

DEVIATION REQUEST FORM

PUBLICATION DATE **11.04.2022**

Version **5.0**

A. To be completed by Gold Standard

1 | Decision

1.1 | Date – 20/10/2022

1.2 | Decision

The applied deviation request is **APPROVED**. The PD may claim the second crediting period of the project starting from 01/05/2022 considering that all the requirements of the Principles and Requirements are complied with. The decision is subject to fulfilment of the following condition:

- i. The PD shall ensure that a continuity in the Project's monitoring activities is maintained and PD is able to justify that no monitoring gaps exist (especially for SDG parameters) within the Monitoring Period(s). However, if gap(s) exist, the project shall justify that conservative approach(es) have been applied in line with section 3 of the Deviation Approval Requirements and Procedures (version 1.2) and overarching GS principles (as applicable).
- ii. The PD shall document the deviation request, its implications, and GS' decision in the appropriate section of the GS PDD.

The validating VVB shall, through appropriate means at its disposal, evaluate the Project's compliance with the above-mentioned condition and provides its opinion in the Validation 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_293	
Date of decision	20/10/2022	
Precedent (YES/NO)	No	
Precedent details	N/A	
Date of submission	04/08/2022	
Project/PoA/VPA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project	ID – GS 6301
	<input type="checkbox"/> PoA	ID – GSXXXX
	<input type="checkbox"/> VPA	ID – GSXXXX
Project/PoA/VPA title	Household Biogas Plants Installed in Rural Areas Of Uttar Pradesh & Maharashtra	
Date of listing	06/02/2018	
GS Standard version applicable	GS4GG Principles & Requirements (Ver-1.2) (section 5.1.46)	
Date of transition to GS4GG (if applicable)	NA	
Date of transition to Gold Standard from another standard (e.g., CDM) (if applicable)	NA	
Date of design certification/inclusion (if applicable)	01/05/2019	
Location of project/PoA/VPA	India (Uttar Pradesh & Maharashtra)	
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/1097	
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 GS4GG principles and requirement, section 5.1.46 regarding delay in design certification	

	renewal so as to obtain full credits for the 2 nd crediting period of the project. (01/05/2022-30/04/2027)
Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology, with exact paragraph reference and version number	<p>Principles and requirement, version 1.2, published in October 2019, para:</p> <p>5.1.45 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. 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.</p> <p>5.1.46 indicates "Delay in the completion of re-validation beyond the last date of current certification cycle shall result in a reduction of any issuance of Certified Products and/or Impact Statements available during following certification cycle (for example, a delay of 1 year beyond the first cycle shall mean that no Certified Impact Statements shall be issued for the period of delay)."</p>
Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)	Start date NA End date NA
Submitted by	<p>Contact person name: Mr. Chetan Aggarwal</p> <p>Email ID: standards@southpole.com c.aggarwal@southpole.com</p> <p>Organisation: Swiss Carbon Value Ltd.</p> <p>Project participant: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
Validation and Verification body (VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the applicable rules/requirements or request is submitted by the VVB).	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes.</p> <p>VVB name:</p> <p>VVB Staff name(s):</p>
Any previous deviations approved for the same project activity/PoA/VPA(s)?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

3| Deviation detail

3.1 | Description of the deviation:

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

The Swiss Carbon Value Ltd. is requesting a deviation from section 5.1.46 of the GS4GG principles and requirements, for project activity **GS-6301 Household Biogas plants installed in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh & Maharashtra** to continue the issuance of VERs for the period 01/05/2022 to 30/04/2027 as part of the 2nd crediting period.

The project has been design certified under GS on 01/05/2019. The crediting period of the project expired on 30/04/2022. In light of the challenges such as heat wave and critical medical condition of the PP (further described below in section 3.2.1), we request a deviation to continue the Renewal of Crediting Period (RCP) process of the project activity and allow the renewal date shall be the first day after the end date of the current certification cycle.

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

Not applicable

3.2 | Assessment of the deviation:

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

The project activity owned by Adivasi Khadi Avom Krishi Parishchan Sansthan (AKKPS). The project attained Design Certified Status on 01/05/2019. The 1st crediting period of the project activity was 01/05/2017 to 30/04/2022. PP has appointed the VVB for renewal of the crediting and signed a VVB contract on 14/03/2022. Since the project owner was serious towards renewal of crediting period and the project is compiling all requirements as per GS guideline, the project owner is requesting Gold Standard for allowing the renewal date to be the first day after the end date of the current certification cycle. GS crediting period cycle will be from 01/05/2022-30/04/2027. It is requested to allow PP to continue the crediting period from onwards 01/05/2022 without any loss due to the delay in GS RCP submission.

The delay is due to the unique difficulties the project has had to faced are mentioned below:

1. **Heat wave in India**– Heat-wave-like conditions occurred in during March-2022 to June -2022 throughout the 16 states of India. ¹The country reported 280 heat

¹ <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/climate-change/state-of-india-s-environment-in-figures-india-recorded-280-heat-wave-days-across-16-states-in-2022-most-in-decade-83131>

wave day. Due to The unusual heatwaves in March and April 2022, PP is not able to conduct the site visit to monitor the parameter. Thus the process of RCP got delayed.

2. **Due to critical Medical Condition:** Rameshwar Paradhi (a representative from the PP's side) is a heart patient and his condition got critical during the Mar & Apr-2022. As Mr Rameshwar is the signing authority, the RCP could not have been initiated and subsequently completed.
3. **Lack of resources & Information:** Regretfully, due to the medical condition of PP, the doctor had advised him to take rest for at least 2 months. However, Rameshwar Paradhi (a representative from the PP's side) is the only signing authority who can carry out the process for RCP. Apart from that, rest of the team does not have management experience to take the initiative and get the contracting done and other proceedings completed to achieve the RCP within the due date. The lack of resources and management issues for GS4GG certification has the main reason for PP so that crediting period renewal could not take place before Apr 2022.

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

Not applicable

3.3 | Impact of the deviation:

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

The request of deviation for this project lies very close to the crediting period renewable due date timeline, which will not affect the project design, emission reductions, monitoring frequency, data quality and potential risk or any other relevant aspect of the project during the delay period (few months only), the project owner has continued to monitor all parameters which were validated and approved during the design certification.

The above deviation will not cause any impact on the data quality or attract any potential risk on GS related to any issuance or any other material impact affecting the quality of the project and thus no potential risk is attributed to GS Project activity.

The deviation requested adheres to the Principles and Requirements set forth by GS4GG and complies with:

- **Emissions reductions:** the requested deviation will have no impact on these. Primary data collection has led to more conservative emission reduction calculations, given the expected usage rate drop-off.
- **SDG impacts:** the requested deviation is related to the management of the project only. As such, it will have no impact on the project SDGs,
- **Potential risk:** no risk is perceived in this request. Conservativeness is possibly the most significant consideration, and it is dealt with in the previous section.
- **Environmental Integrity-** The VERs generated from the project activity are not overestimated because of deviation and conservativeness are ensured. -

Contribution to Sustainable Development Goals- SDG contributions that the project is designed to achieve are in line with GS4GG requirements and the above deviation does not have any potential impact on the certified SDGs claimed during the current crediting period.

- **Safeguarding Principles and requirements-** The deviation does not create any impact upon the safeguarding principles and requirements set forth by GS4GG.
- **Compliance with Host Country Regulations-** The project does not create any conflict with Host Country regulations and all the host country regulations are followed.

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

Not applicable

3.4 | Documents:

1. GS VVB Contract.