

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

**1.1 | Date – 10/08/2023**

**1.2 | Decision**

The Deviation Request is not approved.

The Project developer had been provided with sufficient extension period of using the alternative monitoring approach for measuring SDWS 23 in the whole of the concerned previous MP referenced in DEV\_255 and an additional grace period of 3 months extension was also approved referenced DEV\_462.

The developer is thus requested to ensure compliance with the methodology requirements for the period after the end of grace period i.e,30/06/2023 by fully implementing one of the monitoring options specified in the methodology -

- Option 1: Flow meter measures water volume directly
- Option 2: Operation sensor measures directly operation time or pump stroke count, and volume is calculated as capacity (defined in the Project technology

description) multiplied by operation time or pump strokes, depending on the sensor type.

Projects/VPA are not allowed to request issuance for the period after 30/06/2023 (Deviation Request approved for previous MP) when the project/VPA is in non-compliance with methodology requirements. No further deviation can be granted for parameter SWDS 23.

**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_462	
Date of decision	10/08/2023	
Precedent (YES/NO)	No	
Precedent details	N/A	
Date of submission	21/06/2023	
Project/PoA/VPA	Project	ID – GSXXXX
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PoA	ID – GS1247 and 7591
	<input type="checkbox"/> VPA	ID – GSXXXX
Project/PoA/VPA title	GS1247 Improved Kitchen Regimes GS7591 International Programme of Safe Water and Efficient Cooking	
Date of listing		
GS Standard version applicable	GS4GG	
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)		
Location of project/PoA/VPA	Burkina Faso Central African Republic Eritrea Ethiopia Gambia Kenya Malawi Mozambique Nigeria Rwanda Sierra Leone Togo Uganda Zambia Zimbabwe	
Scale of the project/PoA/VPA	<input checked="" 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/155">https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/155</a> <a href="https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/2206">https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/2206</a>
Status of the project/PoA/VPA	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Listed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified design <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified project
Title/subject of deviation	Deviation to ensure supply of safe water
Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology , with exact paragraph reference and version number	GS ERSDWS SDWS 23
Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)	<div>Start date</div> <div>End date</div>
Submitted by	<div>Contact person name: James Walker</div> <div>Email ID: james.walker@co2balance.com</div> <div>Organisation: CO2balance UK Ltd</div> <div>Project participant: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></div>
Validation and Verification body (VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the applicable rules/requirements or request is submitted by the VVB).	<div>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> <div>If yes; VVB name:</div> <div>VVB Staff name(s):</div>
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):

CO2balance have been implementing safe water supply projects under the Gold Standard Foundation since 2013. Since then, CO2balance has rehabilitated over 2,000 water sources in 14 countries. These projects have applied TPDDTEC version 1 and 3.1 and all will at some point transition on to GS ERSDWS.

The safe water supply projects provide safe water to communities in sub-Saharan Africa, predominately in rural areas. Typically, the baseline scenario is such that households rely on surface water and either treat the water by boiling or consuming unsafe water. These communities rely on the support of CO2balance, and the finance provided by the sale of GS VERs, to maintain the safe water sources. It is essential that safe water supply projects can continue to run under GS ERSDWS.

Otherwise, for existing projects, we will be met with a cliff-edge scenario where we must withdraw support from the projects when they reach the end of their crediting period. This would create a step backwards in development and cause end users to revert to consuming unsafe surface water. Many new projects will not be feasible, and GS will be denying millions of dollars of investment in rural water supply in sub-Saharan Africa. Hence, we are seeking deviation to two parameter requirements.

### **SDWS 23 - Monitored quantity of safe water provided by the CWS/CWT project in year y – flow meter or operational sensor**

CO2balance have been trialing water meters and exploring different technologies to measure water yield from the project water sources. However, a suitable solution has not been found yet.

Analogue water meters are being trialed, yet some field teams are concerned that parts may be stolen or vandalised. This may have an additional negative impact of hand pump breakdowns. Some meters have led to pumps leaking and the flow of water being disrupted. These issues must be resolved before the technology is rolled out widely.

