

TEMPLATE

DEVIATION REQUEST FORM

PUBLICATION DATE **11.04.2021**

Version **5.0**

A. To be completed by Gold Standard

1 | Decision

1.1 | Date – 23/03/2023

1.2 | Decision

The deviation request is not approved.

A design change request requires mandatory assessment from VVB following any of the approval tracks mentioned in section 6 of the [Design Change requirements](#).

In addition to this, project developer shall 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 condition and provide its opinion in the Verification Report.

SustainCert shall review both the project developer'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_378	
Date of decision	23/03/2023	
Precedent (YES/NO)	No	
Precedent details	NA	
Date of submission	20/02/2023	
Project/PoA/VPA	Project	ID – GSXXXX
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PoA	ID – GS11411
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VPA	ID – GS11412
Project/PoA/VPA title	PoA GS11411 Sustainable Water Purification Programme GS11412_GS11411 VPA 1: The MomCare Project in Tanzania	
Date of listing	VPA 1: 24/01/2022	
GS Standard version applicable	Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply, version 01.0	
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)	VPA 1: 02/08/2022	
Location of project/PoA/VPA	Host country(ies) : United Republic of Tanzania	
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	PoA GS11411: GSF Registry (goldstandard.org) VPA1 GS11412: GSF Registry (goldstandard.org)	
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	1. Deviation from Design Change Requirements v.1.0, paragraph 5.1.6, Changes to the project design	

	2. Deviation from the Programme of Activity Requirements and Procedures v.2.0, paragraph 8.10.1
Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology, with exact paragraph reference and version number	1. Design Change Requirements v.1.0, paragraph 5.1.6 2. Programme of Activity Requirements and Procedures v.2.0, paragraph 8.10.1
Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)	Start date End date N/A
Submitted by	Contact person name: Julius Macharia Email ID: jkm@4lifesolutions.com Organisation: 4Life Solutions 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):

1. Deviation from Design Change Requirements v.1.0, paragraph 5.1.6, Changes to the project design

Paragraph 5.1.6 of the Design Change Requirements v.1.0 requires that the VVB shall give an opinion where a design change entails a permanent change on the project design.

In the design change request submitted by the PD, PD had sought GS approval to include the SaWa Can in the project since this was not part of the original PoA technology. Whilst this has been perceived as a new technology, the PD can clarify that the rationale behind the introduction of the SaWA Can was informed by stakeholder feedback received from end-users.

The PD can clarify that the SaWa Can is based on the same purification technology as the SaWa Bag, namely solar water disinfection (SODIS). The only difference between the SaWa Can and SaWa Bag is in the plastic material used to manufacture it, which makes the SaWa Bag collapsible while the SaWa Can is non-collapsible. The modification is part of the project's research and development to expand the technology lifespan and also address the handling and storage challenges based on end-user feedback.

The PD had specified in the PoA-DD Section A.1 (a) that the stated goal of the PoA is to distribute solar-based water treatment technologies, also referred to as "SaWa", which is a household water treatment technology based on the proven Solar Water Disinfection (SODIS) process. The SaWa Can technology is based on the SODIS process and hence is within the stated goal of the PoA.

Based on this justification, the PD is seeking GS approval to deviate from the requirement of seeking VVB opinion on the addition of the SaWa Can into the program since the technology applied is the same as the SaWa Bag.

2. Deviation from the Programme of Activity Requirements and Procedures v.2.0, paragraph 8.10.1

Paragraph 8.10.1 of the PoA requirements and procedures stipulates that *"Multi-country Voluntary PoA shall provide a real case VPA DD for each country considered at the time of PoA validation. Exceptions may be requested on a case-by-case basis. The CME shall follow Deviation approval procedure for such deviation request"*.

During validation of the PoA, only one real case VPA was submitted for validation, though the PoA was envisaged to subsequently include more VPAs in multiple countries. In the design change request submitted, the PD was seeking GS approval to expand the PoA boundary to include additional countries as listed in the PoA-DD.

However, in line with the GS certification cycle, it was not technically possible to provide validated real case VPAs for these countries without first getting GS

approval on the expansion of the PoA boundary which will pave way for the next processes i.e. listing and validation. As part of the PoA design consultation, the PD conducted stakeholder consultations in the countries that were to be added to the PoA. Additionally, local stakeholder consultations have been undertaken in some of these countries and will be submitted for GS preliminary review upon approval of the boundary expansion. The PD has also submitted draft VPA-DDs for all the countries as part of the design change application. Upon successful listing, the PD will then embark on the validation process with the VVB for subsequent application for GS design review.

In line with paragraph 8.7.2, the PD is hereby submitting this deviation and seeking GS approval to deviate from applicable requirement and have the design change approved without submission of real case VPA for the new countries until the Design Change is approved in order to allow the boundary to cover those new countries. Once approved and PoA boundary expanded, the PD shall submit the new VPAs for listing and subsequent validation by the VVB.

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.*

1. **Deviation from Design Change Requirements v.1.0, paragraph 5.1.6, Changes to the project design**

The PD has demonstrated that the SaWa Can and Sawa Bag technologies are similar, and only the design has changed hence VVB opinion is not needed.

2. **Deviation from the Programme of Activity Requirements and Procedures v.2.0, paragraph 8.10.1**

The PD has clarified that the VPAs shall be submitted for VVB validation after GS approval of the boundary expansion and subsequent listing of the projects. VVB opinion is hence not needed for this deviation request.

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):

1. **Deviation from Design Change Requirements v.1.0, paragraph 5.1.6, Changes to the project design**

As explained above, the PD had specified in the PoA-DD Section A.1 (a) that the stated goal of the PoA is to distribute solar-based water treatment technologies, also referred to as “SaWa”, which is a household water treatment technology based on the proven Solar Water Disinfection (SODIS) process. The SaWa Can and SaWa bag technology both makes use of the SODIS process and hence is within the stated goal of the PoA. The SaWa Can has just been modified to enhance its lifespan and address the challenges of handling and storage based on stakeholder feedback. Based on this, there is no material change on the design of the initial project design and VVB opinion is not deemed necessary.

2. **Deviation from the Programme of Activity Requirements and Procedures v.2.0, paragraph 8.10.1**

Although the PD has not provided real case VPAs as part of the design change request, the clarification has been made that the PD shall comply with the PoA requirement on inclusion of new VPAs upon approval of the request for boundary expansion. Real case VPAs shall be submitted for GS design review following successful listing and VVB validation. The planning for these processes is underway but given the resources required, it is prudent for the PD to await GS approval of the design change before proceeding with listing and validation.

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.*

.....N/A

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):

1. **Deviation from Design Change Requirements v.1.0, paragraph 5.1.6, Changes to the project design**

The deviation is not anticipated to have any impact on safeguarding principles assessment, SDG assessment, emissions reductions, monitoring frequency, data quality, potential risk or any other relevant aspect of the project. The only impact is on the project design since the technology distributed will comprise both the SaWa can and the SaWa bag. However, as explained, since these both make use of the Solar Water Disinfection (SODIS) process, there is no major impact on the design of the program and the monitoring plan set out in the PoA-DD.

2. **Deviation from the Programme of Activity Requirements and Procedures v.2.0, paragraph 8.10.1**

The deviation will not have any impact on the safeguarding principles assessment, SDG assessment, emissions reductions, monitoring frequency, data quality, potential risk or any other relevant aspect of the project. As provided in the PoA-DD, these shall be undertaken at VPA level. The deviation will however impact on the project design as once the design change is approved, the boundary of the project will expand as more VPAs are included in the PoA boundary.

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.*

.....N/A

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