



Gold Standard[®]
for the Global Goals

PILOT – PROGRAMME PROCEDURE

ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE FOR DMRV SOLUTIONS

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SUMMARY

This procedure outlines the assessment process for digital Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (dMRV) solutions designed for carbon credit projects. The assessment is a collaborative effort involving the project developer, the Validation and Verification Body (VVB), and expert working group, ensuring a thorough evaluation of the proposed dMRV system.

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1| ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

The project shall demonstrate compliance with GS4GG requirements, as applicable to any GS4GG eligibility criteria. For project activities that are design certified, it is assumed that the project is eligible whereas for any new project the project eligibility shall be confirmed as part of validation and design review process.

a. Submission of dMRV Solution

- i. Project developer submits the proposed dMRV solution design and implementation plan to Gold Standard following [the template](#) provided
- ii. Documentation shall include comprehensive technical specifications, data collection methodologies, and reporting protocols

b. Initial Review

- i. Gold Standard conducts an initial review to ensure completeness of the submission
- ii. Feedback is provided to the project developer if additional information is required

c. Expert Working Group Review

- i. The dMRV expert working group assesses the feasibility and application of the dMRV solution
- ii. Group composition includes technical experts, sector specialists, and dMRV professionals with relevant experience
- iii. Assessment criteria include:
 - a. Methodology compatibility: Ensuring alignment with approved carbon credit methodologies
 - b. Technical robustness and reliability: Evaluating the solution's ability to consistently provide accurate data

- c. Data accuracy and consistency: Assessing the precision and reliability of data collection methods
- d. Scalability and adaptability: Determining the solution's potential for broader application
- e. Cost-effectiveness: Analyzing the economic viability of implementation and operation
- f. Alignment with project objectives: Ensuring the dMRV solution meets specific project needs

d. Feedback and Iteration

- i. Expert working group provides detailed feedback to the project developer, including specific recommendations for improvement
- ii. Guidelines for VVBs are provided to ensure consistent validation and verification processes
- iii. Project developer addresses concerns and implements suggested improvements within a specified timeframe
- iv. Revised dMRV solution is resubmitted for review if significant changes are required

e. Validation by VVB

- i. VVB conducts a comprehensive validation of the final dMRV solution, including:
 - a. Assessment of implementation readiness and alignment with project requirements
 - b. Evaluation of compliance with relevant standards and methodologies
 - c. Review of data security measures and quality control procedures
- ii. VVB provides initial feedback to the project developer for any necessary adjustments
- iii. Upon completion, VVB issues a detailed validation report outlining findings and recommendations

f. Approval and Implementation

- i. Gold Standard reviews the validation report and makes a final decision on approval
- ii. Upon successful validation, the dMRV solution is formally approved for implementation
- iii. Project developer proceeds with deployment and integration of the dMRV system into the carbon credit project

g. Ongoing Monitoring and Review

- i. To ensure continued effectiveness and relevance, regular reviews of the dMRV solution's performance are conducted. These reviews include:
 - a. Quarterly performance assessments
 - b. Annual comprehensive audits
 - c. Continuous monitoring of data quality and system reliability

2| VERIFICATION PROCESS

The verification process for dMRV-enabled carbon credit projects involves the following detailed steps:

- i. VVB conducts a thorough review of the data collected and reported by the dMRV solution, including:
 - a. Assessment of data completeness and consistency
 - b. Verification of calculation methodologies
 - c. Evaluation of data management processes
- ii. Auditor performs on-site inspections to verify the accuracy and proper functioning of the dMRV system, as applicable
- iii. Comparison of dMRV data with manual measurements or other verification methods to ensure accuracy
- iv. Comprehensive assessment of data integrity and security measures, including:
 - a. Evaluation of data storage systems
 - b. Review of access controls and data protection protocols
 - c. Assessment of data backup and recovery procedures
- v. Detailed verification of emissions reductions or removals achieved, including:
 - a. Review of baseline calculations
 - b. Assessment of project emissions
 - c. Validation of net emissions reductions or removals
- vi. Preparation and submission of a comprehensive verification report to Gold Standard, including:
 - a. Detailed findings from the verification process
 - b. Assessment of compliance with methodology and standards

- c. Recommendations for improvements, if any
- vii. Upon successful verification:
- a. VVB submits a formal request for issuance of carbon credits to Gold Standard
 - b. Gold Standard conducts a thorough review of the verification report and issuance request
 - c. If approved, carbon credits are issued to the project and recorded in the registry

Note -This assessment procedure may be amended at the discretion of expert working group members as part of the piloting programme. Iterations may be necessary to address identified issues and ensure the procedure meets its intended objectives. The flexibility allows for continuous improvement and adaptation of the dMRV assessment process based on real-world implementation experiences and feedback.

3 | FAQs

1. How long does the dMRV assessment process typically take?

A: The duration of the dMRV assessment process can vary depending on the complexity of the solution and the responsiveness of the project developer. Generally, it can take anywhere from 2 to 4 months from initial submission to final approval. This includes time for Secretariate and expert review and feedback.

2. Can a dMRV solution be modified after approval?

A: Yes, a dMRV solution can be modified after approval, but any significant changes must go through a review process. Minor updates for maintenance or optimization can be implemented without full reassessment. However, major changes that affect data collection methodologies or reporting protocols will require review and approval from Gold Standard and potentially a new validation opinion by a VVB.

3. What happens if the dMRV solution fails during project implementation?

A: If a dMRV solution fails during project implementation, the project developer must immediately notify Gold Standard and implement their backup data collection plan. This may involve reverting to manual monitoring methods temporarily. The project developer will need to address the issue promptly,

document the failure and its resolution, and may need to undergo additional verification to ensure data integrity for the affected period.