

TEMPLATE

# DEVIATION REQUEST FORM

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PUBLICATION DATE **11.04.2021**

Version **5.0**

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## A. To be completed by Gold Standard

### 1 | Decision

#### 1.0 | Date – 27/01/2023

#### 1.1 | Decision (Revised)

The applied deviation is approved exclusively for this monitoring period (i.e., 02/09/2019-31/12/2021). However, the PD shall:

- Ensure that the verification site visit frequency stated under clause 3.1 of the Site Visit and Remote Audit Requirements and Procedures – V1.0 will be followed in the subsequent verifications.
- Ensure that credits are claimed for the remotely verified monitoring period of 02/09/2019-31/12/2021 only, considering the conflict situation in the project location during the mentioned MP only. The PD shall follow the regular verification cycles for all the subsequent verifications.

- 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-mentioned conditions and provide its opinion in the Verification Report.

For the purpose of current remote verification, the VVB shall follow requirements, procedures and guidelines stated in Site Visit and Remote Audit Requirements and Procedures – V1.0 for remote verifications.

SustainCert shall review both the PD's response and the VVB's assessment/opinion of the same and take appropriate steps.

**1.2 | 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_341 (Revised)	
Date of decision	27/01/2023	
Precedent (YES/NO)	No	
Precedent details	NA	
Date of submission	19/12/2022	
Project/PoA/VPA	Project	ID – GS 10824
Project/PoA/VPA title	Nazava Water Filter Project in Ethiopia	
Date of listing	31/08/2020	
GS Standard version applicable	GS TPDDTEC v3.1 PRINCIPLES & REQUIREMENTS Version 1.2 SITE VISIT AND REMOTE AUDIT REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES Version 1 .0 Annex 2	
Date of transition to GS4GG (if applicable)		
Date of transition to Gold Standard from another standard (e.g. CDM) (if applicable)		
Date of design certification/inclusion (if applicable)	31/08/2021	
Location of project/PoA/VPA	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	<a href="https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/2781">https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/2781</a>	
Status of the project/PoA/VPA	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Listed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified design <input type="checkbox"/> Certified project	
Title/subject of deviation	Deviation for Site Visit exemption and delay in field activities due to project area in conflict zone.	

Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology, with exact paragraph reference and version number	Site Visit And Remote Audit Requirements And Procedures V.1
Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)	Start date 02/09/2019, End date 31/12/2021
Submitted by	Contact person name: Chetan Aggarwal
	Email ID: <a href="mailto:Standards@southpole.com">Standards@southpole.com</a> , c.aggarwal@southpole.com
	Organisation: Swiss Carbon Value 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

### 3| Deviation detail

#### 3.0 | 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](#).*

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

Nazava Water Filter Project in Ethiopia is a water purification project registered (design certified) under Gold Standard.

Deviation request was submitted and approved by Gold Standard on 18 the October 2022. Considering Conflict situation in Ethiopia, Objective observer was shortlisted by the standard to conduct site visit as per Annex B section 2.1.2 of GS Principle and Requirements V.1.2.

Objective observer who was shortlisted for the task has denied conducting site visit due to the safety concerns in the areas under project activity. Considering the situation in the project area, deviation is requested to conduct remote audit in line with annex 2 of "SITE VISIT AND REMOTE AUDIT REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES v.1.0" would be requested for this monitoring period i.e., 02/09/2019 to 31/12/2021

This would include-

- a. Recording of Video/telephonic conversation with the end user. The project will take due precautions and must not record any conversation without seeking prior consent from the end user.
- b. Photographic evidence –photographs of the project water purification units will be gathered, where possible, to collect visual data on the status, safe water storage practices, etc. of the unit.

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

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### 3.1 | 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.*

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

As per section 3.2.2, Site Visit and Remote Audit Requirements and Procedures v.1.0. A physical site visit by VVB is mandatory at the first verification of a project. Physical site visit shall be conducted once the conflict condition settles in the area. Remote site visit for the above-mentioned monitoring period shall be inline with all the procedures as per section 6 of the guideline Site Visit and Remote Audit Requirements and Procedures V.1

Monitoring Surveys by VVB deviation:

This deviation is to make SustainCert aware that the objective observer shortlisted by GS has denied conducting site visit. Remote site visit can be conducted for the project which will be in line with Site Visit and Remote Audit Requirements and Procedures Version 1.0 Annex 2.

The conflict situation is beyond the PD's control; however, the nature of this deviation is temporary, and the project will revert to its original design after the conflict has resolved.

3.1.1 | 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 | 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.*

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

1. **Project Design:** No change. Project Survey, Follow-ups that include hygiene campaigns monitoring and Water Quality Test will occur. Though, the postponement length is very uncertain, it is outside the control of the project developer.
2. **Safeguard principal assessment:**  
The project has been registered under GS version 2.2. The project will consider the gap analysis between "Do No Harm" assessment and will evaluate the current implementation against the latest version of the Safeguarding Principal and

requirement. To ensure the project is complied with safeguard principles on social, economic, and environmental & ecological aspects will be verified.

3. **SDG assessment:**

The SDG impact of the project will be assessed during the upcoming verification once conflict settles. The following SDGs impact would be demonstrated; SDG6, SDG8 & SDG13

4. **Emission reduction:**

The ex-post value will be verified by approved VVB. The project participant would take principle as per Gold Standard claim guidelines into account and for conservativeness

5. **Monitoring frequency:**

Since there is no change in the project design, the monitoring frequency remains as per the registered PD. However, this will be reassessed by the approved VVB during the forthcoming verification.

6. **Data quality:**

No data quality is impacted. The data will be in line with the QA/QC section explained in registered PDD. VVB could check and prove the accuracy & transparency of the data during the upcoming verification, once situation is stabilized.

7. **Potential risk or any other relevant aspect of the project**

No impact in this component, however it could be evaluated during the verification when the situation is stable in project area.

3.2.1 | 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 | 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.)*

1. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/8/26/ethiopia-rights-commission-says-150-killed-in-attack-in-oromiya>
2. <https://epo.acleddata.com/2022/07/20/epo-weekly-9-15-july-2022/>
3. <https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/more-than-200-feared-dead-in-ethiopia-massacre/>
4. <https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/ethiopia-humanitarian-access-snapshot-january-june-2022>
5. Communication mail of Objective observer
6. Deviation approved by Gold Standard