



**Gold Standard**  
for the Global Goals

## PILOT – PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS

# APPLICATION OF GS4GG REQUIREMENTS WITH DMRV SOLUTION

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## SUMMARY

Scope and Applicability - This document outlines the application of Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG) requirements for implementing Digital Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (dMRV) solutions. dMRV represents an innovative approach to monitoring, reporting, and verifying project outcomes, including emission reductions, removals, and other Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) impacts. The document details how dMRV implementation aligns with GS4GG requirements, covering key areas such as methodology adaptation, project eligibility criteria, review and approval procedures, certification cycle modifications, and safeguards and liability considerations. It outlines the requirements to facilitate dMRV integration within GS projects and ensure compliance with GS4GG standards.

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### 1| PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

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.

### 2| METHODOLOGY APPLICATION

The project shall demonstrate compliance with the approved methodology's applicability requirements. During the piloting phase, the project may request changes to enable the dMRV solutions. These changes, not limited to, may be related to the methodology's application concern the following aspects -

- Monitoring parameter, monitoring plan and monitoring frequency
- Quantification approaches

The methodology for quantifying emission reductions or removal, and monitoring parameters, may be adapted for the proposed dMRV solutions.

The project may propose a new methodology within its dMRV solution plan, but it shall adhere to all relevant non-MRV requirements, such as establishing a baseline, ensuring additionality, compliance with safeguarding requirements, host country

regulations. The proposed methodology shall undergo a review by the Technical Advisory Committee and/or Working Group along with the dMRV solution review and assessment. It may receive approval with restricted applicability during the pilot phase only, while full approval may only be granted following GS4GG [Procedure for development, revision, and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools](#).

In all cases, the revisions or new approaches proposed shall:

- a. Comply with section 3.1 Guiding Principles and section 3.2 General Requirements (especially subclauses d, e, f, & g) to ensure completeness, accuracy, transparency, and conservativeness of outcomes.
- b. Be assessed as part of the review and assessment of dMRV solutions by comparing the outcome with the approved current methodology.

### **3| VALIDATION AND DESIGN REVIEW**

The project shall undergo validation and design review process following the GS4GG requirements.

- a. A Verification and Validation Body (VVB) shall be engaged to conduct validation, including a site visit, as applicable by GS4GG.
- b. The scope of validation includes validation of any necessary dMRV solution-related aspects, such as but not limited to, installation of necessary monitoring devices, a monitoring plan, frequency, and other dMRV components.
- c. The project developer and VVB shall follow the additional requirements or guidelines provided for the validation of digital Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (dMRV) solutions. These guidelines are established through consultation with the Technical Advisory Committee and/or Working Group and communicated as per the dMRV solutions assessment procedure.
- d. In all instances, the GS4GG requirement should guide the validation and design review process as well as timelines. Any adaptation communicated to Project developer or VVB, shall be approved in consultation with the Technical Advisory Committee and/or Working Group, following the dMRV solution assessment procedure.

### **4| MONITORING PERIOD AND ISSUANCE REQUEST**

The project developer may request for issuance of GS4GG certified impact and/or impact at any time following one of two issuance tracks.

**a. Full issuance track (FIT):**

- i. Length of monitoring period: The request shall cover at least one year (365 continuous days) per request.
- ii. Scope of verification: The scope of Verification includes all project aspects such as dMRV solutions, GHG accounting, SDGs contributions, safeguard checks, and compliance with regulations.
- iii. Site visit: The site visit shall be conducted as per GS4GG requirements, unless a different arrangement is made and agreed as part of dMRV solution assessment.
- iv. Issuance outcome: The project can receive a verified amount of GHGs emission reductions or removal and SDGs contributions for the entire monitoring period.

**b. Interim issuance track (IIT):**

- i. Monitoring Period Length: For this track, the issuance request(s) shall cover between 90 and 270 continuous days. If multiple requests are made, each shall cover at least 90 days. After 270 days of monitoring period verified under IIT, the next request shall follow the full issuance track and verification scope.
- ii. Scope of verification: The verification scope shall include elements related to dMRV solutions, GHG accounting, and regulatory compliance, while covering other project aspects is not mandatory. Once the 270-day issuance under the IIT is completed, the next verification shall cover all project aspects for full 365 days as described for the Full Issuance Track.
- iii. Site visit: The site visit shall follow GS4GG requirements, unless a different arrangement is agreed following the dMRV solution assessment procedure.
- iv. Issuance Outcome: The issuance outcome for the IIT is limited to 75% of the verified volume for each request. The remaining volume i.e., 25% is released after the verification as per scope for full issuance track is completed. Any adjustments to the requested volume due to data gaps or other applicability requirements shall be applied to full issuance for a 365-day monitoring period.

## 5| VERIFICATION AND PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The project shall follow the GS4GG verification requirements with following the adaptation

- a. A VVB shall be engaged to conduct verification, including a site visit, as applicable by GS4GG or arrangement agreed as part of dMRV solution assessment.
- b. The scope of verification includes verification of any necessary dMRV solution-related aspects, such as but not limited to, installation of necessary monitoring devices, a monitoring plan, frequency, and other dMRV components as per registered monitoring plan.

- c. Where the dMRV solution is implemented for a design certified or certified project, the validation of dMRV component may be combined with verification audit.
- d. The project developer and VVB shall follow the additional requirements and guidelines provided by Secretariat for the validation & verification of dMRV solutions.

## 6| MONITORING DATA AND ACCURACY

The monitoring requirement shall be in compliance as per applied GS4GG methodology and any adaptation as approved for dMRV solutions.

## 7| ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. the project developer is responsible to demonstrate compliance with monitoring requirement, data management procedures, including data storage, access, retrieval, and backup.
- b. The GS approved VVB shall complete the validation and/or verification as per GS4GG requirements and considering additional requirements as issued to the project or publicly in the context of dMRV solution. The VVB shall be responsible for validation of dMRV aspects as informed by the general requirements or instruction issued by Gold Standard.
- c. Gold Standard Secretariat shall provide necessary support during the pilot programme as per the scope of programme to VVB and project developers.

## 8| FAQs

### 1. Can a project propose a new methodology for dMRV?

A: Yes, a project can propose a new methodology within its dMRV solution plan. However, it must adhere to all relevant non-MRV requirements and undergo a review process.

### 2. Who conducts the validation and verification of projects?

A: A Verification and Validation Body (VVB) is engaged to conduct validation and verification, including site visits as applicable by GS4GG.

### 3. What are the two issuance tracks for GS4GG certified impact?

A: The two issuance tracks are Full Issuance Track (FIT) and Interim Issuance Track (IIT).

### 4. How long should the monitoring period be for the Full Issuance Track?

A: For the Full Issuance Track, the monitoring period should cover at least one year (365 continuous days) per request.

### 5. What is the issuance outcome for the Interim Issuance Track?

A: For the Interim Issuance Track, the issuance outcome is limited to 75% of the verified volume for each request. The remaining 25% is released after the verification as per scope for full issuance track is completed.

**6. Can the validation of dMRV components be combined with the verification audit?**

A: Yes, where the dMRV solution is implemented for a design certified or certified project, the validation of dMRV components may be combined with the verification audit.

**7. What are the responsibilities of the project developer regarding monitoring data?**

A: The project developer is responsible for demonstrating compliance with monitoring requirements, data management procedures, including data storage, access, retrieval, and backup.

**8. What role does the Gold Standard Secretariat play in the dMRV process?**

A: The Gold Standard Secretariat provides necessary support during the pilot programme as per the scope of programme to the Verification and Validation Body (VVB) and Project developers