A. To be completed by Gold Standard

1 | Decision

1.1 | Date – 14/12/2023

1.2 | Decision
The deviation request is approved. However, the PD cannot claim any recognition for the SDGs not monitored during the corresponding monitoring period.

The PD shall document the deviation request, its implications, and GS’ decision in the appropriate section of the monitoring report.

The verifying VVB shall, through appropriate means at its disposal, evaluate the project’s compliance with the above request and provides its opinion in the Verification report.

SustanCERT shall review, both the Monitoring Report and the Verification Report with the VVB’s opinion and take the appropriate action.

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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deviation Reference Number</th>
<th>DEV_587</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of decision</td>
<td>14/12/2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precedent (YES/NO)</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precedent details</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of submission</td>
<td>29/11/2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project/PoA/VPA ID</td>
<td>Project ID – GS6588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PoA ID – GSXXXX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPA ID – GSXXXX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project/PoA/VPA title</td>
<td>Sustainable Agroforestry Based Dairy Value Chain in Mount Elgon, Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of listing</td>
<td>08/11/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GS Standard version applicable</td>
<td>Version 1.1 – August 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of transition to GS4GG (if applicable)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of transition to Gold Standard from another standard (e.g. CDM) (if applicable)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of design certification/inclusion (if applicable)</td>
<td>11/07/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location of project/PoA/VPA</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scale of the project/PoA/VPA</td>
<td>Microscale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Small scale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Large scale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Standard Impact Registry link of the project/PoA/VPA</td>
<td><a href="https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/1809">https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/1809</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status of the project/PoA/VPA</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Listed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Certified design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Certified project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title/subject of deviation</td>
<td>Not monitoring of other SDGs due to Covid-19 monitoring restraints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology , with exact paragraph reference and version number</td>
<td>COVID-19 Interim Measures – Gold Standard for the Global Goals or Deviation Request Form – Gold Standard for the Global Goals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)</td>
<td>Start date 02/03/2018 End date 01/03/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitted by</td>
<td>Contact person name: Jonathan Domarle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Email ID: <a href="mailto:jdomarle@livelihoods-venture.com">jdomarle@livelihoods-venture.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Organisation: Livelihoods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 supposed to monitor the following SDGs with the respective indicators:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sustainable Development Goals Targeted</th>
<th>SDG Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SDG 13 Climate Action</td>
<td>Emission Reductions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 1 No Poverty</td>
<td>1. Average milk production per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Number of farmers with secure milk contracts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. % of people earning &gt; USD 2/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 2 Zero Hunger</td>
<td>% of people having 2 meals/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 5 Gender Equality</td>
<td>% of women participating in farmer organizations in the project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The data for these indicators are assessed in different surveys. While there were annual surveys for milk (relating to SDG 13, partly SDG 1) and gender of participants during enrollment (SDG 5), the indicators “% of people having 2 meals/day” and “%
of people earning > USD 2/day” are monitored in the frame of a socio-economic survey. Such a socio-economic survey is not considered practical to be conducted annually or early in the monitoring period, but rather towards the end. Thus, this socio-economic survey was planned for 2020. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic and consequent lockdown it was prohibited by law for field staff to leave their homes or get into direct contact with project participants. This curfew lasted from March 2020 to October 2021. Thus, for the monitoring period 02/03/2018 to 01/03/2021 the socio-economic survey could not take place.

3.1.2 | VVB opinion (to be completed by VVB, if applicable):

…..

3.2 | Assessment of the deviation:
3.2.1 | Deviation assessment (to be completed by Project developer):

We believe that due to the project set-up, the project rather had positive effects on SDG 1 and 2 or at least did no harm in this time. Additionally, as there was no milk or herd data collected either in 2020, there are no credits (which include benefits to said SDGs) claimed for the year 2019. We, therefore, assume that the reported impacts in this monitoring period regarding all SDGs is conservative – speaking to the principles of Environmental Integrity and Safeguarding. At the same time, omitting a person-to-person socio-economic survey (digital survey is not appropriate for smallholder farmers in Kenya due to lacking technology access) in a time of a national curfew due to a global pandemic (March 2020 – October 2021) is in compliance with the host country regulations.

The socio-economic survey is now being conducted for the subsequent monitoring period. The missed indicators will be reported on in the next Monitoring Report.

3.2.2 | VVB opinion (to be completed by VVB, if applicable):

……..

3.3 | Impact of the deviation:

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

The deviation only affects the SDG assessment and its monitoring frequency. Namely that SDGs could not be assessed, and the frequency of monitoring changed as one monitoring event has been omitted. The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic have been unprecedented in Kenya and the world. We expect that any monitoring of said indicators would have had extreme distortions, which cannot be related to the effects of the project. Therefore, the expected results of a socioeconomic survey in this time are deemed of little value and not representative.

……

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.

……..

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.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version number</th>
<th>Release date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>11.04.2022</td>
<td>Additional information added:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- date of listing, design certification, transition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|   |   | - 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 |