A. To be completed by Gold Standard

1 | Decision

1.1 | Date – 14/06/2023

1.2 | Decision

The applied deviation request is approved.

The project is granted a deviation from para 4.1.49.(b) of the Principles & Requirements considering the COVID situation. The project may proceed for listing and design certification provided that the project is in compliance with other applicable requirements.

Additionally, the project developer shall successfully demonstrate, along with relevant evidence, to demonstrate prior consideration of carbon revenues.

The project developer shall document the deviation request, its implications, and GS’ decision in the appropriate section of the GS PoA-DD.
The validating VVB shall, through appropriate means at its disposal, evaluate the Project’s compliance with the above-mentioned conditions and provides its opinion in the Validation Report.

Certification body shall review both the PD’s submission and the VVB’s opinion of the same and take appropriate steps.

1.3 | **Is this decision applicable to other project activities under similar circumstances?**

No
### 2. Background information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deviation Reference Number</th>
<th>DEV_401</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of decision</td>
<td>14/06/2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precedent (YES/NO)</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precedent details</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of submission</td>
<td>26/04/2023</td>
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</table>
| Project/PoA/VPA           | Project ID – GSXXXX  
  PoA ID – GS12030  
  VPA ID – GS12031 |
| Project/PoA/VPA title     | PoA Title –  
  GS POA SAFE WATER PROGRAMME BY WATER MISSION IN TANZANIA  
  VPA Title-  
  GS 12030 VPA 1 SAFE WATER PROJECT IN KIGOMA AND DODOMA (TANZANIA) |
| Date of listing           | Not listed yet |
| 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) | N/A |
| Location of project/PoA/VPA | TANZANIA |
| Scale of the project/PoA/VPA | Microscale  
  Small scale  
  Large scale |
| Gold Standard Impact Registry link of the project/PoA/VPA | Not available yet |
| Status of the project/PoA/VPA | New  
  Listed  
  Certified design  
  Certified project |
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):

The project developer through this submission would like to request an extension on the prior consideration rule in GS4GG.

In line with clause, 4.1.49 of the P & R requirements, Retroactive projects shall submit the required documents for preliminary review (time of first submission) within one year.
of the project start date. Retroactive Project submitted at a date later than one year from the project start date will not be eligible for Gold Standard certification.

The project has a start date of 16 Aug 2021 and the project documentation was submitted to SustainCert on 08 Dec 2022 which is slightly more than one year from the start date.

The PD would like to inform that they were aware of the above rule and accordingly they shared an email to GS (screenshot below) within one year of the project start date (on 31 May 2022) and conducted the local stakeholder consultation (July 2022) in accordance with GS rules within one year of the project start date, thus demonstrating strong intent to achieve certification under GS4GG programme.

Within one year of the project start date, it is true that organizational employee restrictions were in place surrounding the global COVID pandemic, which factored into reasons that prohibited them from carrying out stakeholder engagement meetings in a timelier manner in 2021. Specifically, employee restrictions included the prohibition of holding community meetings and regulation limited gathering sizes. In Tanzania specifically, there was uncertainty around shifts in government policy due to the change in political leadership.

The delay in preparation of project documentation is attributed to project start-up finance was required to launch this project, the starting sums of which arrived at the end of 2021. Once funding was received, organizational board approval was required and obtained on 28 January 2022. A contract was then signed with the Consultants in Jan 2022. At this point, the PD began working with the consultant on the preparation of the project documentation.

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.
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):

As explained earlier, the PD has demonstrated relevant intent to achieve certification in GS4GG by submitting a notification email to GS within one year of the project start date and by achieving an important milestone of conducting the stakeholder’s consultation within one year of the project start date. Hence, this deviation does not in any way undermines the PD’s serious intent to achieve certification under GS4GG.

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.

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 shall have no impact on the project design, safeguarding principles assessment, SDG assessment, emissions reductions, monitoring frequency, data quality, potential risk, or any other relevant aspect of the project since the deviation pertains to only extension required to submission of the project documentation. The project developer would comply with all GS4GG related rules and guidelines in future during the project cycle.

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.)

**GS12030_PoA_PriorConsideration_DevelopmentRequest_April2023**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version number</th>
<th>Release date</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</table>
| 5              | 11.04.2022   | Additional information added:  
- 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 |