We have also had discussions with organisations to use digital water meters, however a suitable sensor is yet to be found. Issues have included lack of power, sensors requiring solar panels, lack of network coverage and meters not fitting the pump outlets.

Until a suitable technology is available, SDWS 23 cannot be met. The parameters concerned here are:

- $Q_{pop,y}$  - Quantity of safe drinking water that could be consumed by project end-users in year  $y$  (L)
- $Q_{m,y}$  - Monitored quantity of safe water provided by the project in year  $y$  (L)

The lowest value of the two is included in the ER calculation as  $Q_y$ . We request that  $Q_{pop,y}$  is applied as default while the required research and development is carried out on the devices which measures output from a handpump. This request is conservative as  $Q_{pop,y}$  will always be a lower value than  $Q_{m,y}$ . This is because only 4 litres of water per person per day can be claimed for the purposes of the project. A conservative number of users per handpump is 300, making the  $Q_{pop,y}$  1,200 litres per day. Literature supports 6,000 litres per day being provided by a handpump.

### **Progress made on sensors**

CO2balance are trailing Charity: Water sensors on India Mark ii pumps in Zambia and Uganda. C: W are the world's leading water NGO, and lead in the development of hand pump sensor technology, having started deployment in 2015. C: W have written a letter to CO2balance to share with GS stating the current status of their sensors. GS had suggested that CO2balance use these sensors in May 2022. However, as evidenced by the letter, India Mark ii sensors are in a trial phase, and CO2balance could only acquire 42. The letter confirms that these are not commercially available. The letter goes on to state that manufacturing of AfriDev sensors has not yet started.

CO2balance have also engaged with three other organisations to trial sensors. A report on OxWater and Magenta has been submitted. However, the programme fell through with HydroConcepts as they could not acquire the sensors.

Based on this, CO2balance are requesting to deviate away from SDWS 23 for another 6 months, with progress being reviewed again at that time.

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):

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This request does not affect the accuracy, completeness, and conservativeness of the project. For SDWS 23, Qpop,y will generally be lower than Qm,y, so the request is conservative and will not lead to over crediting.

#### 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):

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#### Project Design

The deviation for SDWS 23 will be noted in VPA-DDs at Design Certification or Re-Validation.

### Safeguarding Principles Assessment

The deviation for parameter SDWS 23 will have a positive impact on safeguarding, as it will either secure access to safe water (existing projects) or enable access to safe water (new projects).

### SDG Assessment

#### SDWS 23

The volume of water consumed per person per day for drinking water will either apply the default value of 4 litres or be capped at 5.5 litres. As stated above, applying  $Q_{pop,y}$  over  $Q_{m,y}$  is conservative.

#### Emissions Reductions

#### SDWS 23

The deviation will have a conservative effect on ERs as  $Q_{pop,y}$  will be a lower figure than  $Q_{m,y}$ .

### Monitoring Frequency

#### SDWS 23

The total volume of water consumed by households per day is measured in the annual usage survey. The survey asks how many people are in the household and many jerry cans the household fills per day for ALL purposes (not only drinking water), which gives the per capita water consumption. This provides data which would otherwise be provided by SDWS 23  $Q_{m,y}$ .

### Data Quality

#### SDWS 23

The deviation will have a positive impact on data quality as the technology for measuring water supplied by a hand pump is not currently fit for purpose and risks providing bad quality data.

### Potential Risk or any other Relevant Aspect of the Project

The purpose of the deviation request is to avoid risks associated with removing access to safe water.

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.)*

Version number	Release date	Description
5	11.04.2022	Additional information added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- date of listing, design certification, transition</li> <li>- standard version</li> <li>- specific reference to a requirement deviated from</li> <li>- any previous deviations/design changes approved</li> </ul> Guidance on VVB opinion
4	14.01.2021	
3	16.07.2020	
2	03.05.2018	
1	01.07.2017	Initial adoption