

TEMPLATE

DEVIATION REQUEST FORM

PUBLICATION DATE **11.04.2021**

Version **5.0**

A. To be completed by Gold Standard

1| Decision

1.1 | Date – 19/12/2022

1.2 | Decision

The applied deviation request is approved for the monitoring period of 24/11/2021 to 25/11/2022. However, PD shall:

- 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.
- 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_332	
Date of decision	19/12/2022	
Precedent (YES/NO)	No	
Precedent details	N/A	
Date of submission	08/11/2022	
Project/PoA/VPA	Project	ID –
	<input type="checkbox"/> PoA	ID –
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VPA	ID – GS10873, GS7556, GS10872
Project/PoA/VPA title	GS5658 VPA 12: Improved Cookstoves for Environmental Conservation in Southern Ethiopia GS5658 VPA 29: Improved Cookstoves for Environmental Conservation in Southern Ethiopia GS5658 VPA 30: Improved Cookstoves for Environmental Conservation in Southern Ethiopia	
Date of listing	GS7556: 05/03/2020 GS10872: 03/02/2021 GS10873: 03/02/2021	
GS Standard version applicable	GS4GG	
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)	GS7556: 05/08/2020 GS10872: 04/06/2021 GS10873: 04/06/2021	
Location of project/PoA/VPA	Ethiopia	
Scale of the project/PoA/VPA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Microscale <input type="checkbox"/> Small scale <input type="checkbox"/> Large scale	
Gold Standard Impact Registry link of the project/PoA/VPA	https://platform.sustain-cert.com/publicproject/1839 (GS7556) https://platform.sustain-cert.com/publicproject/2182 (GS10872) https://platform.sustain-cert.com/publicproject/	

	2183 (GS10873)
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	Non-conformity with the monitoring plan
Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology, with exact paragraph reference and version number	GS MS Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves v1.
Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)	Start date 24/11/2021 End date 25/11/2022
Submitted by	Contact person name: Martina Margari Email ID: martina.margari@carbonsink.it
	Organisation: Carbonsink (Project representative)
	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 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 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):

Ethiopia is currently facing domestic civil conflicts and other security issues, such as cholera outbreaks. The project areas of the VPAs which are located in Bale Zone and Guji Zone in Oromia Region fall under critical zones with respect to the security situation.

According to the applied methodology:

"Monitoring shall consist of checking of a representative sample, once every year (annually) to ensure that project cookstoves are still operating by carrying out the usage survey as per the guidelines below."

The annual monitoring survey for the year 2022 cannot be completed within one year, in line with the registered Monitoring Plan due to security issues in the project area.

The project Developer seeks a deviation to postpone the annual monitoring activities for January 2023, two months after the end of the monitoring period (i.e. to complete all the required monitoring activities with a maximum of around 2 months' delay).

References:

Bale Zone:

- <https://addisstandard.com/news-more-than-8000-civilians-displaced-in-bale-zone-after-recent-clashes-in-areas-bordering-oromia-somali-regions/>
"More than 8,000 civilians displaced In Bale Zone after recent clashes in areas bordering Oromia, Somali regions"
- <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/ethiopia/safety-and-security>
"Demonstrations have also been witnessed elsewhere including in the Bale Zone to the south-east. Some protests have turned violent and resulted in casualties; others caused severe disruption to road travel including major roads to and from Addis Ababa."
- <https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/ethiopia-situation-report-15-oct-2022>
*"Meanwhile, new cases of cholera continue to be reported in affected areas in **Bale Zone** of Oromia Region. As of 10 October, and since 27 August, 196 cases were reported in Berbere, Delo Mena and Herena Buluk woredas, including in Burka IDP site. The cholera outbreak has already spread to neighboring Somali Region with 18 cases recently reported in Karsadula Woreda of Liban Zone."*

Guji Zone:

- <https://epo.acleddata.com/2022/11/01/epo-weekly-22-28-october-2022/>
*"Further, extrajudicial killings by government forces continued in Oromia region. Last week, seven violence against civilians events perpetrated by government forces – the ENDF, Oromia state police, and kebele communal militia – were recorded in Buno Bedele, **Guji**, Horo Guduru Wollega, North Shewa, West Hararge, and West Shewa zones. Overall, 13 people were reportedly killed due to these attacks."*

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):

Requirements, accuracy and completeness

The monitoring plan included in the VPA-DDs (GS7556, GS10872 and GS10873) is following the "GS MS Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves v1" methodology which requires the survey should be conducted once every year.

As described above the requested deviation would delay the timeline of these monitoring activities maximumly with around 2 months. The requested deviation will not have any impact on the accuracy and completeness of the surveys as the data to

be monitored, the sample size, and all the other elements of the monitoring plan like survey methods will remain the same.

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):

Impact on project design

The proposed deviation does not involve any changes in the Project Design so there will be no impact on this.

Impact on Safeguard Principles Assessment

The project activities will remain unchanged during the crediting period, and, also the social, economic, and environmental impacts are not influenced. Thus, the proposed deviation is not having any impact on the Safeguard Principles Assessment.

Impact on emissions reductions and SDG assessment

The proposed deviation will have no impact on the quantity of ERs or on the quantity of the SDG impacts. Also, there will be no impact on the overestimation of ERs or on the quantity of the other SDG impacts.

Monitoring frequency

The deviation will have a light delay on the monitoring frequency foreseen by the methodology. The delay is, however, only 2 months and thus not foreseen to have any impact or risk for overestimation of the quantity of ERs or the other SDG impacts.

Data quality and/or potential risks

Except for the timing, the monitoring activities will be carried out in line with the applied methodology. The quality of the data will have thus the same attention and accuracy as without the deviation in implementation time (for example, field staff training, sample size, and statistical analysis, etc.). Hence, the proposed deviation will have no impact on the quality of data and there will be no risk in performing the usage survey.

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
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