



TEMPLATE

DEVIATION REQUEST FORM

PUBLICATION DATE **11.04.2021**

Version **5.0**

A. To be completed by Gold Standard

1 | Decision

1.1 | Date – dd/mm/yyyy

14/02/2024

1.2 | Decision

The Deviation Request is Approved.

In line with the RU-Revision to Microscale Scheme Requirements, the Selection, role and responsibilities of objective observers is no longer applicable from 28/11/2023.

CME shall note that Site visits for Microscale projects, PoAs and VPAs shall follow latest version of all applicable GS4GG requirements, including the Site Visit and Remote Audit Requirements v2.0 and other latest Rule Updates and Gold Standard VVS v1.0.

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_595	
Date of decision	14/02/2024	
Precedent (YES/NO)	No	
Precedent details	NA	
Date of submission	21/12/2023	
Project/PoA/VPA	Project	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PoA	ID – GS1290
	<input type="checkbox"/> VPA	ID – GS5796
VPA title	GS1290: Native Energy Clean Water Programme Central America: VPA (03) Haiti (GS5796)	
Date of listing	15/02/2016	
GS Standard version applicable	GS4GG	
Date of transition to GS4GG (if applicable)	06/09/2018	
Date of transition to Gold Standard from another standard (e.g. CDM) (if applicable)	N/A	
Date of design certification/inclusion (if applicable)	19/10/2018	
Location of project/PoA/VPA	Host country(ies) Haiti	
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	GSF Registry (goldstandard.org)	
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	Request for Deviation to Postpone Objective Observer Site Visit	
Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology, with exact paragraph reference and version number	Programme of Activity Requirements and Procedures v2.1 para 3.4.3 (e)	
Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)	Start date 12/01/2020 End date 11/01/2021	
Submitted by	Contact person name: Yiling Yin Email ID: yiling.yin@native.eco	

	Organisation: Native, a Public Benefit Corporation
	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):

The Programme of Activity Requirements and Procedures v2.1 para 3.4.3 (e) stipulates that, "For an internal verification, the CME is notified on whether the VPA(s) is selected for an appraisal of sustainable development aspects, including SDG 13, by an Objective Observer, or if these will be verified internally by CB alone".

In line with this requirement, early in the year the PD was informed by the Standard that the project had been selected for Objective Observer assessment for the monitoring period 12/01/2020-11/01/2021. The PD was required to make the necessary plans to support the OO visits per requirements.

The PD made deliberate efforts to facilitate the process including outsourcing CVs for potential OO candidates. These CVs were shared with SustainCert for OO selection. However, the project boundary has been experiencing conflicts and it has not been possible to conduct the OO visit ([‘Unprecedented insecurity’ in Haiti requires urgent action: new UN envoy | UN News](#); [Unbearable insecurity in Haiti amidst violence and economic crisis | MSF](#)). The selected OO candidate confirmed there were onsite visit travel restrictions. Also, based on review of the travel plan and budget provision made

by OO expert it is not financially feasible to plan OO onsite visit for the project during current monitoring period.

This was communicated by the SC team (see attached email and they requested PD to request a deviation on the OO requirement to allow postponement from this monitoring period).

The PD is hereby requesting GS approval to allow postponement of the OO visit from the monitoring period 12/01/2020-11/01/2021 to a more convenient time when the security situation stabilizes, to allow finalization of ongoing internal verification.

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.*

.....N/A

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):

The postponement of the OO visit does not directly impact on the accuracy or completeness of the ongoing verification. The PD also applied conservativeness during the emission calculations. Further, with the recently introduced VVB requirement for microscale projects, a VVB audit can be conducted in future verifications to verify the implementation status of the project once the security situation stabilizes. An annual report has also been completed in line with the Principles and Requirements and have been uploaded on the SC app. The relevant information related to the activities that happened during the monitoring period has been provided as part of the report.

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):

The deviation request is seeking GS postponement of the OO visit and is not going to impact on project design, safeguarding principles assessment, SDG assessment, emissions reductions, monitoring frequency, data quality, or any other relevant aspect of the project.

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.)*

- Clarification email from SC reviewer

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