

TEMPLATE

DEVIATION REQUEST FORM

PUBLICATION DATE **11.04.2021**

Version **5.0**

A. To be completed by Gold Standard

1| Decision

1.1 | Date – 05/11/2022

1.2 | Decision

The deviation request is **Approved**. The PD shall ensure that the revised PoA crediting period start date is the earliest crediting period start date amongst all the VPAs included in the PoA and the total duration of the PoA shall not exceed 20 years or the crediting period of first CPA (i.e., CPA 2) allowed as per GS4GG activity requirements plus 5 years, whichever is greater. The PD shall perform either one of the following actions:

- i. Revise the crediting period start date of CPA01 in accordance with the revised crediting period start date of the PoA or
- ii. Voluntarily exclude CPA01 from the PoA.

Consequently, the PoA shall submit a request for a design change, during or any time before the next verification and no later. In case the PD chooses option (i) above, the design change request shall include revision in the crediting period start dates of CPA01.

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_318	
Date of decision	05/11/2022	
Precedent (YES/NO)	No	
Precedent details	N/A	
Date of submission	04/11/2022	
Project/PoA/VPA	Project	ID – GSXXXX
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PoA	ID – GS11677
	<input type="checkbox"/> VPA	ID – GSXXXX
Project/PoA/VPA title	GS Biomass Energy Conservation Programme	
Date of listing	N/A	
GS Standard version applicable	N/A	
Date of transition to GS4GG (if applicable)	N/A	
Date of transition to Gold Standard from another standard (e.g. CDM) (if applicable)	N/A	
Date of design certification/inclusion (if applicable)	N/A	
Location of project/PoA/VPA	Malawi and Rwanda	
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		
Status of the project/PoA/VPA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Listed <input type="checkbox"/> Certified design <input type="checkbox"/> Certified project	
Title/subject of deviation	Changing the start date of PoA crediting period	
Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology, with exact paragraph reference and version number	AMS-II.G: Energy efficiency measures in thermal applications of non-renewable biomass, Version 6.0	

Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)	Start date N/A End date N/A
Submitted by	Contact person name: Conor Fox
	Email ID: conor.fox@hestianproject.com
	Organisation: Hestian Innovation Ltd
	Project participant: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input 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 type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes; VVB name: VVB Staff name(s):
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:

**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):

CDM PoA 10182 Biomass Energy Conservation Programme will transition to GS4GG with its 31 VPAs in Malawi. The table below lists the crediting period dates for PoA and all CPAs for the transition to GS4GG. The request for renewal of crediting period under CDM is recorded as provisional as of 03/11/2022. The second crediting period for PoA is 13/08/2022-12/08/2026. Please see the link:

https://cdm.unfccc.int/ProgrammeOfActivities/poa_db/4A2PCYSNBTWG81Z3L5FUH9RMJKQDV6/view

Project	Crediting Period
CDM PoA 10182, 1 st CP	13/08/2015 - 12/08/2022
CDM PoA 10182, 2 nd CP	13/08/2022 - 12/08/2029

CPA 1	13/08/2015 – 12/08/2022
CPA2	15/10/2016 - 14/10/2023
CPA3	15/10/2016 - 14/10/2023
CPA4	15/10/2016 - 14/10/2023
CPA5	03/05/2017 - 02/05/2024
CPA6	01/09/2017 - 31/08/2024
CPA7	11/08/2017 - 10/08/2024
CPA8	06/04/2018 - 05/04/2025
CPA9	29/03/2018 - 28/03/2025
CPA10	01/06/2018 - 31/05/2025
CPA11	05/06/2018 - 04/06/2025
CPA12	01/09/2018 - 31/08/2025
CPA13	23/10/2018 - 22/10/2025
CPA14	03/12/2018 - 02/12/2025
CPA15	23/01/2019 - 22/01/2026
CPA16	05/04/2019 - 04/04/2026
CPA17	31/10/2018 - 30/10/2025
CPA18	01/09/2018 - 31/08/2025
CPA19	07/06/2019 -06/06/2026
CPA20	01/07/2019 - 30/06/2026
CPA21	01/07/2019 - 30/06/2026
CPA22	01/07/2019 - 30/06/2026
CPA23	01/07/2019 - 30/06/2026
CPA24	01/07/2019 - 30/06/2026
CPA25	01/07/2019 - 30/06/2026
CPA26	11/12/2019 - 10/12/2026
CPA27	11/12/2019 - 10/12/2026
CPA29	11/12/2019 - 10/12/2026
CPA31	01/01/2020 - 31/12/2026
CPA33	01/02/2020 - 31/01/2027
CPA35	01/03/2020 - 28/02/2027
CPA37	01/04/2020 - 31/03/2027

