GOLD STANDARD
AUDITORS STUDY GUIDE

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, as a minimum, need to review the list of main documents below. Depending on the type of projects in your portfolio, 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 November 2022
Principles and Requirements	Principles and Requirements		All projects	What is Gold Standard for the Global Goals GS4GG Fundamentals Simplified Certification Approaches
	Safeguarding Principles and Requirements		All projects	
	Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements		All projects	Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement
	Programme of Activity Requirements		For programmes of activities only	
	Gender Equality Requirements and Guidelines		All projects	
Activity Requirements	Community Services Activity Requirements		Cookstove, safe water, household biogas, etc. projects	
	Renewable Energy Activity Requirements		Grid-connected renewable energy projects	
		Land Use and Forests Activity Requirements	Forestry and agriculture projects, soil organic carbon	

Type of document	Energy and Waste	Land Use and Forests	Applicability	Webinars available as of November 2022
Impact Quantification Methodologies	SDG Impact Tool		All projects	SDG Impact Tools
	The list of Gold Standard-specific impact methodologies		Including tools and templates	Soil Organic Carbon Framework
	The list of eligible CDM methodologies		Including associated tools (on the CDM website)	
Product Requirements	GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements		All projects	
Templates	Project Design Document		All projects, to be used by PDs. Correct use validated by the VVB.	
	Stakeholder Consultation Report			
	Monitoring Report			
	Transition Request Forms		For projects transitioning from CDM or other standards to Gold Standard	
	PoA Design Document, VPA Design Document		Programmes of Activities, to be used by CMEs. Correct use validated by the VVB.	
Other	COVID-19 interim measures		For projects that deviated from the certification process due to COVID restrictions	

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, administered by SustainCERT.

INFORMATIVE NEWLSETTERS

Please sign up for the Gold Standard and SustainCERT 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.