion.*

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3.2 | Assessment of the deviation:

**Guidance* Use the space below to describe how the deviation complies with the requirements, and, where applicable, the accuracy, completeness and conservativeness is ensured. Please include all relevant information in support of the request.*

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

The methodological requirements of TTPDTEC ask for an annual or biennial monitoring of the above-mentioned monitoring parameter. Therefore, the conduction of the monitoring at a later stage (January – March 2022 instead of July/August 2021) is a deviation from the monitoring frequency defined by the methodology.

As mentioned above, monitoring, apart from the timing, has been conducted according to the Monitoring Plan and the methodological requirements. Thus, data is in our understanding complete and accurate.

In terms of conservativeness, PP will ensure that GHG emission reductions or removals will not be overestimated as a result of the postponement of monitoring. Therefore, PP will compare the results achieved in the monitoring for MP3 with values from the other monitoring periods. If PP comes to the conclusion that the results differ too much and cannot fulfill the requirement of conservativeness, PP will use discount factors or apply more conservative values from other Monitoring Periods so that GHG emission reductions are not overestimated.

Further, we would like to emphasize that PP already submitted a deviation request under the COVID-19 interim measure for this project with regard to the postponement of the monitoring in MP2 (see deviation submitted as of 11/05/2020). This deviation has been approved by GS with the following statement in terms of validity:

The monitoring deviation will end 28 calendar days from the declared end date (31/12/2020) of the COVID 19: Interim Measures. If Project developer can re-establish monitoring sooner, they may resort to the original registered monitoring approach sooner, clearly recording the date of changing from interim to registered monitoring.

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

**Guidance* If required by SustainCERT or Gold Standard for this particular deviation, please add here the VVB's opinion.*

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3.3 | Impact of the deviation:

**Guidance* Use the space below to describe the impact of the deviation on project design, safeguarding principles assessment, SDG assessment, emissions reductions, monitoring frequency, data quality, potential risk or any other relevant aspect of the project. Please substantiate the impact assessment with relevant and verifiable data/information.*

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

The deviation has an impact on the monitoring frequency since the intervals of annual and biennial monitoring will be altered and not fully be kept as defined under the methodology and the current Monitoring Plan. Therefore, monitoring parameters have been assessed at a later stage than initially planned. However, this might not result in significant changes to the emission reductions, SDG impacts or data quality since the method of data collection remained the same and there are no seasonal variations in terms of fuel use or technology usage which would have significant impacts on the emissions reductions achieved.

If at all, the impact on the monitored emission reductions would be negative since performing the monitoring at a later stage means that devices will have aged more. Based on the first analysis of the data from MP3 the usage rate is with 86.31% lower than in the previous monitoring period (90%, MP2). In other words, the postponement of usage surveys and performance field tests is estimated to yield rather conservative results in terms of emission reductions of GHGs. All monitored parameters will be also compared with values from other MPs and potentially adjusted with conservativeness factors, whenever necessary.

No further impacts are expected on project design, safeguarding principles assessment, SDG assessment, data quality or any other relevant aspect of the project. Hence, no potential risks are foreseen that would need to be mitigated. Thus, no further data is being submitted to substantiate those impacts.

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

**Guidance* If required by SustainCERT or Gold Standard for this particular deviation, please add here the VVB's opinion.*

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3.4 | Documents:

**Guidance* List of documents provided (note that once a decision has been made by Gold Standard, this deviation form along with supporting documents will be made public on the Gold Standard website. If any of the supporting documents are confidential, please indicate here to ensure they are omitted.)*

Version number	Release date	Description
5	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	14.01.2021	
3	16.07.2020	
2	03.05.2018	
1	01.07.2017	Initial adoption