The PoA has generated credits until 31/12/2020 and the continuation of the project activities highly rely on carbon credits. The uncertainties in future of CDM mechanism,

and restrictions due to COVID-19 situation has postponed the decision to transition to GS. In order to issue the period starting from 01/01/2021, the CMA has submitted this deviation request regarding the start date of crediting period.

The crediting period start date of the PoA shall be the crediting period start date of the earliest CPA included in the PoA as per GHG Emissions Reduction and Sequestration Product Requirements, Annex B, 6.2.2. However, CPA 1 which has crediting period start date on 13/08/2015; will not transition to GS. The CPA 1 has issued CERs until 11/01/2020 and is inactive since then.

The CMA requests changing the current start date of PoA crediting period from 13/08/2015 to 15/10/2016 once the transition is approved. CMA would like to take the crediting period start date of CPA2 which is the earliest CPA that will transition to GS4GGs. The crediting period of the PoA will be renewed along with CPA2 as per GS4GG requirements along with the transition request.

The Deviation request DEV161 sets a precedent for PoAs operating under identical conditions. The request fulfills the requirements to apply the deviation as follows:

- *A PoA is allowed to revise its crediting period start date to a later date (which may be the crediting period start date of any VPA other than VPA1) if it can be demonstrated that VPA1 has not been implemented. CDM CPA1 will not be included under the transitioned PoA and has been inactive for more than two years at time of first submission to GS. No further issuance is planned for the CPA1.*
- *The PoA shall ensure that the revised PoA crediting period start date is the earliest crediting period start date amongst all the VPAs included in the PoA. CPA2 is the earliest CPA and the PoA crediting period start date is selected to be in line with the CPA2 crediting period start date.*
- *For VPAs having crediting period start dates before the proposed (new) crediting period start date of the PoA, the PD/CME shall perform either one of the following actions:*
 - a) Revise the crediting period start dates of these VPAs in accordance with the proposed (new) crediting period start date of the PoA or*
 - b) Voluntarily exclude these VPAs from the PoA by following due process.*

There are no CPAs with start dates before the proposed PoA crediting period start date.

- *Consequently, the PoA and VPAs shall submit a request for a design change, during or any time before the next verification and no later. In case the PD chooses option (a) above, the design change request shall include revision in the crediting period start dates of the concerning VPAs.*

The PoA excludes the first CPA from the PoA and will submit for a design change along with the request for combined design certification and performance review.

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 deviation request complies with GS requirements as there will no issuance from CPA1. There will be no change in the length of crediting period for CPAs that are successfully transitioned under GS PoA. They will benefit GS certification for a maximum 15 years excluding the issued period under CDM.

The PoA is located in LDC and requested postponed period is less than 2 years; which is in line with UNFCCC standard:

"234. The project participants of a registered CDM project activity are not required to request approval from the Board for the following changes to the start date of the crediting period of the project activity, but shall notify the secretariat of the changes in accordance with the "CDM project cycle procedure for project activities":

(a) Bringing forward the start date up to one year earlier than that indicated in the registered PDD, taking into account that the start date shall not be earlier than the effective date of registration of the project activity;

(b) Postponing the start date by up to one year, or by up to two years for a project activity hosted by a least developed country, later than that indicated in the registered PDD.”

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 will not have an impact on project design, safeguarding principles assessment, SDG assessment, emissions reductions, monitoring frequency, data quality or expose a potential risk. If approved, the deviation will enable the PoA and associated CPAs to transition GS4GG and issue GSVERs; which is critical for the project continuation.

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.)*

- Transition Request Form for CDM PoA
- Transition Request Form for CPA2

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