



DEVIATION REQUEST FORM

PUBLICATION DATE **11.04.2021**

Version **5.0**

A. To be completed by Gold Standard

1 | Decision

1.1 | Date – 14/12/2023

1.2 | Decision

The applied deviation request for delaying the monitoring activities is approved for the monitoring period ending on 28/06/2022 as long as the PD complies with minimum sample size, criteria of random sampling and representativeness of the beneficiary population as required by the methodology.

Additionally, 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

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|---|---|---------------------|
| Deviation Reference Number | DEV_586 | |
| Date of decision | 14/12/2023 | |
| Precedent (YES/NO) | No | |
| Precedent details | N/A | |
| Date of submission | 27/11/2023 | |
| Project/PoA/VPA | Project | ID – GSXXXX |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> PoA | ID – GSXXXX |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VPA | ID – GSXXXX |
| Project/PoA/VPA title | GS5658 VPA 5: Resilience with Safe drinking water in Somali Regional State (Ethiopia) | |
| Date of listing | 23/05/2019 | |
| GS Standard version applicable | GS4GG | |
| Date of transition to GS4GG (if applicable) | NA | |
| Date of transition to Gold Standard from another standard (e.g. CDM) (if applicable) | NA | |
| Date of design certification/inclusion (if applicable) | 16/07/2021 | |
| Location of project/PoA/VPA | Host country(ies): 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://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/1511 | |
| 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 | Monitoring survey postponement | |
| Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology, with exact paragraph reference and version number | Technologies and practices to displace decentralized thermal energy consumption (TPDDTEC), version 3.1 Community Services Activity Requirements (version 1.2) | |
| Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable) | Start date 29/06/2022 | End date 28/06/2022 |

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|---|---|
| Submitted by | Contact person name: Carlotta Zini |
| | Email ID: c.zini@southpole.com |
| | Organisation: CARBONSINK |
| | 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):

The project is located in the Somali region, neighboring Somalia country. Border areas on the African continent have always been affected by instability, however, in particular in February 2023 in the project region there were moments of tension due to uncontrolled immigration from neighboring Somalia, as reported here on the UNHCR website: <https://www.unhcr.org/news/tens-thousands-arrive-ethiopia-fleeing-recent-clashes-somalia>.

In June 2023, the activity of terroristic organization AlShabaab continues to generate a climate of insecurity and danger in moving within the territory, all exacerbated by the difficult climate situation: <https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/ethiopia-somali-region-access-snapshot-june-2023>. Plus an epidemic of cholera cause the impossibility to reach the area to perform the monitoring activities <https://crisis24.garda.com/alerts/2023/06/ethiopia-elevated-cholera-activity-reported-in-multiple-areas-especially-in-oromia-region-through-june>.

As PD we tried to organize the activity with the local field team for the month of July, but again we encountered problems with safety <https://addisstandard.com/asdailyscoop-one-killed-16-injured-after-security-forces-open-fire-on-protesters-in-birqod-somali-region/>.

We attend the month of August to wait the situation calm down, but again in September, when everything was organized other disorders happened in the area <https://addisstandard.com/news-several-killed-many-injured-in-fresh-clashes-in-babile-near-oromia-somali-regions-border/> and so no safe to perform the activity.

We waited for the month of October 2023 to plan and organize a new site visit to conduct the planned surveys, but in the first days of November, heavy rains fell in the region, causing major flooding, 20 deaths and thousands of displaced people. At the moment, investigations are underway on the possibility of reaching the area and checking the state of the wells.

This deviation request is aimed at requesting the postponement of monitoring activities until the situation is normalized, considering that the beneficiaries to be interviewed are probably also not currently on site but have been displaced to safer areas.

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):

As per applied methodology to ensure the representativeness of the survey (page 31, TPDDTEC version 3.1), we need a minimum sample size of 100 people. At the moment we cannot guarantee compliance with the criteria of random sampling and representativeness of the beneficiary population because a large part of the beneficiaries are displaced.

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 other project activities will remain unchanged during the crediting period, but there is the need to verify the boreholes' status and if damaged to restore them in line with 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 delay on the monitoring frequency foreseen by the methodology. The delay, as explained above, is due to the impossibility to reach the area for long time due to safety problems.

Data quality and/or potential risks

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.

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"> - 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 |