



**Gold Standard**  
for the Global Goals

# GOLD STANDARD AUDITORS STUDY GUIDE

Version 3.0

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As a Gold Standard applicant or approved Validation/Verification Body (VVB), you are responsible for ensuring your staff members have the capacity and competence to conduct Gold Standard audits and provide VVB services related to Gold Standard (section 7.5 of the [VVB Requirements](#))

Please use the following resources to ensure your staff are up to date on the key Gold Standard requirements, especially those that differentiate Gold Standard for the Global Goals from other GHG standards.

## MAIN DOCUMENTS

All auditors that need to demonstrate GS4GG competence, as a minimum, need to review the list of main documents below. Depending on the type of projects in your portfolio and approval scope, there may be other specific requirements that you need to be familiar with.

Type of document	Energy and Waste	Land Use and Forests	Applicability	Webinars available as of April 2023
		<a href="#">Principles and Requirements</a>	All projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is Gold Standard for the Global Goals</li> <li>- GS4GG Fundamentals</li> <li>- Simplified Certification Approaches</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Principles and Requirements</a>		<a href="#">Safeguarding Principles and Requirements</a>	All projects	
		<a href="#">Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements</a>	All projects	Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement
		<a href="#">Programme of Activity Requirements</a>	For programmes of activities only	
		<a href="#">Gender Equality Requirements and Guidelines</a>	All projects	
<a href="#">Activity Requirements</a>	<a href="#">Community Services Activity Requirements</a>		Cookstove, safe water, household biogas, etc. projects	
	<a href="#">Renewable Energy Activity Requirements</a>		Grid-connected renewable energy projects	
		<a href="#">Land Use and Forests Activity Requirements</a>	Forestry and agriculture projects, soil organic carbon	
		<a href="#">Blue Carbon and Freshwater Wetlands Activity Requirements</a>	Blue carbon and freshwater wetlands activities projects	

Type of document	Energy and Waste	Land Use and Forests	Applicability	Webinars available as of November 2022
<a href="#">Impact Quantification Methodologies</a>	<a href="#">SDG Impact Tool</a>		All projects	SDG Impact Tools
	The list of Gold Standard-specific <a href="#">impact methodologies</a>		Including tools and templates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Soil Organic Carbon Framework</li> <li>- Tutorial on methodology to estimate and verify ADALYs from cleaner household air</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Product Requirements</a>	The <a href="#">list of eligible CDM methodologies</a>		Including associated tools (on the CDM website)	
	<a href="#">GHG Emissions Reductions &amp; Sequestration Product Requirements</a>		All projects	
<a href="#">Templates</a>	<a href="#">Project Design Document</a>		All projects, to be used by PDs. Correct use validated by the VVB.	
	<a href="#">Stakeholder Consultation Report</a>			
	<a href="#">Monitoring Report</a>			
	<a href="#">Transition Request Forms</a>		For projects transitioning from CDM or other standards to Gold Standard	
<a href="#">Other</a>	<a href="#">PoA Design Document, VPA Design Document</a>		For Programmes of Activities, to be used by CMEs. Correct use validated by the VVB.	
	<a href="#">COVID-19 interim measures</a>		For projects that deviated from the certification process due to COVID restrictions	
<a href="#">VVB Documents</a>	<a href="#">Validation and Verification Standard</a>		Auditing and reporting requirements for all projects	
	<a href="#">Site Visit and Remote Audit Requirements</a>		For stand-alone projects	

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[Audit Techniques  
Template](#)

For stand-alone projects

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## **MANDATORY EXAMINATION**

It is the responsibility of the VVB to ensure that all relevant staff members pass the Gold Standard for the Global Goals exam.

## **INFORMATIVE NEWSLETTERS**

Please sign up for the [Gold Standard](#) newsletters.

This is the best way to keep up to date with the latest news, including dates for live training sessions, rule updates and clarifications.

## **FURTHER RESOURCES**

The Gold Standard for the Global Goals landing page provides the [latest technical updates](#) in anti-chronological order.

Please regularly check the [Rule Updates](#) and [Rule Clarification](#) sections.